# Presidential Search Input Session Notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>September 25, 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group:</td>
<td>Music, Arts and Letters, Libraries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approx. Number of Attendees:</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>Search Committee Members Present:</td>
<td>Melanie Foster, Greg Spray, Wanda Lipscomb, Felicia Wu, Dave Porteus, Meryl Bovie, Leo Kempel, Thomas Holt</td>
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## Responses to 1st Question:

What qualities, characteristics, and criteria are desired in a new president of MSU?

- Professor: letter from faculty in spring including qualities desired in a new president, administration needs familiarity with sexual assault prevention and rape culture
- Professor: external candidate, understanding of trauma survivors, knowledge and commitment to prevention, zero tolerance for inequity/corruption, increasing diversity, creation of university where all fields supported, recognize value of arts, experience in administration, respect for faculty governance, record of investment in research and outreach
- Librarian: listen to academic governance
- Undergraduate/ASMSU: sensitive to student needs, attendance at student events like concerts, commitment to shared governance, listen to demands, experience with diversity
- Professor: strong academic background/liberal arts background, commitment to arts and humanities, external candidates not connected to MSU with different experiences and backgrounds
- Undergraduate: no internal candidates, external willing to investigate/fire
- Professor: external candidate, arts and humanities valued, value diverse perspectives, listening skills, engage with all parts of campus especially marginalized areas

**Responses to 2nd Question:**

Higher education is facing many challenges today. What do you consider to be the major challenges facing MSU?

- Librarian: authentic and positive leader, leader must control costs and communicate value of higher education
- Professor: too many faculty on non-tenure stream appointments, need to return more power to faculty to empower their voices
- Professor: lack of trust in administration, lack of fair treatment to faculty and students, lack of justice, lack of voice, economic vulnerabilities created by lawsuit debt, healthcare for faculty moving forward
- Librarian: lack of trust within student body and community at large is an issue, administration must not value image over students, must be external candidate
- Music, Student Services: need increased resources for student services on campus (counseling, financial aid, advising, etc.)
- Undergraduate: Administration response to bias incidents, new president must set model for response that invokes different perspectives and experiences
- Professor: Doss based registration system? Communicate value of a university outwards
- Music, Career services: world of work is changing, students must be equipped to value arts and creative thinking, communicate value of college education
- Professor: process has not gained our trust so far (no CAL representation on the committee, Trustees should not have individual representation on the committee, need to build trust)
## Responses to 3rd Question:
Focusing on the future, what do you consider to be important strengths and opportunities for MSU?

- CAL, Development: situation not unique, this is an opportunity to lead and create change
- Professor: faculty, staff, students, leadership, opportunity to reinvent this community that will take trust, recreate a strong community
- Undergraduate/ASMSU: engagement at an all-time high due to publicity and opportunity for input, now is the time to put students/staff/faculty first (not the donors)
- Professor: strength comes from faculty diversity, need diversity in leadership, need an external candidate (trust, transparency, diversity of experience)
- Professor: must emphasize intellectual excellence (not athletic), need listening, put humans first, humility is a must, prioritize academic innovation and participation
- Professor: place to provide students with the best experience we can, need to find ways to allow faculty exploration (support and financially)
- Librarian: financial access is a strength at MSU (Pell grant rates)

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<th>General Comments:</th>
<th>o None</th>
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| Other:             | • Trustee Melanie Foster: Closing remarks  
|                    | - Announcement of Search Firm and Principal: woman and minority owned firm, extensive background in Presidential Searches (specifically land-grant institutions)  
|                    | - Teresa Sullivan as a Search Advisor  
|                    | - Happy with diverse composition of committee  
|                    | - Search for finalists, committee will submit to Board for final selection  
|                    | - Timeline: selection by June 2019, in place by July 2019 |