

November 19, 2021

Vermont State University will welcome its first class in fall 2023. The University, comprised of the current Castleton University, Northern Vermont University, and Vermont Technical College will be the first statewide, hybrid, institution in the United States. The University will deliver on the promise to its students that Vermont is their campus, with programs spanning Vermont, for the benefit of Vermonters. The University will build upon the proud history of the three unifying institutions and will be dedicated to improving the lives of students of all types from all over the world, particularly Vermont's, and strengthening the economic and cultural vitality of the state.

From July 2022 until July 2023, the President of Vermont State University will oversee the last year of the transition, serving simultaneously as the President of Vermont State University and President of Castleton University, Northern Vermont University, and Vermont Technical College. By July 2023, all work will be completed to finalize the transition to a singly accredited institution and the President will assume the sole role of President of Vermont State University.

In August 2021, Storbeck Search was hired to serve as the executive search firm for this search. Between August and October Storbeck Search conducted more than fifteen listening sessions with faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members at each institution. Additionally, they administered a survey that received more than seven-hundred responses. In late October, the Vermont State Colleges System Board of Trustees established a Presidential Search and Screen Committee. The Committee is comprised of six members of the Board of Trustees (including a student trustee), five faculty and staff members, and four community members. The Committee represents the breath of Vermont's geography, and includes several alumna of VSCS institutions. The input from the listening sessions, community survey, and the direct feedback of the Search and Screen Committee, and Board of Trustees, was the foundation of the Presidential Search Prospectus you will see below.

The Search and Screen committee, with the facilitation of Storbeck Search, has been charged to:

- actively solicit nominations and applications from a diverse group of well-qualified persons;
- oversee the receipt of and responses to applications and nominations from all sources;
- screen applications using the leadership criteria as the basis for choice;
- select and interview semi-finalist candidates; assist in checking references of semi-finalists;
- assist in arranging campus visits for finalist candidates and spouses;
- report to the Board a summary of campus and community reactions to finalist candidates; and,
- ensure that appropriate information about the University and the presidency is provided to candidates at each stage of the screening process.

Confidentiality will be critical to attracting the strongest pool of candidates, and will be strictly observed with respect to the applicants, the Committee's internal deliberations, and the Committee's recommendations to the Board of Trustees. However, input from the VSCS community is vitally important. Therefore, we expect to hold campus-based, face-to-face,

interviews for finalists during the last two weeks of March 2022.

Periodic updates regarding the Search and Screen process will be available on this site. Please check back for changes to the timeline, updates from the Search and Screen Committee, and additional resources.

*Eileen H Dickinson*

Representative Eileen “Lynn” Dickinson  
Chair, Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees