

Committed to faculty search

As is now well known, the initial heroic efforts to separate Antioch College from Antioch University failed, and the college was closed. With the closure, Antioch College lost its accreditation. The subsequent successful separation of Antioch College from the university established Antioch College as a new legal entity governed by an independent Board Pro Tempore. Under the dedicated stewardship of the Interim President Matthew Derr, we began the work necessary to achieve an open, operating, accredited Antioch College that would retain its historic commitment to the liberal arts, to co-op, and to community, in the context of the needs and interests of students in these early years of the 21st century.

When we met on the campus this past weekend with Mark Roosevelt, our newly appointed president, we were heartened by the reports of the progress to date in restoring the long neglected physical facilities, in beginning to institute as effectively and efficiently as possible the many systems required to operate the college, in the recruitment of faculty, and with respect to the recruitment approval to award an undergraduate degree in the state of Ohio and, eventually, to be granted accreditation by our regional accrediting association.

During the open portion of the board's meeting, our commitment to conducting

national, transparent searches for all tenure track faculty was questioned. Three facts are relevant to this commitment: the Antioch College for which we are recruiting students and hiring faculty and staff is a new, independent, legal entity; in the fall of 2011 Antioch College will be offering an academic curriculum new and different than the one that existed when the college was closed; and our success in achieving degree-granting approval and accreditation will rest, in part, on demonstrating that we are adhering to the processes and procedures standard among excellent and rigorous liberal arts colleges in appointing tenure-track faculty as a result of conducting national, transparent searches. To abandon a commitment to national, transparent searches for the tenure-track faculty would be irresponsible.

Along with many, we wish to honor and respect the former tenured faculty of Antioch College. We have every confidence that Mark Roosevelt is working diligently and will continue to do so until fair and reasonable agreements can be reached that appropriately honors those whose previous service and whose continuing affection for Antioch College are deeply appreciated by this board and by so many Antioch College alumni.

—The Antioch College
Board Pro Tempore