



Wednesday, November 3, 2004

Tower returns to OU as interim dean

Professor emeritus John Tower recently was appointed interim dean of the **School of Business Administration**, replacing John Gardner, who accepted a position as dean of the College of Business Administration at the University of New Orleans.

"Dr. Tower's long-standing commitment to SBA and his strong administrative and academic credentials made him a perfect candidate for this position," said Virinder Moudgil, vice president for academic affairs and provost.

Tower began his career at OU in 1968 as assistant professor of economics. His administrative duties began when he was named assistant dean in 1974, and then acting dean in 1978. From 1981 through 1995, he served as associate dean of SBA and as interim dean in 1995. He returned to teaching as associate professor of management information systems in 1997 and retired in 1999. He received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Buffalo and his Bachelor of Science degree in engineering and MBA from the University of Michigan.

"It feels good to be able to use my expertise to help the university during this pivotal time in SBA's history," Tower said. "My priorities will be to maintain and enhance SBA's stature in the community through our strong programs while supporting a national dean search committee chaired by David Doane, professor of quantitative methods, completing the accreditation process, preparing for the capital campaign, and engaging our faculty and staff in the continued development of the SBA and our many growth initiatives."

A diverse group of educators, students, alumni and administrators are working together on a national search for the next SBA dean. The search committee, expected to complete its task in one year, hired an external search consultant, MacNaughton & Associates, and developed a timetable, recruiting plan and budget. To aid the process, members also implemented internal search procedures and criteria, drafted a position description and identified the required qualifications for the position.

The search committee sought additional feedback from the SBA community, polling members on ideal dean qualities, requesting suggestions on how to conduct the search and seeking referrals for possible candidates. The committee will handle the candidate screening. However, all faculty and staff members will be involved in interviewing and evaluating the finalists. The recommended candidate(s) will be presented to the SBA Assembly for approval, following SBA's constitution.

Search committee members include Mukesh Bhargava, associate professor and department chair of management and marketing; Joe Callaghan, professor of accounting and finance; Addington Coppin, professor and department chair of economics; Lisa Desmet, secretary to the dean; Donna Free, coordinator of graduate business programs; Mike Grieves, alumni representative; Sperry MacNaughton of MacNaughton & Associates; Mark Mendola, president of the SBA Board of Visitors; Balaji Rajagopalan, associate professor and department chair of management information systems; Linda Thompson, dean of the School of Nursing; and Nicole Yau, OU undergraduate student and president of Beta Alpha Psi.

SUMMARY

Professor emeritus John Tower recently was appointed interim dean of the School of Business Administration, replacing John Gardner, who accepted a position as dean of the College of Business Administration at the University of New Orleans. A diverse group of educators, students, alumni and administrators are working together on a national search for the next SBA dean.

Created by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Wednesday, November 3, 2004
Modified by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Wednesday, November 3, 2004
Article Start Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2004