

Waterloo native selected as new UConn president

By The Associated Press

STORRS, Conn. --- A Waterloo native and Columbus High School graduate has been selected as 14th president of the University of Connecticut, officials said Wednesday.

Michael J. Hogan, also a University of Northern Iowa graduate, who has been vice president and provost at the University of Iowa since 2004, will replace outgoing UConn president Philip E. Austin. Austin was president of UConn for more than 10 years before announcing plans last year to retire in September.

The university's 33-member search committee selected Hogan as its unanimous choice after a nationwide search, and UConn's Board of Trustees named him to the post at its meeting Wednesday.

Hogan is slated to start in mid-September.

"Michael Hogan is the ideal candidate to lead our state's flagship public university," Gov. M. Jodi Rell said. "He is committed to excellence, and he shares my vision for the young people who go to UConn to prepare for their futures."

Hogan, who specializes in the history of American diplomacy, held several positions at The Ohio State University before going to the University of Iowa.

His responsibilities at Iowa have included overseeing academic programs and services, academic planning, advising the president on health sciences issues, and promoting diversity in the faculty and student body.

He also worked on university fundraising efforts, student recruitment and programs to boost academic and research quality. Hogan also has written or edited nine books and numerous scholarly articles and essays throughout his academic career, according to UConn officials.

"I was attracted to UConn by its steep upward trajectory, its outstanding academic reputation and by the demonstrated commitment to UConn by the governor and the General Assembly," Hogan said after his appointment was announced.

He holds a bachelor's degree in English from the UNI and a master's degree and Ph.D. in history from Iowa, where, as provost, he has been the university's top academic officer. He and his wife, Virginia, have four adult children.

UConn has almost 28,500 students, about 23,500 at the Storrs campus. The university also has separate schools of law and social work in Hartford, five regional campuses throughout the state and schools of medicine and dentistry at the UConn Health Center in Farmington.

Hogan is the brother of Dennis Hogan, who runs the Hogan-Hansen accounting firm in Waterloo.