Witt names search committee for his successor at UA

By Wayne Grayson
Staff Writer
Published: Friday, April 6, 2012 at 10:54 a.m.

University of Alabama System Chancellor Robert E. Witt announced this morning a 23-member advisory committee to assist him in the process of finding his successor as President of the University of Alabama.

The advisory committee will provide Witt with recommendations as the search proceeds and Witt will attend the committee's meetings, said UA System spokeswoman Kellee Reinhart in a statement.

In a prepared statement Friday, Witt said he met with system board of trustees President pro tempore Paul W. Bryant Jr. in crafting the list. Witt said all 23 members named had agreed to sitting on the committee.

"Representing faculty, staff, students and alumni as well as members of the Board of Trustees, they will play a vital role in helping select the 40th president of the university. We greatly appreciate their willingness to serve," Witt said.

Witt joins six trustees, including Bryant, on the committee, along with newly elected UA SGA President Matt Calderone, professor and UA Faculty Senate Chair-elect Steve Miller and several more UA deans and professors.

Trustee Karen Brooks of Tuscaloosa was selected to chair the committee.

Witt named four business leaders to the committee as well, including Tuscaloosa realtor Marilyn Lee of Hamner Real Estate.

Reinhart said Michael Bownes, secretary to the board and executive assistant to the chancellor, will assist in the search process as well.

She said the committee's first organizational meeting will be announced later this month.

In March, Witt left his position as president of the UA campus to become chancellor after being unanimously elected by trustees to replace Malcolm Portera, who was chancellor for 10 years before announcing his retirement in January.

UA Provost and Executive Vice President Judith Bonner is currently serving as interim president of the university.

### The 23-member committee is below:

- **Trustee Karen Brooks** (Chair), Tuscaloosa
- **Trustee Paul Bryant, Jr.**, Tuscaloosa
- **Trustee Finis St. John IV**, Cullman
John D. Johns, chairman, president and CEO of Protective Life Corp., Birmingham
Harris Morrissette, president China Doll Rice & Beans/Dixie Lily Foods, Saraland
J. Marbury Rainer, Parker, Hudson, Rainer & Dobbs LLP, Atlanta
Marilyn Lee, Hamner Real Estate Inc., Tuscaloosa
Andre Taylor, Bessemer
Matt Calderone, SGA President, the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
Dean Chuck Karr, College of Engineering, UA
Dr. Kathy Wetzel, assistant dean, College of Education, UA
Dean Milla Boschung, College of Human Environmental Sciences, UA
Chad Tindol, associate dean for academic affairs, UA Law School
Dr. Jimmy Williams, associate dean College of Arts & Sciences, UA
Dr. David Heggem, associate dean of undergraduate programs, Culverhouse College of Commerce & Business Administration, UA
Dr. Jacqueline Morgan, associate dean and director of Honors Program, UA
Prof. Steve Miller, chair-elect, Faculty Senate, UA
Prof. Melondie Carter, Capstone College of Nursing, UA
Dr. Tim Hebson, dean of students, UA
Calvin Brown, director of alumni affairs, UA
Dr. Robert Witt, chancellor, UA System

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