

## Announcing Staffing Changes in the Office of the Provost

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Dear colleagues,

As a follow-up to my [Oct 6 announcement](#) regarding staffing changes in the office of the Provost, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Peggy Dotson as the Interim Assistant Provost for Academic Advising. Peggy will be succeeding Dr. Denise Sleet, who is retiring in February of 2022. The next couple of months will serve as a transition period for Peggy and Denise.

I want to thank Peggy for agreeing to step into this important role. She began advising students at SLU in September 1999 in the Academic Services Center, and transitioned to advising in the College of Arts & Sciences in 2007 when advising was restructured at SLU. She became the Director of Academic Advising in A&S in 2019 and has been on the University Undergraduate Core Committee since 2018. She looks forward to preparing and supporting the advisors as they implement the new Core in Fall 2022. Before entering the field of advising, Peggy was the study abroad coordinator at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

I also want to thank Dr. Sleet for her commitment and dedication to our students during her time at SLU. As I mentioned in October, Dr. Sleet joined the University in 1988 as the director of student support services, was promoted to director of academic services in 2002, and became assistant dean in the College of Arts and Sciences in 2007. In April 2018, she was appointed as the interim assistant provost for academic advising, a new role at the University. In July 2019, she became the permanent assistant provost for academic advising, and her leadership was critical to the success of our transition to the new advising model. Her commitment to collaborative leadership and her care for both students and advisors have been hallmarks of her leadership in this role.

Finally, I want to provide a brief update on how I will approach filling the role of Dr. Rob Wood, who returns to the Biology faculty next academic year. Because Dr. Wood's role covers a significant number of responsibilities across both undergraduate and graduate academics, I have been reflecting on what these areas require and how best to move forward. I will be able to share more information in early January.

Please congratulate Peggy in her new role, and join me in wishing Dr. Sleet all the best as she begins a new chapter.

Sincerely,

Mike Lewis, Ph.D.  
Provost