

**Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Ad Hoc Search Committee meeting held Thursday, August 3, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom - APPROVED**

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees Ad Hoc Search Committee met on Thursday, August 3, 2023.

Committee members present: Lynn Dickinson, David Durfee, Karen Luneau (8:33 a.m.)

Absent: Janette Bombardier, Shawn Tester

Other Trustees Present: Bill Lippert, Perry Ragouzis, Sue Zeller

Chancellor's Office staff: Katherine Levasseur, Director of Governmental & External Affairs  
Jen Porrier, Administrative Director  
Sophie Zdatny, Chancellor

Shared Services: Donny Bazluke, Network/Security Analyst  
Meg Walz, Director, Project Management

1. Chair Dickinson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of July 19, 2023 Minutes

**Trustee Zeller moved and Trustee Durfee seconded the motion to approve the minutes of July 19, 2023. The motion was approved unanimously.**

4. Review of feedback on Presidential Portfolio – Qualifications & Characteristics

Chancellor Zdatny reviewed the feedback provided by key stakeholders in the Vermont State Colleges System on the Presidential Portfolio, specifically the qualifications and characteristics portion. The synthesis of this feedback can be found [here](#). Some common themes include connections to Vermont, understanding rural public higher education, and a proven track record in managing change. Trustee Durfee urged the committee to refrain from precluding candidates from out of state. Trustee Lippert added the importance of the ability to work closely with a supporting team. Trustee Ragouzis noted the importance of acknowledging the work that has already been accomplished by Presidents Grewal and Smith and awareness that the current transformation plan is working. Chancellor Zdatny asked to redraft of this section of the Portfolio, taking into account the feedback provided, to share with the Board at the August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

5. Other Business

Due to the significant amount of work still pending, it was agreed to add an additional Search Committee meeting to the calendar on September 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.

Chancellor Zdatny shared information about the Unconscious Bias training that all hiring committees within the system have been asked to take and requested that the Board members also take the online training. The committee agreed.

6. Executive Session

**At 8:48 a.m. Trustee Luneau moved that the Committee enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) to discuss the employment of a public officer. Along with the members of the Board present at the meeting, the Committee invited the Chancellor and the Director of External and Governmental Affairs to attend. Trustee Durfee seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.**

The committee exited executive session at 9:32 a.m.

Chair Dickinson shared that the committee authorized Chancellor Zdatny to contact the search firm for their assistance in identifying additional potential candidates for discussion at the next meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 9:33 a.m.