

From: [Academic Affairs](#)
To: [All Employees Dynamic Grp](#)
Subject: Announcement of Dr. Redmond's Professional Leave and Appointment of Acting Collegewide Dean for English and Reading
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:07:00 AM



Memorandum

To: The Montgomery College Community
From: Dr. Kimberly B. Kelley, Vice President for Arts, Business, Education, English, and Social Sciences and Provost, Rockville Campus
Subject: Announcement of Dr. Redmond's Professional Leave and Appointment of the Acting Collegewide Dean for English and Reading
Date: December 16, 2020

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Rodney Redmond, currently the Collegewide dean for English and reading, will serve as the interim vice president and provost for the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) beginning in January, 2021. This unique cross-college opportunity was developed through the collaboration of Montgomery College's president, Dr. DeRionne Pollard, and CSM's president, Dr. Maureen Murphy. This collaboration is the first of its kind and sets the stage for future college-to-college partnerships that offer professional development opportunities to foster future leaders to serve in the state's academic institutions. I am very pleased that Dr. Redmond has been selected for this opportunity and wish him well in his interim role. Dr. Redmond's first day as the interim vice president and provost at CSM will be January 4, 2021.

Dr. Murphy, the president of the College of Southern Maryland had this to say about Dr. Redmond in his new role:

"Dr. Redmond brings deep community college experience and a strong passion for our mission." He has served in a variety of academic capacities at Montgomery College: professor, department chair, associate dean, dean, acting vice-president and provost, and now college-wide dean. Additionally, Dr. Redmond has a keen interest in participatory governance and was involved in the design and implementation of the model currently used at Montgomery College."

Dr. Pollard also provided her perspective on Dr. Redmond's preparation for his new role:

"I have no doubt that Dr. Redmond's experience will be an asset to CSM during this transition period. Dr. Redmond works tirelessly to expand opportunity through higher education and I know he will bring that same energy to his interim role at CSM."

Please join me in wishing Dr. Redmond success in his interim role at CSM.

During his absence, there will be an acting dean for English and reading. In order to identify a qualified candidate, I met with the three chairs for English and reading and the director of the Writing, Reading, and Language Center (WRLC). Based on their recommendations, I interviewed potential, qualified candidates for the role. After careful consideration of each candidate, I am pleased to announce that Dr. Elizabeth Benton has accepted the position of acting Collegewide dean for English and reading. She will have Collegewide responsibility for English and reading and for supervising the WRLC on the Rockville Campus.

Dr. Benton served as the chair for English and reading on the Rockville Campus for six years and the Collegewide chair of chairs for three years. Further, Dr. Benton is currently the program director for the minority faculty internship and academic support innovation initiatives for the English and reading area working directly with Dr. Redmond. Additionally, Dr. Benton leads the learning centers including the completion of the college area review (CAR) report and the annual report for the centers in 2019. Dr. Benton has served at Montgomery College for thirteen years and has worked in higher education for over 20 years in a variety of roles. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the role of acting dean.

Dr. Benton has a bachelor's degree in English from Baylor University, a master's degree in English education from Columbia University Teacher's College and a doctoral degree in curriculum and pedagogy from George Washington University.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Benton to her acting role. Her official first day will be January 4, 2021.