

MEMORANDUM

TO: College of Arts and Sciences Faculty & Staff

FROM: W. Andrew Marcus, Interim Dean

DATE: January 9, 2015

SUBJECT: Associate Dean of the Humanities

Based on the advice of a committee of distinguished senior faculty and others, I am pleased to announce that Professor Karen Ford of the Department of English will begin a three-year term as Associate Dean of the Humanities as of March 30, 2015.

Professor Ford has been a member of the UO English faculty since 1992, during which time she published two books and generated numerous essays, chapters, reviews and presentations. She has served as department head since 2012, working with her administrative staff to support nearly 50 faculty, 80 graduate students, 400 majors, and 6,000 students in the University's Composition Program each year. In addition, she was the English Graduate Director for six years, during which time she (along with two students) championed a groundbreaking policy for graduate students with disabilities. This department service was followed by six years as the Creative Writing Program Director.

Beyond the department, Karen has served the campus in many capacities, including a term as President of the Graduate Council and service on the UO Diversity Committee, the Research Advisory Board, the Oregon Humanities Center Advisory Board, and the Williams Council, to name just a few. Within the college she has been an important member of the "Wise Heads," an advisory committee to the dean's office to which members are nominated by fellow department heads.

I look forward with excitement to working with Karen over the coming years. Please join me in welcoming her to this new role.

I want to thank Susan Anderson, Lynn Fujiwara, Mary Jaeger, and Mark Unno for their service on the associate dean search committee. Their time and input helped inform my decision - a decision made difficult by the remarkable pool of applicants. That some of our university's top scholars and leaders are willing to apply for the associate dean position in this time of major change is a testament to the applicants and to the character of our Humanities faculty.

On behalf of the entire university community, I want to again take an opportunity to thank Judith Baskin for her contributions to our success as an institution and, at a more personal level, for the caring advocacy she brings to her interactions with members of our extended university community. We wish Judith all the best during her sabbatical and look forward to her return to the Judaic Studies faculty in the near future.

cc: Academic Affairs
Academic Deans
Frances Bronet
Scott Coltrane