

Message from the President – July 22, 2020

Dear Campus Community,

This afternoon at 1pm we will hold a Town Hall meeting to discuss issues of great importance to our Haven Family. Please join me as we talk about the upcoming fall semester, the next steps in System Redesign, our sustainability plan, and the recent PASSHE announcement of LHU's proposed integration with Mansfield University.

This will be a time to share your thoughts, concerns, and ideas regarding these issues and challenges that shape our future. The zoom connection information is provided below.

I would also like to clarify several points about the possible integration with Mansfield. One of the opportunities being explored in the Mansfield integration includes developing non-degree and stackable credentials that meet workforce needs in select high demand occupations, concentrating on adult students, in partnership with regional employers. Let me be clear that these new offerings **are not** intended to replace our role and mission as a regional public liberal arts based university. An integration with Mansfield would provide an **expansion** of opportunities for students in our region by creating new options for short term courses, credentials, and degrees and will serve to add to our role and mission. Students at Lock Haven University will still have the same opportunities to pursue associates, bachelor's degrees and graduate programs. This is and will always be who we are at The Haven.

As we begin this process there is no predetermined outcome, but rest assured that any integration with Mansfield will not fundamentally change our identity as a baccalaureate degree-granting institution. We will certainly have the opportunity to discuss this further, not only today but in the months ahead throughout the planning process.

I look forward to connecting with you this afternoon at our Town Hall meeting. These gatherings have become an important mechanism for our engagement. While these days we must meet virtually, I still value these opportunities to share our thoughts, concerns and ideas.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Sigurdson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".