

URI Informed

THE URI EMPLOYEES' NEWSLETTER

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University of Rhode Island Names Barbara Wolfe New Provost

by Dave Lavallee

The University of Rhode Island has named Barbara E. Wolfe its new provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. Wolfe, an internationally recognized expert on psychiatric and mental health nursing and eating disorders, has served as dean of the URI College of Nursing since 2016. Her selection follows a broad search that drew interest from an international field of candidates.

In making the announcement, URI President Marc Parlange praised Wolfe for her efforts to enhance the student experience, advance student success, increase faculty support, and strengthen the College of Nursing's national profile and reputation.

"Dean Wolfe is a successful scholar, researcher, and educator who has skillfully led the College of Nursing since joining the University in 2016," Parlange said. "Dean Wolfe is an exceptional colleague and she brings exciting new ideas and a thoughtful approach to the role. I am confident that she will lead with integrity and generosity, just as she has at the college, and I look forward to partnering with her as we enter this next phase of growth and transformation for the University."



Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. (URI Photo/ Nora Lewis)

During Wolfe's tenure as dean, URI's College of Nursing has increased its levels of federal research and training grant funding, bolstered scholarship support for students, recruited a more diverse community of students and faculty, and initiated an under-

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THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND

THINK BIG  WE DOSM



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graduate research fellows program. As dean, Wolfe also launched the college's psychiatric mental health nurse-practitioner program in 2019, increased graduate student support, and worked with faculty and staff to implement a five-year college strategic plan.

Wolfe, who began her duties Jan. 1, came to URI in March 2016 after having served as associate dean for research and professor at Boston College's William F. Connell School of Nursing. In addition to her work at Boston College, she served as a psychiatry lecturer at Harvard Medical School and president of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association.

"I was originally drawn to URI for its commitment to accessible public education," Wolfe said. "This resonated with my belief that public institutions should be able to provide high qual-

ity, affordable education, thereby increasing access to learning that ultimately benefits society. I remain excited about the University's progress and continued commitment to serve the state as its flagship research university."

Wolfe continued, saying, "I am energized by the growing scholarship and creative works across the campus, providing endless student learning opportunities while also positioning the University to be a preeminent institution of higher learning with local and global impact. My experience at the University has given me a great appreciation of the formidable strength of URI, its growing international reputation, and the endless exciting possibilities that lie ahead."

As the top academic official at URI, Wolfe will oversee the University's nine academic schools and colleges, University College for Academic Success, and 800 full-time faculty, as well as part-time and per course instructors. URI enrolls some 17,600 students—including 14,000 undergraduate and 2,700 graduate students, and 1,200 certificate or non-degree students.

Among Wolfe's top priorities as provost and executive vice president are to invest in initiatives that welcome and empower a diverse campus community; champion URI's enrollment strategy; enhance the student experience and advance student success; bolster the University's standing as a distinguished flagship research university with scholarly strength across all disciplines; build on URI's

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URI Names Danielle Dennis Dean of Feinstein College

by Dave Lavallee

Danielle Dennis, professor of literacy, teacher education and policy, and former director of the University of Rhode Island School of Education, has been named dean of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies at URI.

A former elementary science and environmental education specialist in Duluth, Minnesota; middle school teacher in Thornton, Colorado; and UNESCO Facilitator in Kenya, Dennis has led the URI college as interim dean since July 2021.

Dennis came to URI in August 2019 to serve as director of its School of Education. During her time as director, URI's undergraduate and graduate elementary teacher preparation programs were named among the best in the country by the National Council on Teacher Quality. Last year, the school earned full, seven-year accreditation from the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation.

Under her leadership as interim dean, the College of Education and Professional Studies was one of only 14 in the country selected to address the national teacher shortage, systematic exclusion of prospective students of color, as well as policy and practices.

Prior to her arrival in Rhode Island, from 2018 to 2019, Dennis returned to the classroom as a half-time kindergarten/first-grade teacher at Cottenham Primary School in the United Kingdom.

