

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Murray State University Board of Regents
Presidential Search Committee Murray State Students Open Forum
Curris Center Theatre
November 28, 2018**

Call to Order/Welcome

The Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee met in Special Session for an Open Forum/Listening Session for Murray State University students on Wednesday, November 28, 2018, in the Curris Center Theatre on the main campus of Murray State University. Search Committee Chair Lisa Rudolph called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and welcomed those present. Search Committee members present were: Katherine Farmer, Dan Kemp, Tim Miller, J. T. Payne, Steve Powless, Heather Roy and Randy Wilson. Absent: Marion Hale and Regent Don Tharpe. Other Board members present were Regents Sharon Green, Susan Guess (Board Chair) and Phil Schooley.

Call to Order/Welcome

Committee Chair Lisa Rudolph

Introduction of Presidential Search Committee Members

Committee Chair Lisa Rudolph

Open Forum Guidelines

Committee Chair Lisa Rudolph

Open Forum Discussion

Recap/Summary of Comments

Committee Chair Lisa Rudolph

Adjournment

Introduction of Presidential Search Committee Members

Committee Chair Rudolph reported that she serves as Vice Chair of the Board of Regents and as Chair of the Presidential Search Committee. Information on the Search Committee members was provided as follows:

Katherine Farmer

Katherine is the Education Research and Instruction Librarian for Murray State University Libraries and serves as Faculty Regent. She is a Mississippi native who currently lives in Murray.

Marion Hale

Marion is currently President of Staff Congress. She served as President of the Murray Chapter and the Kentucky Division of the International Association of Administrative Professionals. She

Steve Powless

Steve is Chief Executive Officer of Computer Services, Incorporated (CSI). CSI is a full-service technology and regulatory compliance provider serving customers nationwide. Based in Paducah, CSI is the nation's largest fintech and regtech provider with more than 1,100 employees. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business degree from Murray State University. CSI's founder John Williams, Sr. helped create Murray State's Telecommunications Systems Management Program. The company remains the largest employer of Murray State TSM graduates.

Heather Roy

Heather is the Director of Murray State University's Madisonville and Henderson regional campuses. She is a Webster County native and lives in Dixon. She earned both her bachelor's

offer is needed – someone who is not afraid to make the necessary changes to be bold and do what is necessary to turn the ship in the right direction.

Audience comments regarding attributes needed in the next Murray State President included:

Dynamic leader and speaker who can energize students and campus and make needed changes. Someone who students are happy to interact with and see at their events.

Student-focused while also being skilled in recruitment. Must possess a strong and broad financial background and have the ability to retain and recruit talented faculty who can draw in additional students.

Financial security is a key priority for the University.

Ensures individuals on campus are being held accountable. Cannot forget the people who are already on campus because they are currently the main consumers.

Places a priority on the Student Affairs division in terms of services offered such as Career Services, Health Services and student activities. These services have been diminished due to detrimental budgetary actions. Must be willing to add programming for student activities on campus.

Cares about the advancement and development of campus and student life.

Financial literacy is a must. Must know how to recruit so enrollment increases which will help relieve financial pressures. Recruitment efforts should also be increased as this area is currently understaffed.

Must be active on campus and willing to interact with students so they know the President.

Must be out on campus and visible to students and not just sitting in the office.

Cares about Greek Life, Student Affairs and clubs and organizations. 17 percent of students participate in Greek Life and this plays a supportive role on campus. Must ensure Greek Life prospers and grows.

Someone who breathes new life into the campus – updating is needed.

Does not need to be stuck in the 20th Century.

Deferred maintenance must be a priority. Buildings are outdated and the University is behind many other institutions in this regard. While academics are strong at Murray State, the University must also make its facilities more attractive to students who are the consumers.

Must increase student involvement on campus and encourage them to stay in Murray on the weekends and evenings.

Someone who is invested in Murray State and lives here and cares about this University.

Someone who has deep roots in Murray State but has also served in other capacities to bring in outside perspectives. Someone who wants to be at Murray State.

Legal and financial experience are essential.

Has great experience and knows and understands the current higher education climate. Not sure the University can afford a significant learning curve. Need someone already familiar with the needs of the University.

Individual should be visible but also work hard to address finances and building needs.

Must ensure faculty and staff are given the proper training to help students educationally.

Should be diverse in all areas – have diverse experiences and interactions and be well traveled and understands the importance of such experiences. Must be capable of having diverse conversations because the world is changing rapidly. Must support students of all backgrounds – from students of color to LGBTQ groups to Greek Life.

Should perhaps be on the younger side, have a connection to Murray and be willing to stay at Murray State for a long period of time. Must be willing to go on a journey with students through their undergraduate and graduate education to becoming alumni.

Someone who loves Murray State but not so much they won't change it for the better.

Ability to look at current programming and associated enrollment and understand those programs that are performing well and thriving and dedicate resources accordingly.

Must be willing to expand recruitment area. Need more resources dedicated to recruitment efforts in Nashville, St. Louis and Memphis, as examples.

The Search Committee and Board should consider using a search firm to increase the depth of the candidate pool and make individuals who might not know about Murray State aware of the opportunity.

Search firms cost a lot of money and not sure an external person should be sought to fix internal problems.

Regent Payne indicated he has been conflicted on whether to utilize a search firm. He polled the students present and the majority indicated by a show of hand they would support utilizing a search firm. A few students indicated they did not think this was necessary.

