

SRU trustees recommend Presidential Search Committee membership to Chancellor for approval

March 10, 2017

SLIPPERY ROCK, Pa. - The Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees March 9 took another step forward in the process of selecting a president for the University when they selected five individuals to fill out the Presidential Search Committee membership.

Membership on the committee is prescribed by Pennsylvania's State System Board of Governors Policy Section 1983-13-A: Process for Recommending a Presidential Appointment. At this meeting, the Trustees considered the selection of individuals for the following positions on the Presidential Search Committee: a university executive; a non-instructional employee; and up to three other at large members.

The Trustees voted to add Molly Mercer, Michael White, Corinne Gibson, Scott Albert and Seungku (Steve) Park to the Presidential Search Committee. These individuals will join the members named by the various stakeholder groups to round out the full Presidential Search Committee. The recommendations will now go to the Chancellor for final approval.

Recommended candidates for the Presidential Search Committee are:

Trustees:

Jeffrey Smith, chair
Thomas Breth
Robert Taylor

University executive:

Molly Mercer, COT appointed executive

Non-instructional persons:

Amanda Nichols, appointed non-instructional union
Susan Elwell, appointed non-instructional union (alternate)
Michael White, COT appointed non-instructional union

Faculty:

Colleen Cooke, appointed faculty member
Kurt Schimmel, appointed faculty member (alternate)
Christine Pease-Hernandez, elected faculty member
Derrick Pitard, elected faculty member (alternative)

Student:

Jaclynn Choma, SGA appointed student
Malika Fields, SGA appointed student (alternate)

Alumnus:

Lisa Holmes, Alumni Association representative
Don Huddart, Alumni Association representative (alternate)

At-large:

Corinne Gibson, COT appointed at-large
Scott Albert, COT appointed at-large
Seungku (Steve) Park, COT appointed at-large

State System liaison:

Kathleen Howley, deputy vice chancellor for academic and student affairs (non-voting)

Current or former State System university president:

Michael Fiorentino, current Lock Haven University president (non-voting)

SRU staff support for the Presidential Search Committee:

Mary Hennessey (non-voting)

In other action, the Trustees voted to require all members of the Presidential Search Committee to sign a confidentiality agreement in order to serve on the committee.

AGB Search, a Washington, D.C.-based firm specializing in higher education executive searches, will assist the Presidential Search Committee in their work. JoAnn Gora, a consultant and former president of Ball State University, and Jamie Ferrare, advisory consultant and founding managing principal at AGB Search, will provide agency leadership.

A new president to replace Cheryl Norton, who is retiring from the University effective July 21 after nearly five years of service, is expected to join SRU by January 2018.