

# Altenburg to Step Down as Northwestern's President - No Immediate Successor Named

Editorial Staff

After a tenure of nearly eight years, during which he saw his school expand into one of the nation's leaders in chiropractic education, research and patient care, Dr. John Altenburg has announced his plans to retire as the president of Northwestern Health Sciences University.

A 1951 graduate of Logan College of Chiropractic, Dr. Altenburg first joined Northwestern's staff in 1964, serving as the school's clinic director for eight years. He later became the college's dean of clinics, then held the position of chief academic officer from 1976 through 1985.

In 1986, Dr. Altenburg left Northwestern to become a senior partner in a company that operated a handful of chiropractic clinics in the Twin Cities area. He continued to remain active in the college's affairs, chairing NWCC's campaign to raise funds for the Wolfe-Harris Center for Clinical Studies and holding the title of dean emeritus.

In February 1992, Altenburg was chosen to succeed Dr. Donald M. Cassata as the third president in Northwestern's history. Under his guidance, the school upgraded its classrooms, laboratories and clinic facilities while continuing to provide high-quality chiropractic education and conduct important research.

Through his leadership, Northwestern College of Chiropractic expanded to eventually become the "lynchpin" of Northwestern Health Sciences University, offering degree and certificate programs in chiropractic, acupuncture, Oriental medicine, human biology, massage therapy and integrative health and wellness. The school now has an enrollment of more than 800 students, with seven public health care clinics in and around the Twin Cities.

## Search for New President Continues

As we go to press, Northwestern has yet to name a successor for Dr. Altenburg. "We are looking for someone who has a terminal degree and extensive experience in a higher education setting," said Dr. David Mjoen, chair of the school's presidential search committee.

The committee has already begun reviewing candidates and will continue to do so until a new president has been chosen.

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