



UH names sole finalist for Chancellor/President position

The University of Houston [has announced](#) the sole finalist for its open UH Chancellor/President position. Here's an excerpt from the press release:

Dr. Renu Khator, provost and senior vice president at the University of South Florida, a major research institution and the ninth largest university in the country, has been selected as the sole finalist for the position of University of Houston System chancellor and UH president.

A devoted teacher, seasoned educational administrator and respected scholar, Khator has a doctorate and master's degree in political science from Purdue University and earned her bachelor's degree from Kanpur University in India.

UH System Board of Regents Chairman Welcome Wilson made the announcement Monday following a vote by the board. Texas law requires that the board give public notice at least 21 days prior to a meeting in which final action is taken on the employment of a university chancellor or president. The board can meet anytime on or after November 5 and vote to confirm Khator.

[snip]

The 52-year-old Renu Khator (pronounced rah-NEW ka-TOOR) has served as provost at the University of South Florida since 2003, and was dean of the College of Arts & Sciences for three years prior to that. From 1997 to 2000, she served as the director of USF's Environmental Science and Policy Department. She has served as professor of government & international affairs at the university since 1995. She is the author or editor of five scholarly books and numerous articles concerning global public administration, environmental issues, and South Asian politics.

A native of India, she came to the United States in 1974 after her marriage to Suresh Khator. Both pursued graduate degrees at Purdue University and later accepted teaching positions at USF. He is a professor of Industrial & Management Systems Engineering and director of computing for the College of Engineering at USF. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Industrial Engineers and serves as faculty athletic representative to the NCAA. They have two daughters, both ophthalmologists.

"I have been very impressed by the bold and embracing vision of the University of Houston System," said Khator. "I applaud the board's continuing commitment to academic excellence, economic development, diversity and PK-16 education. The University of Houston System, with its distinctive yet complementary institutions, is poised to become a model metropolitan university providing access and excellence with equal ease. I look forward to being a part of this wonderful institution and exciting city and state."

USF, where Khator is the second highest ranking administrator, is a comprehensive, doctoral-extensive, research university with four campuses, including a medical school, in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee, and Lakeland. Last year, USF enrolled 44,000 students and had a budget of \$1.6 billion.

More information on Khator is available [here](#).

Khator's work at USF should be good experience for the task ahead at UH, where an ambitious [Master Plan](#) still has to be squared with the realities of UH's neglected-stepchild (funding) status relative to the state's two flagship institutions.

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