

Recently Completed Searches Summer 2008



Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Dawn Rhodes's appointment was effective June 23. Formerly associate vice president for planning and analysis, then later vice president for administration, at the University of Toledo (Ohio), Dawn Rhodes has also served as vice president for business and finance at Savannah State University (Georgia). She received a Master of Business Administration from the University of Toledo in 1995 and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from the University of Michigan in 1984.



Vice Chancellor for Research Kody Varahramyan assumes his new duties on July 1. He brings 15 years of academic experience at Louisiana Tech and 10 years of industrial experience at IBM Corporation. His academic experience includes appointments as Chair of the Electrical Engineering Program, Academic Director of the Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, and Physics Programs, and Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies in the College of Engineering and Science. He has a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.



Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Mary Fisher joined the IU School of Nursing at IUPUI in 1989. Her excellence in teaching and mentoring has been acknowledged through many honors and awards, including the 2005 Founders Day President's Award for Teaching Excellence and her membership and leadership in FACET. A long-time supporter of undergraduate success at IUPUI, she actively promotes successful student outcomes, particularly through her involvement in the national Electronic Portfolio Project and Assessing First-Year Experiences, in which IUPUI was prominently involved.



Associate Vice Chancellor for Lifelong Learning Khaula Murtadha is an associate professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies and was executive associate dean of the School of Education at IUPUI from 2001 to 2007. In her new role, Professor Murtadha will focus on improving IUPUI's contributions to distance learning programs, economic development, corporate workforce education, noncredit courses, General Studies program, degree completion opportunities, and collaboration with Ivy Tech.



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Assistant Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Kenneth Durgans was vice provost for institute diversity at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and assumes his post at IUPUI on July 1. Durgans holds a doctorate of education from Western Michigan University; a master's degree in school counseling from the University of Dayton; and a master's in student personnel from Kent State University. During his 25-year career, Durgans has held diversity-related positions at several universities, including director of minority student affairs at the University of Notre Dame and executive director of diversity development at Xavier University in Cincinnati.



Dean of the School of Public and Environmental Affairs John Graham begins his appointment on August 1. A 16-year faculty member in the Harvard School of Public Health and top official with the White House Office of Management and Budget, Graham has since March 2006 been dean of the Pardee RAND Graduate School in Santa Monica, which boasts the world's largest doctoral program in policy analysis. He has a doctorate degree in urban and public affairs from Carnegie-Mellon University, a master's degree in public affairs from Duke University, and a bachelor's degree with honors in economics and politics from Wake Forest University.



Dean of the IU School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Austin Agho was founding dean of the School of Health Professions and Studies at the University of Michigan-Flint, a position he has held since 2001. He assumes his new duties at IUPUI on July 14. Agho also has served as director of the Division of Health Care Management in the School of Allied Health Sciences at Florida A&M University. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Cum Laude) in Management Science from Alaska Pacific University, a master's degree in health administration from Governors State University, and a Ph.D. in hospital and health administration from the University of Iowa.



Dean of the IU School of Liberal Arts William Blomquist begins his appointment July 1. He joined the IUPUI faculty in 1987 and served as chair of the Department of Political Science from 1995 to 2002. Well known locally as an observer and commentator on politics and government, he has achieved international recognition for his research on water resource management and policy. During this past spring semester, he held a Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Environmental Policy. Professor Blomquist has a Bachelor of Science degree in economics and a Master of Arts degree in political science from Ohio University. He received a Ph.D. in political science from Indiana University Bloomington in 1987.



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Acting Dean of the Purdue School of Science Dean Bart Ng joined the Department of Mathematical Sciences at IUPUI in 1975, after completing his postdoctoral studies at the University of Toronto, and served as chair of the department from 1986 to 1997. He became a member of the Founding Faculty of University College at IUPUI in 1997 and was appointed to the Marvin L. Bittinger Chair in Mathematical Sciences in 2004. Ng also has played an active role with the IUPUI Faculty Council and completed a second two-year term as its president.



Executive Director, Center for Teaching and Learning, Pratibha Varma-Nelson assumes her duties August 15. She was chair of the Department of Chemistry, Earth Science, and Physics at Northeastern Illinois University from 2002 to 2006. She brings to IUPUI a national reputation for enhancing the learning of students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics disciplines through Peer-Led-Team-Learning. She is a cofounder of the NSF- funded Center for Authentic Science Practice in Education, a collaboration among Purdue University, Northeastern Illinois University, University of Illinois in Chicago, Ball State University, and several community colleges. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Poona University, India, and a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Director of Equal Opportunity Kim Kirkland assumed her post on June 2. She was formerly the Affirmative Action Officer at Bowling Green State University (Ohio), having joined the Office of Equity and Diversity at BGSU in 2004. She has also worked as an AA/EEO and diversity program consultant. For many years, she administered equal opportunity and diversity programs at GE Aviation. She holds a master's degree in education from Xavier University and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Cincinnati. She expects to receive a Doctor of Education from BGSU, focusing on leadership studies, in May 2009.