
Announcing the Search for WPI's Next Peterson Family Dean, School of Arts & Sciences

From Office of the Provost <provost@wpi.edu>
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To dl-allemmployees <dl-allemmployees@wpi.edu>

Dear WPI Community:

I am pleased to report that we have officially launched the search for our next [Peterson Family Dean, School of Arts & Sciences](#).

Bogdan Vernescu, Vice President and Vice Provost for Research and Innovation, will serve as the chair of the search committee, which includes:

- Emily Dean '26, Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Natalie Farny, Associate Professor, Biology and Biotechnology
- Art Heinricher, Professor, Mathematics
- Steve McCauley, Associate Professor of Teaching, The Global School
- Sarah Olson, William Steur Professor & Department Head, Mathematics
- Rebecca Ouellette (Staff Liaison), Senior Director, Academic Operations, School of Arts & Sciences
- Gillian Smith, Associate Professor, Computer Science
- Yunus Telliel, Assistant Professor, Humanities
- Sarah Van Hoesen, PhD Candidate, Physics

Rather than engaging external consultants to assist with this search, we will use internal resources. Lauren Turner, SVP Talent & Inclusion, and her team will work closely with the search committee to ensure a robust search process.

We have developed a [position profile](#) with valuable input from department heads in Arts & Sciences, Dean Jean King, and members of the search committee. The profile highlights aspirations for our next dean and the qualifications and personal characteristics that are important for success in this position and will provide candidates with a comprehensive overview of WPI, the School of Arts & Sciences, and the opportunities and expectations for the role.

We have also established a [search webpage](#) where we will post updates as the search progresses.

We are confident that we will attract a strong and diverse pool of candidates for this important role at WPI. So many of you have strong relationships and connections within academia, and we ask you to share information about this opportunity across your professional networks. You are also welcome to submit nominations of individuals you believe may have interest; we will ensure that there is formal and confidential outreach to all candidates who are nominated. Please submit nominations directly to WPIDeanArtsAndSciences@wpi.edu.

Sincerely,
Andrew

Andrew Sears
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