



The State University  
of New York

SUNY - NYC

116 East 55th Street  
New York, New York 10022

[www.suny.edu](http://www.suny.edu)

February 23, 2016

Dear SUNY Downstate Community:

In the coming weeks, we will be embarking on the formal search for a new president of Downstate Medical University. This is an extremely important undertaking for the medical school's faculty, staff, and students; the hospital; the Brooklyn community; and the thousands of people SUNY Downstate serves every day.

As stakeholders from every functional internal and external area at Downstate, each of you works toward overcoming the challenges we face and contributes to the success of this institution. This is collaboration in action – and you have only to participate in a groundbreaking ceremony, a graduation, or an academic event on campus to know how deeply invested our elected officials, heads of business and industry, and community and civic partners all are in the success of SUNY Downstate. It is this great leadership that brings us all together.

We have been fortunate to have President Skip Williams at the forefront of that leadership. Over his tenure as president of Downstate Medical, Dr. Williams has led our community to overcome major obstacles and ensure that both the academic medical university and hospital can continue to bring excellent medical education to its students, as well as excellent and much needed healthcare to the people of Brooklyn.

Downstate is one of the primary sources of medical professionals in New York City and because of its location, serves a population that would not otherwise have access to medical services. We at SUNY have made it a priority to support and lift up the work that Dr. Williams and Downstate do because we believe in the mission that drives the institution:

- To provide outstanding education of physicians, scientists, nurses, and other healthcare professionals.
- To advance knowledge through cutting edge research and translate it into practice.
- To care for and improve the lives of our globally diverse communities.
- And to foster an environment that embraces cultural diversity.

In this transitional phase and throughout the search process, it is imperative that we keep this mission at the center of the decision making. To that end, we are pleased to announce that Dr. Luther Clark, highly respected and renowned cardiologist and former member of the Downstate Medical University administration and faculty, has agreed to chair the search process to find our next leader. The remaining members of the search committee are being

To Learn  
To Search  
To Serve



confirmed now, and we will be sending out a second communication regarding that in the next week.

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have about the process. We are committed to conducting a transparent and inclusive process, and we look forward to working with you to achieve the best possible leadership outcome for SUNY Downstate.

Thank you and best personal regards.

Sincerely,



Nancy L. Zimpher  
Chancellor



H. Carl McCall  
Chairman