

From: University President Susan A. Cole

Tuesday, June 4, 2019; via e-mail

Designation as Grand Marshal is a ceremonial honor bestowed by the President of the University. It is not an entitlement earned by working longer than one's colleagues. The process during the past two decades at least has been quite straightforward. When a vacancy occurs in the position of Grand Marshal through retirement or, sometimes, through the inability of a Marshal to continue to carry out the responsibility, I have reviewed the list of the 10 to 20 longest serving members of the faculty, I have consulted with deans, and I have selected from that list an individual who, in my judgment as President, has provided highly respected and loyal service over a lengthy period of time to the University and its students and who, I believe, would find the honor of being designated Grand Marshal to be a meaningful and valued recognition. I prefer that more humanistic process to the wholly numerical one the Senate recommends, and, therefore, do not accept the Senate recommendation.