

SRU Presidential Search Committee narrows candidate pool to 10

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SLIPPERY ROCK, Pa. – After reviewing 57 applications for the presidency at Slippery Rock University, the Presidential Search Committee has narrowed the list of candidates down to 10, according to Jeff Smith, SRU trustee and chair of the Search Committee.

"The committee had a very challenging job culling the more than 50 applicants down to the 10 they selected to interview because there were so many good candidates," said Smith. "However, I think they did a great job with those they have selected. It is a dynamic and diverse group that will be interviewed."

The pool of 10, said Smith, includes candidates who hail from eight different states. "We have interest from persons on both coasts, the Midwest and the South," Smith said. "It is truly a nationwide search."

Smith said the Search Committee would meet with the 10 candidates for off-site interviews in the coming days. Based on those interviews, a smaller group of candidates, four or five, would be invited to campus for formal interviews the week of Feb. 12.

"Once those interviews are complete and the Search Committee has received feedback from the various groups, it will recommend two candidates to the SRU council of trustees for their approval," Smith said. The COT in turn submits the recommended candidates to Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education's board of governors. The BOG will interview the recommended candidates and select the University president.

The vacancy at SRU is the result of the retirement last July of former President Cheryl Norton. Philip Way, provost at the University, has served as the interim president during the transition period and will continue in that role until a permanent president is named.