August 26, 2020
Subject: The Search for the 28th President ofThe University ofScranton
Dear Members ofthe University Community,
Last week, Father Pilarz shared his intentions to step down as President ofThe University ofScran
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ton at the conclusion ofthis academic year on May 31, 2021. The Board ofTrustees continues to be
grateful to him for his devoted service and looks forward to all that will be accomplished in the
coming year.
At the same time, the Board has begun to set in motion the steps necessary to select our next presi
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dent. As we do so, my fellow trustees and I are mindful that selecting the president is among our
most important duties and responsibilities.
The Board has concluded that support from a nationally recognized search firm throughout the
process will be helpful. After a careful evaluation that included several firms, we have secured the
services ofWittKieffer Executive Search, which specializes in executive recruitment for universities
and colleges. We are fortunate that WittKieffer has chosen Robin Mamlet, Managing Director, Edu
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cation Practice, and Jean Dowdall, Ph.D., Senior WittKieffer Consultant, to serve as our liaisons. Ms.
Mamlet and Dr. Dowdall know the University well and have extensive experience assisting searches
for senior leadership positions, especially presidents, at Catholic and Jesuit institutions.
The process to identify and recommend finalists for the Board’s ultimate consideration will be man
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aged by a broadly representative search committee. I am pleased to report that my fellow trustee
Kathleen Sprows Cummings, Ph.D. ’93, G’93, H’19, has agreed to serve as chair. A celebrated au
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thor and scholar, Dr. Cummings, is the William W. and Anna Jean Cushwa Director ofthe Cushwa
Center for the Study ofAmerican Catholicism
 and the Rev. John A. O'Brien Professor ofAmerican
studies and history at the University ofNotre Dame.
 In addition to directing the Cushwa Center,
Dr. Cummings presently oversees the Conference on the History ofWomen Religious, an academic
organization devoted to the historical study ofCatholic sisters.
The Presidential Search Committee consists of15 members representing the constituencies as out
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lined below. I have appointed members that fall within the purview ofthe Board. I have also spoken
with the leaders ofthe Faculty, Staffand Student Senates and with the President ofthe Alumni Ad
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visory Board to seek their assistance in identifying all remaining members. ‣Seven members ofthe Board ofTrustees six appointed by the Chair ofthe Board in
consultation with the Executive Committee and the Board Chair as an ex-officio member. -Kathleen Sprows Cummings, Ph.D. '93, G’93 (Chair) -Mary R. Haveron, CPA ’85 -William J. Kelley, S.J. ’73 -John R. Mariotti, D.M.D. '75 -Keith F. Muccino, S.J., M.D.