



January 17th, 2014 Update on Presidential Search

Greetings from the Presidential Search Committee,

For the past two months we've been spreading the word about Starr King's search for a leader with a creative vision for theological education that is counter-oppressive, student-centered, cultivates multi-religious life and learning, and grounded in Unitarian Universalist values. Our advertisement and search webpage at sksm.edu/search went live on November 15 and has recorded over 500 unique visitors since then. In addition, announcements have been seen by 25,000 people on Facebook, Starr King's e-newsletter was viewed by

1,300 subscribers, and thousands more have seen our advertisements on the UUWorld.org website and weekly electronic newsletter. Furthermore, we have also advertised in the Chronicle of Higher Education (print & web), the American Academy of Religion website, and multiple other print/online publications read by academic leaders. Finally, a mailing went out to over 800 college presidents of small, private, faith-based institutions across the country. We have received nominations of 32 potential candidates for the position, many of whom have chosen to apply.

The result is a diverse and exciting pool of applicants who would bring a wide variety of ministerial, academic, administrative, and fundraising abilities to the work of president. In our current pool of twenty candidates, about half are ordained ministers, about half hold academic doctorates, and about half identify as Unitarian Universalist. The pool is also well-balanced in terms of gender, ethnicity, sexual identity, and geographical location. The position is open until filled; therefore, we continue to accept applications. Our committee continues to work closely with Hyatt-Fennell Executive Search as we begin the process of reviewing the applications. In the coming days, we will meet in person to identify semi-finalist candidates, who we will invite to interview with us at an off-campus location in late February. We will then make a formal recommendation to the Starr King board about which candidate(s) to invite for campus visits during the week of March 17-21. During those campus visits, all members of the Starr King community will have an opportunity to interact with the candidates, and we very much look forward to the feedback you will share with us at that stage. In sum, we are on schedule to welcome Starr King's next president in July 2014. Stay tuned!

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Starr King Presidential Search Committee