

Vistasp M. Karbhari named finalist for president of The University of Texas at Arlington

AUSTIN - The University of Texas System Board of Regents have named Vistasp M. Karbhari the sole finalist for the presidency of The University of Texas at Arlington. The Board announced Karbhari after interviewing candidates and considering recommendations of an advisory committee that reviewed nominations and applications for the position. The candidates recently met with constituent groups at the university as part of a series of campus visits.

Karbhari is currently the provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at The University of Alabama in Huntsville. Prior to his current position he served as professor and vice chairman of the structural engineering department at The University of California-San Diego.

“Extraordinary leadership is crucial for our institutions and the unique and innovative environment at UT Arlington calls for an effective and visionary leader,” said Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa. “Dr. Karbhari is extremely well suited to lead UT Arlington and I am thrilled to welcome him to the UT System.”

Karbhari received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from The University of Poona in India and his Ph.D. degree from The University of Delaware.

Karbhari is a noted researcher and scholar and a published author or co-author of over 200 scientific papers.

“UT Arlington is one of the nation’s fastest-growing public research universities in our country and the Board is very proud of the institution’s focus on high quality education at affordable prices. Dr. Karbhari’s strong academic record and proven ability to lead are a perfect fit for UTA’s rapid growth while adhering to Chancellor Cigarroa’s Framework for Advancing Excellence,” said Regents Chairman Gene Powell. “We know his experience and perspective will help keep UT Arlington on a path of excellence, accessibility and affordability.”

Under state law, university governing boards must name finalists for a presidency at least 21 days before making an appointment.

“We are very happy with the Board’s decision to name Dr. Karbhari as the next president of UT Arlington,” said Pedro Reyes, Ph.D., UT System’s executive vice chancellor for academic affairs. “I would like to express my gratitude to the search committee for their steadfast work in identifying some of the very best in academia for consideration as UT Arlington’s next president.”

Karbhari will replace President James Spaniolo, who announced last June his intention to step down from the top post once his successor is in place.