October 9, 2017

Dear members of the Michigan Tech community,

The Presidential Search Committee (PSC), along with our search consultants from Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates, have made significant progress in the search for the 10th President of Michigan Tech. The search committee and the Board of Trustees truly appreciate all the support and assistance everyone has provided and continues to provide in the search for Michigan Tech’s next president. Our goal is to continue to have an inclusive and transparent presidential search process.

Input gathered from mid-September meetings
Julie Tea and Brian Bustin, consultants from the executive search firm, Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates, held Town Hall meetings on campus on September 13 and 14. Faculty, staff, undergraduate students, graduate students, the focus group, Staff Council, University Senate, alumni, deans, chairs, directors, and community members were invited to the twelve Town Hall meetings held at the Memorial Union Building on campus. Julie and Brian also met with President Mroz and his Executive Team in six individual meetings. The consultants gained valuable input from all these constituents about Michigan Tech’s future and our community’s expectations for the next president. Members from the search committee also attended the Town Hall meetings.

As Chair and Vice Chair of the PSC, we met with the Executive Team and other key campus leaders in eight separate meetings during the consultants’ visit on September 13 and 14 to gain additional insight regarding the next President of Michigan Tech. During the breaks between introducing the consultants at each Town Hall meeting and our own individual meetings, some members of the PSC joined us in a wonderful tour of campus (on golf carts) similar to the one enjoyed by the consultants in early August.

The Chair of the Board of Trustees, Terry Woychowski, joined the consultants, Julie Tea and Steve Leo, and us in three additional Town Hall meetings held in the Grand Rapids area on September 19, Ann Arbor on September 20 and Commerce Charter Township on October 5 for alumni and friends.

As a member of the Presidential Council of Alumnae (PCA), Brenda Ryan was the invited keynote speaker at their annual meeting held on September 22 on campus. During her coffee chat, she provided an update on the presidential search and listened to the group’s thoughts and ideas regarding the next president. The Presidential Council of Alumnae (PCA) members are recognized for personal and professional achievements in all facets of life, including education and career excellence and community involvement and volunteerism as a Michigan Tech student or alumna.

Survey
A confidential survey was available on the presidential search website and the feedback has provided helpful insights regarding the qualities sought in a new president with nearly 550 people responding. The consultants, along with Michigan Tech’s marketing and communication’s team, developed the website to provide updates and important information to the Michigan Tech community.

Presidential Search Communication
After gathering input from the university community through the Town Hall meetings and the survey, the consultants in conjunction with the Presidential Search Committee, created the presidential search advertisement, as well as the prospectus. The prospectus is an important document that incorporates your thoughts as to how we should describe the University, as well as the leadership agenda for the next president.
The PSC and the consultants held meetings on September 13, 14, and 26. The search advertisement, the prospectus, all the PSC summary minutes, Town Hall meeting schedule, and other important information can be found on the presidential search website at www.mtu.edu/president-search/. The website will be updated regularly.

Input from the entire Michigan Tech community is a key component for the search process to be inclusive and successful. Julie, Brian, Steve, the Board, and all the members of the PSC appreciate learning your thoughts about the University’s priorities and the qualities, skills, and experiences you will be looking for in the next president.

You are invited to attend a presidential search update on October 19 at 11 a.m. to noon in the Memorial Union Building, Ballroom A2. This update is open to the entire university and local community.

**The Presidential Search Process**

The presidential search is being conducted and designed to safeguard the confidentiality of the applicants. Michigan Tech must attract the most qualified and largest candidate pool possible. Without this guarantee of confidentiality, the Board has learned that many candidates would not be willing to risk their current positions or standing with their boards.

The Presidential Search Committee is charged with the task of identifying and recommending to the Board a slate of two to four semi-finalist candidates by the end of February 2018. Final interviews with the Board will be scheduled shortly thereafter. The Board anticipates selecting a new president in April 2018, with the start date scheduled for July 2018.

The Presidential Search Committee is an essential representation of the great work that occurs at Michigan Tech every day, and we are committed to a transparent, inclusive, and collaborative process. If you have a colleague you would like to nominate for the opportunity, you can share that information with the consultants from Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates, Julie Tea, Partner; Steve Leo, Partner; and Brian Bustin, Associate; directly and confidentially at MichiganTech2017@storbecksearch.com or through the presidential website. Thank you for your support and participation in the search process.

Sincerely,

Bill Johnson  
Chair of the Presidential Search Committee  
Member, Michigan Tech Board of Trustees

Brenda Ryan  
Vice Chair of the Presidential Search Committee  
Vice Chair, Michigan Tech Board of Trustees