No dean for SDSU Imperial Valley campus chosen; search to continue into the fall

By ELIZABETH VARIN, Staff Writer

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No new San Diego State University-Imperial Valley campus dean has been appointed, leading to the search being pushed back into the fall semester, announced SDSU Provost Nancy Marlin on Monday.

“Despite the excellent work of the search committee, we have been unsuccessful in appointing a dean for SDSU-IVC,” she said. “After conferring with the search committee, we’ve decided to resume the search during the upcoming fall semester.”

Three candidates were brought to the campus between March and April. William Rosa, Martha Crunkleton and David Pearson visited the campus to meet with students and the search committee, but none were chosen for the position.

“Although it will take a while longer than we had anticipated, I remain committed to recruiting an outstanding dean for our Imperial Valley campus,” Marlin said.

Because of Dean Stephen Roeder's retirement on June 1, an interim will be appointed, she said.

An interim dean has not been chosen, but Roeder said he is confident the interim dean, as well as the person to be chosen for the dean position, will be good choices.

The interim dean may be chosen from the San Diego State University main campus or the Imperial Valley campus, he said.

For now, Roeder has a lot of work left to do, including trying to make the transition as smooth as possible, he said. He’s spent six years at the Imperial Valley campus and a total of 42 years at San Diego State University, but he said he’s going to miss the university.

“Some of the best of those years have been here at the Imperial Valley campus,” he said.

He will spend part of his time, once the interim dean is decided, transitioning that person to take over the position June 1, when Roeder retires.

All involved in the search were disappointed that it failed to find a dean, but the search will begin again in the fall, and there should be someone in place next summer, he said.

Mike Sabath, chair of the Imperial Valley dean search committee, agreed that while committee members were pleased with the process, it is frustrating that it was not brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

He declined to comment much more because it is a personnel issue.

“I will say that the process was good one,” he said. “I am optimistic that we will be able to attract quality candidates as we continue the search.”

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