

University of Maine at Fort Kent Presidential Search Committee

Community Update from the Chair (Update no.1)

September 2019

The University of Maine System Board of Trustees Chair James Erwin has asked me to chair the UMFK Presidential Search Committee. I am excited to be a part of this important work. I will be serving as the public spokesperson for the committee and I will be providing periodic updates to the UMFK community throughout the search process. Public higher education is in a period of great challenge. With every challenge, great opportunity exists. It is critical that we identify the right person who will lead UMFK through these challenges and guide us towards the opportunities to successfully lead our university into the future. This newsletter is an overview of the planning and preparation that has been accomplished to-date.

Search Committee

The search committee has been populated in accordance with University of Maine System Board of Trustees Policy 204 and the related Administrative Procedures for Recruitment and Selection of Presidents. The following people have been selected to represent their constituencies on the UMFK Presidential Search Committee:

Kelly Martin	Trustee
Jim Donnelly	Trustee
Mike Michaud	Trustee
Joseph Becker	Faculty
Shawn Graham	Faculty
Jenny Radsma	Faculty
Erin Soucy	Academic Administration
Cameika Davis	Undergraduate Student
Tolu Oyeniya	Undergraduate Student (Alternate)
Matthew Morrin	Salaried Staff
Venessa Degler	Hourly Staff
Douglas Cyr	Board of Visitors
Don Guimond	Community Representative
Norman Fournier	Chancellor Designee

The committee will officially convene and be charged at their first meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 on the UMFK campus. Thanks to the committee members for lending your time and talent to this important endeavor.

Board of Trustees Action

At the most recent University of Maine System Board of Trustees meeting held in Fort Kent, the Board discussed and acted upon the priorities and preferred characteristics for the next president of the University of Maine at Fort Kent. The next UMFK president will have the full authority and responsibility of serving as both the president and the provost. Our Interim President Tex Boggs currently serves in this capacity as does Raymond Rice, President at the University of Maine Presque Isle. The Board's priorities and preferred characteristics for the new UMFK president will be shared with the search committee when they are officially charged by Chancellor Malloy on Tuesday, October 1, 2019. These priorities and preferred characteristics, along with the findings of the environmental scan, will be used as guidelines throughout the search.

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Search Consultation and Support

Storbeck, Pimentel and Associates is the firm that has been selected for this presidential search. Dr. Jim Sirianni and Dr. Ruth Shoemaker Wood of Storbeck, Pimentel & Associates will be leading our recruitment efforts. This firm recently completed successful presidential searches at both the University of Maine at Farmington and the University of Maine. Our consultants are tasked with recruiting a diverse, well-qualified pool of applicants that best fit our needs. In addition to the search consultants, the search committee will be supported by Tamara Mitchell, Special Assistant to the Chancellor. Together, we will work to identify a high-quality, innovative president to bring forth the mission of our rural university, as we continue to provide opportunities for Maine's families, communities and businesses.

Campus and Community Input

Kim Jenkins, Director of Organizational Effectiveness, conducted sessions on the UMFK campus on August 27, 2019. She gathered feedback on the shared president/provost role of the new president and collected early input on the development of a profile for the combined position. The paraphrased comments from these sessions were shared with the campus community and will be shared with the search committee and consultants at the first search committee meeting. Lead consultant Jim Sirianni and search associate Mark Halligan of Storbeck/Pimentel and Associates will also be in Fort Kent on Monday, September 30th and Tuesday, October 1st to learn first-hand about the campus, the community and the position. Jim and Mark will conduct listening sessions with various campus and community constituencies to gain insight about the University of Maine at Fort Kent and the Greater Fort Kent community, our distinctiveness, the opportunities and challenges we face, and our thoughts regarding the kind of leader the university needs going forward. Specific times and locations for open sessions have been sent to campus constituents via email. There will also be an opportunity for individuals to submit input via an electronic survey following the consultants' campus visit. All input collected through these campus visits and surveys will be utilized along with the priorities and characteristics identified by the Board of Trustees to craft a prospectus and full position description for the search.

As you can see, a great deal of work is already underway to facilitate the selection of an outstanding individual to serve as our next president of the University of Maine at Fort Kent. I encourage the campus and the community to attend the open sessions with the search consultants while they are on campus. Your feedback is valuable and will help the consultants and the search committee to better define the type of leader this university needs.

Sincerely,



Kelly Martin, Trustee
Chair, UMFK Presidential Search Committee