College of Visual and Performing Arts Will Have Interim Dean During Fall

Winthrop University
08/14/2009

College of Visual and Performing Arts Will Have Interim Dean During Fall

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Alice Burmeister, associate dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, will serve as interim dean of the college for the fall semester. She will oversee the four departments of Music, Fine Arts, Design and Theatre and Dance, while Dean Elizabeth “Libby” Patenaude remains on medical leave.

Tom Moore, vice president for academic affairs, said Burmeister will help guide the college through a fall series of performances, concerts and exhibitions. She also is helping plan several common book events, including a Charlotte Symphony performance during Homecoming weekend in November and the comedic play, “You Can’t Take It with You,” in late September.

A native of Ann Arbor, Mich., Burmeister has taken on several administrative assignments since her arrival at Winthrop in 1997. She spent a year as interim chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance in 2004-05, as acting assistant dean of the college in the spring of 2004, interim chair of the Department of Art and Design in 2006-07 and become associate dean in 2007 to work on curriculum and student issues.

Burmeister’s academic work garnered two awards in 2000, the Outstanding Junior Professor and Faculty Student Life awards. The associate professor of fine arts specializes in the arts of Africa, the Americas, Oceanic, Pre-Columbian and Native American. She has been the recipient of more than 12 research grants and fellowships and holds a master's degree and Ph.D. in art history from Indiana University.