The search for Colby-Sawyer’s eighth president is underway and I am writing to provide a report on the search committee’s progress and plans.

The search committee met on Thursday, October 6, to revise and approve the pre-search report prepared by Dr. Thomas Courtice of the Academic Search Consultation Service. This report resulted from Tom’s research and his two-day visit to the campus last month. His time here included helpful and informative conversations with many of you and the resulting Search Profile is attached for your information. Also attached is a copy of the ad that will appear shortly in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

As you review the Search Profile, please pay particular attention to the attributes most highly desired in Colby-Sawyer’s next president. We urge you to suggest people you know who could serve effectively as Colby-Sawyer’s next president or those who might know potential candidates. Please forward their name(s) to Dr. Courtice at tom.courtice@academic-search.org or (614) 405-9209. The search committee is well aware that the success of our search depends on the involvement of all members of the Colby-Sawyer community. By nominating strong candidates, you can be immediately and critically involved in the search process.

Over the next few months, we will generate the candidate pool through nominations received from you, contact with national education and foundation officials, inquiries at other colleges and universities, letters to friends of Colby-Sawyer, advertising in the Chronicle of Higher Education and other publications, and the work of our consultant. In December, we will begin to narrow the candidate pool, moving toward a time early in 2006 when interviews involving the entire campus will be held.

The search is off to a good start. We will write to you again as we enter subsequent stages of the process. If you have any questions, please let me know by contacting the campus coordinator for the presidential search, Lee Woodworth, at lwoodworth@colby-sawyer.edu. Thank you for your interest and support.