

## **SRU Presidential Search Committee meets, calls for input**

April 14, 2017

**SLIPPERY ROCK, Pa.** - For the 21 members of the Slippery Rock University Presidential Search Committee, life just got a little more real. The committee, charged with recommending candidates to become the 17th president of SRU, convened formally for the first time April 12 to meet the search consultant, learn about the search's planned timeline, and provide their thoughts about the type of individual who should be the next leader of Slippery Rock University.

"It's really great to get the search formally underway," said Jeff Smith, SRU Council of Trustees vice-chair and chair of the Committee. Trustees Thomas Breth and Robert Taylor join Smith on the Committee.

"We were able to achieve our goals for the initial meeting, which included having the Committee meet our search consultant Dr. JoAnn Gora, senior consultant for AGB Search and former president of Ball State University and chancellor at UMass Boston.

"Dr. Gora has a great deal of experience in helping institutions recruit highly-qualified presidential candidates. We are extremely pleased to have her working with our team," Smith said.

"In addition to providing a broad overview of the entire search process, from the kickoff meeting to recommending candidates, Dr. Gora also discussed the importance of maintaining confidentiality during the entire process. Each member of the team was then asked to commit to a confidentiality agreement, which they did," Smith said. A copy of the Confidentiality Agreement is posted on the SRU Presidential Search webpage.

"While the kickoff was exciting, the Committee knows we have lots of hard work in front of us. April 12 and 13 were part of the pre-search process to allow Dr. Gora to collect as much input as possible from various University stakeholders. She'll use that information to craft the Presidential Prospectus. Our goal is to have that ready mid-May, advertise and accept applications throughout the summer, conduct the on-campus interviews in September and then send our recommendations forward to the COT for their fall meeting. Ideally we would expect to have a new president in place January 2018," Smith said.

While the first round of constituent meetings have already taken place, Smith said the COT is committed to promoting stakeholder engagement with the process.

“Following the open town hall session, we sent an all-campus email inviting anyone that was not able to participate in the meeting to share their answers to a series of questions concerning the University and its next president. Those questions also have been posted to the Presidential Search website so that alumni, community members and others that have an interest in the University can participate. Throughout the process, those with questions or information they wish to share are always invited to communicate directly with Dr. Gora at [jmg@agbsearch.com](mailto:jmg@agbsearch.com),” Smith said.

For information and updates about the search process visit:  
<http://www.sru.edu/news/presidential-search>