

SRU trustees hire RPA Inc. to assist with presidential search

April 20, 2022

SLIPPERY ROCK, Pa. – Jeffrey Smith, chair of the Slippery Rock University Presidential Search Committee, has announced that RPA Inc. has been retained as the agency of record to assist the University in finding a successor to SRU President William Behre.

Behre, who was appointed as the 17th president of SRU in 2018, announced his retirement, effective June 30, 2023, in February after formally notifying the trustees and Daniel Greenstein, chancellor of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, of his intentions.

RPA Inc., based in Williamsport, is one of the leading executive recruitment and consulting firms for higher education institutions and nonprofit organizations. Founded in 1998 by Richard Allen, RPA Inc. has "... the specific mission of assisting institutions of higher education in recruiting highly qualified senior personnel and in enhancing capacity to raise philanthropic income."

Since its inception, the agency has become a comprehensive consulting firm offering executive recruitment services for the identification and placement of top administrative and cabinet-level officers.

"RPA Inc. employs a full staff and has a team of consultants who bring valuable knowledge and experience in facilitating executive searches," said Smith. "These consultants bring broad-based, hands-on expertise to its clients.

"Since its inception, RPA Inc. has served the recruitment consulting needs of colleges and universities, elite public and private schools, and nationally renowned nonprofit organizations and will provide critical insight and depth of understanding to our search process as it moves forward."

The firm was selected following a review of – and subsequent interviews with – a group of approved consultants provided by Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education.

Dana John Cohick, president of RPA Inc., will provide agency leadership of SRU's presidential search process.

Cohick will work directly with the PSC and assist in leading meetings, interfacing with candidates and guiding the committee through all steps of the search.

Cohick has successfully facilitated searches for chancellors, presidents, senior leadership and cabinet officers, as well as many other senior-level administrative positions during his career. His executive recruitment work spans public and private four-year institutions, two-year

community and technical colleges, and public education systems, as well as nonprofit organizations across the nation.

Prior to his arrival at RPA Inc. in 2015, he worked as director of major gifts at Occidental College in Los Angeles and as a development officer at Bucknell University. He is a graduate of the Schreyer's Honors College at Pennsylvania State University.

For information and updates about the search process visit:

<http://www.sru.edu/news/presidential-search>.

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