

Statement on Presidential Search and Selection
New Brunswick Faculty Council
April 22, 2016

The selection of a new president is possibly the most important action affecting the future course of any university, including our own. During the next several months, the New Brunswick Faculty Council will prepare a comprehensive report and recommendations on procedures for the search for and selection of the next president of the university, to be discussed and voted on at its first meeting of the academic year 2016-17.

In this connection, we hereby record that we strongly approve of the comments of William G. Bowen, the president-emeritus of Princeton University, given at the invitation of Rutgers University on the occasion of the presidential symposium commemorating Rutgers' 250th anniversary¹

...strong faculty involvement [in the selection of a university president] is today a *sine qua non*, as it was not in early days. Faculty are likely to have a keen sense of what an institution needs most in a new leader; they will be able to discern whether particular candidates have the requisite sensitivities to lead an academic enterprise; and, finally, faculty can be extremely helpful in persuading the right candidate to accept a genuinely tough job.... In almost all situations, the best candidate will want to be sure that he/she has the support of the faculty as well as of the board.

¹¹ See Dr. Bowen's remarks at the presidential symposium on the future of the research university, held in April 2016 to celebrate Rutgers' 250th anniversary.