Three finalists for Western's presidency

Thrice finalists have been named for the presidency at Western, and dates and a schedule of activities for their on-campus visits have been announced.

Trustee Charles H. Ludlow of Kalamazoo announced Tuesday, April 9, that the search committee has identified the following three finalists: George E. Ayers, 46, president, Chicago State University, Chicago; Diether H. Haenicke, 49, vice president and provost, Ohio State University, Columbus; and Carol C. Harter, 43, vice president for administration, Ohio University, Athens. Ludlow is chairing the presidential search committee.

Dates of their visits to campus are: Ayers, Thursday and Friday, April 11-12; Harter, Monday and Tuesday, April 15-16; and Haenicke, Wednesday and Thursday, April 17-18.

"We wanted to alert the University community to the dates as soon as possible so interested faculty, staff and students can make appropriate plans to see and hear the finalists when they visit our campus," said Ludlow. He also directed the Rehabilitation Counseling Education Program. From 1965-66, he was at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland as an instructor of rehabilitation and special education.

Ayers is a member of several professional and civic organizations, including: board of directors, American Council on Education (ACE); advisory board, Institute for the Management of Lifelong Education, Harvard University; Commission on Leadership Development and Academic Administration, ACE; Commission of Curriculum and Faculty Development, Association of American Colleges; Commission of Research and Development, the College Board; board of trustees, Institute for Off-Campus Study; advisory committee, Ford Foundation study of a six-year program of assistance to selected private black colleges; board of trustees (executive committee and secretary/treasurer), Council for the Advancement of Experiential Learning; and the Presidential Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D.C.

He is the author of numerous publications.

Ludlow indicated that the schedule of activities for each finalist will include a two-hour public forum in which each candidate will be asked to make a 15- to 20-minute presentation on the topic, "Issues Facing Higher Education in the Next 10 Years." Also during the visit, the candidates will meet with a variety of person and committee groups, including: President Bernhard, department where tenured; the four University trustees who are not members of the six-member selection committee (Alfred L. Edwards, Winifred F. Fraser, Barry L. Howard and Carol A. Waskiewicz); Graduate Student Advisory Committee; Board of Trustees; community leaders; Cabinet; executive boards from the Western Student Association, Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils; American Association of University Professors, Administrative Professional Association, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Clerical/Technical Organization and Organization of Chairpersons, Heads and Directors; Gregory W. Boothroyd, ombudsman; deans; and the 17-member screening committee.

Public forum for Ayers is April 11

A public forum for George E. Ayers, a candidate for Western's presidency, will be from 3 to 5 p.m., Thursday, April 11, in Shaw Theatre. All members of the University community have been invited to attend and participate.

As part of the public forum, Ayers, who is president of Chicago State University, has been asked to make a 15- to 20-minute presentation on "Issues Facing Higher Education in the Next 10 Years." A question-and-answer session is expected to follow.

Ayers, 46, has been president of Chicago State University since 1983. He previously was president of Massasoit Community College in Brockton, Mass. He held several positions at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul, Minnesota, including vice president and dean of academic affairs from 1974-78; vice president for administrative services from 1973-74; and assistant vice president for academic affairs and professor of urban education from 1971-73. He has a doctor of education degree from the University of Northern Colorado, where he also earned his master of arts degree. His bachelor of science degree is from Western Illinois University.

At Mankato State University in Mankato, Minn., Ayers was a tenured professor of rehabilitation counseling from 1969-71; he was an associate professor from 1967-69 and an assistant professor from 1966-67, when he also directed the Rehabilitation Counseling Education Program. From 1965-66, he was at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland as an instructor of rehabilitation and special education.

Ayers is a member of several professional and civic organizations, including: board of directors, American Council on Education (ACE); advisory board, Institute for the Management of Lifelong Education, Harvard University; Commission on Leadership Development and Academic Administration, ACE; Commission of Curriculum and Faculty Development, Association of American Colleges; Commission of Research and Development, the College Board; board of trustees, Institute for Off-Campus Study; advisory committee, Ford Foundation study of a six-year program of assistance to selected private black colleges; board of trustees (executive committee and secretary/treasurer), Council for the Advancement of Experiential Learning; and the Presidential Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D.C.

He is the author of numerous publications.

Ludlow invites written communication about the candidates

Special Board meetings set

Three special meetings of the Board of Trustees have been scheduled to interview the three finalists for Western's presidency.

The dates are: Thursday, April 11; Monday, April 15; and Wednesday, April 17. All meetings will be at 6 p.m. in 2020 Fetzer Center.

In an effort to keep the University community informed about the candidates, special editions of the Western News on each of the finalists will be printed and distributed this week and next. They will include biographical information and up to date coverage of the search process.