

September 5, 2017

Colleagues,

I pleased to announce two one-year appointments in the College of Natural Sciences. **Associate Dean Dr. Peter Williams has been named interim dean of the college; and Dr. Sally McGill, chair of the Department of Geological Sciences, has been named interim associate dean.** Please join me in congratulating them on their new roles.

Dr. Peter Williams has been a valuable educator and leader at Cal State San Bernardino for 34 years. He joined CSUSB in 1983 as a lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and became a professor in 1993. Six years later, he was named chair of the department where he served 15 years before being named associate dean of the College of Natural Sciences (CNS) in July 2014.

Williams brings extensive experience to the college. Areas of responsibility as associate dean included departmental budget oversight, college enrollment and scheduling, student issues including academic and non-academic grievances, chair mentoring and advising, and the peer advising center. He also supervised staff and performed evaluations of college course adjunct faculty. Additionally, he oversaw space allocation and building construction, and provided renovation oversight for three major projects: a feasibility study to convert museum space to anatomy and physiology labs, bidding and construction of two environmental chambers for research in biology, and bidding and installation of air conditioning units in the domes of the observatory.

Williams earned his Ph.D. and bachelor's degree from the University of St Andrews in Scotland.

Dr. Sally McGill, another valuable member and leader of our campus, joined CSUSB nearly 20 years ago as an assistant professor in the Department of Geological Sciences and has served as chair since 2016. In addition to her strong management and leadership skills, she has an impressive scholarly record. McGill has been awarded numerous internal and external grants; most recently she was granted \$382,396 from the National Science Foundation for her project, "Collaborative Research: Paired paleoseismic and slip rate analysis of the central Garlock fault: Towards a true dated path of incremental slip on a major strike-slip fault."

She has also published dozens of peer-reviewed publications, and has presented and published numerous abstracts at professional organizations, including the Southern California Earthquake Center Proceedings and the Geological Society of America. In 2013, she was named an Exceptional Reviewer by the journal *Lithosphere*.

McGill earned her Ph.D. and master's degree in geology from the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena and her A.B. cum laude, geological sciences (geophysics option) from Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges in Cambridge.

Lastly, I am pleased to share some additional good news. CSUSB has successfully secured an additional \$2.7 million in our 2017-18 capital outlay from the Chancellor's Office for the conversion of the museum in CNS to biology labs. The project is currently expected to be completed around fall 2019.

I look forward to seeing you all at convocation!

Sincerely,
Shari McMahan, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs