## The Votes are in . . . Time for Counting PROVOST CHOICE SOON TO BE MADE AT UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

With the completion of the campus visits of finalists Brenda Nichols of Lamar University (1-Nov and 2-Nov) and Ralph Rascati of Kennesaw State University (5-Nov and 6-Nov), the fall 2012 search for a new provost at the University of West Florida is quickly coming to a close. The final opinions of UWF constituents are now coming in, and a decision will be made on 9-Nov-2012 by the UWF search committee, and forwarded to the UWF president's office for consideration.



There is little doubt in the USMNEWS.net newsroom that the <u>ultimate winner</u> will be Martha Saunders, <u>the finalist</u> who visited UWF first (back in late Oct-2012). Saunders is, of course, the former USM president (2007-2012) who "resigned" amidst a cloud of controversy back in April-2012 and returned to the USM faculty on 1-July-2012. Saunders' <u>academic career</u> began at the Pensacola-based UWF more than 20 years ago. There, Saunders rose to the position of dean of the UWF school of arts and sciences. She left UWF for Columbus State University, where she served as provost, in 2002. Between CSU and USM, Saunders served as chancellor of the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater.

Stay tuned for updates as this saga comes to a close over the next several days.