

Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees
Special Meeting
March 9, 2022
5:00 p.m., Room 321
Robert M. Smith Student Center

Call to Order: Chair Matt Lautman called the meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Present: Trustee Alfonso Angelucci, Trustee Samantha Hawk, Trustee Domenic Ionta, Trustee Dan Lavalley, Trustee Matt Lautman, Trustee Elise Michaux, Trustee William McCarrier, Trustee Jeffrey Smith, Trustee Bob Taylor, Trustee Suzanne Vessella, Trustee Joshua Young

Approval of Agenda:

Trustee McCarrier moved, second by Trustee Hawk, approval of the March 9, 2022 special meeting agenda. Motion passes unanimously.

Public Comments:

None

Purpose:

On February 15, 2022, President William J. Behre announced that he will be retiring upon the completion of his contract ending June 30, 2023. In accordance with PASSHE BOG Policy 1983-13-A: Process for Recommending Presidential Appointment and accompanying policy and procedures, The Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees shall appoint three members to serve on the Presidential Search Committee, one member shall serve as chair of the committee.

Slate of Officers for Presidential Search Committee:

Chair Lautman moved, second by Trustee McCarrier to nominate the following slate of officers to serve on the Presidential Search Committee:

Trustee Jeffrey Smith, chair

Trustee Elise Michaux

Trustee Matt Lautman

Trustee Taylor requested Chair Lautman confirm the communication from Chancellor Greenstein referenced in his opening comments directing Chair Lautman to initiate the search was in writing. Trustee Taylor requested to see the written correspondence. Chair Lautman confirmed the exchange by sharing an excerpt from the correspondence (email message) dated February 15, 2022.

"Meanwhile, onward we must go, and in that regard, I am with this email authorizing you as COT chair to launch a search process to find Bill's replacement."

Chair Lautman also pointed out for clarification that all members of Council were provided seven days' notice of this meeting and the purpose for this meeting.

Trustee Ionta moved, second by Trustee McCarrier, to call for question on the motion. Point of order, Trustee Taylor called for discussion on the original motion. Trustee Ionta withdrew the motion calling for the question.

Further discussion on the original motion ensued, Trustee Taylor provided comment. Following comment, action was taken on the original motion by roll-call vote: 9 Yes, 2 No, motion passes.

Alfonso Angelucci	Yes	Dan Lavallee	Yes	Elise Michaux	Yes
Samantha Hawk	Yes	Jeffrey Smith	Yes	Robert Taylor	No
Domenic Ionta	Yes	Suzanne Vessella	No	Joshua Young	Yes
Matt Lautman	Yes	William McCarrier	Yes		

Closing Statement:

Trustee Smith offered the following statement, "First, I want to thank Chairman Lautman for nominating me as chair of the search committee and I also want to thank my fellow trustees for showing confidence in me by electing me to this post. I very much look forward to working with Elise and Matt as the trustee representatives to the committee. I look forward to working with the various constituent groups and the Slippery Rock family as we search to find the 18th president of this wonderful institution. I will immediately begin to reach out to these groups and request they provide the representatives to the search committee. As Chairman Lautman has previously outlined, our goal is to be in a position to interview candidates next fall so the selected candidate will be able to seamlessly transition into the role upon President Behre's retirement.

It's a challenging time in the world of Higher Education, those of us in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education know that as well as any. However, I am confident that the search committee will find someone who will not only maintain Slippery Rock University's position as one of the preeminent educational institutions in the region, but will take us to even greater heights."

Chairman Lautman shared to eliminate any ambiguity that with an aggressive search timeline, it is unlikely a candidate would be named until the spring of 2023.

Trustee Angelucci moved, second by Trustee Michaux, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina L. Moser 

Administrative Liaison to the Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees

Video recording of this meeting is available at this link,
<https://www.sru.edu/about/administration/council-of-trustees/video-recordings>



PA State System of Higher Education Board of Governors

Effective: June 20, 1983

Page 1 of 2

Policy 1983-13-A: *Process for Recommending Presidential Appointment*

Adopted: June 20, 1983

Amended: July 19, 1983;
May 15, 1984; April 18, 1991; October 15, 1992;
October 9, 1997; January 8, 1998; April 8, 2004;
January 15, 2009; April 7, 2011; April 10, 2014;
January 26, 2017; and January 17, 2019; April 15, 2021

A. Purpose

This Policy establishes the requirements pursuant to Act 188 of 1982, § 2005-A (4), 2006-A (2), and § 20-2009-A, as amended, to appoint University Presidents at the State System constituent institutions.

B. Policy

1. The Board has the duty and authority to appoint, from a list submitted by the chancellor, presidents of the constituent institutions to serve at the Board's pleasure pursuant to a contract based upon a fixed term or duration.
2. Upon notice of a vacancy in a university presidency, the chancellor, after consultation with the chairperson of the university council of trustees, will initiate the search in accord with applicable laws, policies, and procedures.
3. The university council of trustees shall make recommendations to the chancellor for the appointment of the president following input by students, faculty, staff and alumni who reflect the diversity of the institution.
4. The chancellor shall submit to the Board the recommended salary and other proposed terms of each such appointment.
5. The Board shall have the right to refuse the recommendation of the local council and to request that additional recommendations be submitted by the council.

6. Nothing in this policy nor procedures and standards implemented pursuant to Section C. shall create any rights not established by law.

C. Procedures

1. Appointment Recommendations Procedures: The chancellor is directed to create procedures and standards to comply with this policy. Such procedures and standards shall support the generation of diverse candidate pools. The procedures and standards and any subsequent permanent changes to the same may be implemented upon approval by the Executive Committee of the Board following consultation with appropriate stakeholders.
2. Selection Procedures: Board of Governors
 - a. The chancellor shall submit the report of the council to the chair of the Board of Governors and shall advise the Board. The Board, in consultation with the chairperson of the council and chair of the search committee, will have the option to continue, extend, or restart the search if a candidate withdraws from the search after the report is made to the Board.
 - b. The Board of Governors will interview the recommended candidates and select the university president. In the absence of a quorum of the Board, the Executive Committee of the Board shall be authorized by the Board to interview the recommended candidates and select the university president.
 - c. The Board shall invite the chair of the search committee and chairperson of the council to attend and observe the interviews of the recommended candidates and to participate in deliberations with the Board.
 - d. The chancellor shall notify the chair of the search committee and the final candidate of the Board's selection in writing. A public announcement will be made by the chancellor after consultation with the council chairperson.

D. Effective Date

This amended Policy is effective immediately and supersedes all prior versions.