Dennis' research focuses on building the capacity of literacy educators across the professional lifespan and the role of coaching to support teacher development. Additionally, she works closely with several primary schools in the United Kingdom, studying the support necessary for developing teacher and leader knowledge while designing and implementing new curricula. Other research includes the use of assessment data to make instructional decisions and the ways literacy-focused policies enhance or inhibit equitable educational practices for children.

In addition to being a member of the International Literacy Association Board of Directors,



Danielle Dennis

Dennis served as chair of the Policy and Legislative Committee for the Literacy Research Association, is a director of the National Center for Clinical Practice in Educator Preparation, and was a member of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Clinical Practice Commission.

Laura Beauvais, who led the process and who recently concluded her tenure as interim provost and vice president for academic affairs, said Dennis' appointment is the result of an intensive process that began in summer 2022.

"Faculty and staff at the college endorsed her wholeheartedly for the permanent role," Beauvais said. "They praised her leadership and her work to improve the college and its programs." Beauvais noted that Dennis "has the enthusiastic support of faculty, staff and administrators."

Beauvais said Dennis established a strong advising structure to better serve underrepresented students, and she headed the re-accreditation effort for the School of Education, "which we passed with flying colors." But, Beauvais said, "she brings so much more than her strong record at URI to the job." Dennis is a national and international leader, having served on several national boards and agencies to advance teacher education and having worked in the United Kingdom and Kenya.

Wolfe...continued from page 2

core academic strengths; support faculty development; employ innovative operational and financial processes; and care for URI's core communities.

Wolfe will assume provost duties from Laura Beauvais, who has served as interim provost for the past year. Over more than 35 years at URI, Beauvais has served the University in many roles, including as vice provost for faculty affairs and as a professor of management once more.

Parlange noted Beauvais' long service to URI, saying, "I want to thank Laura Beauvais for her leadership as interim provost and vice president of academic affairs. I have appreciated her guidance and support throughout my first year as president. She is a collaborative and generous leader and a true friend of URI."

Wolfe brings impressive levels of expertise, experience and accomplishments to her new role as provost. She helped elevate the College of Nursing to one of its highest points in its history. Its undergraduate program is now ranked among the top 10 percent of nursing colleges in the country, according to the latest U.S. News & World Report rankings. The overall grade point average for incoming students is 3.92, and of the 1,224 students enrolled in nursing, 30 percent are first-generation university students and 25 percent are from historically underrepresented groups.

An accomplished researcher, Wolfe has received extensive funding from the National Institutes of Health for improved interventions and relapse and prevention for young people with eating disorders. The impact of such work led to Wolfe's induction as a Fellow in the Academy of Nursing and the International Eating Disorders Research Society. She also served on the American Psychiatric Association's eating disorder work group for the 5th edition of the "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders."

Her clinical experience also includes a tenure as director of nursing for a psychiatric hospital for children and adolescents in Newport News, Virginia. She is a Rhode Island registered nurse and a clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric and mental health nursing.

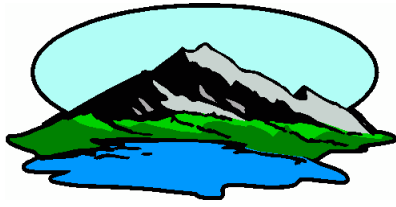
Among her considerable awards and honors are Phi Kappa Honor Society induction, Yale School of Nursing Distinguished Alumni/ae Award, Annie Goodrich Distinguished Lecture-ship Award, American Psychiatric Nurses Association Recognition of Service for Co-Founding the Clinical Psychopharmacology Institute, and Psychiatric Nurse of the Year award from the American Psychiatric Nurses Association.

Wolfe earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Syracuse University and a Master of Science degree in psychiatric mental health nursing from Yale University. She earned a Ph.D. in nursing from Boston College.

URInformed Word Search Winner

Congratulations to **Khrystall Dehate, Nursing!**
Please contact Shawn Simmons in the Provost's Office (4-4410) to claim your prize.

Check out the Word Search on page 5!



Snowy Spots



M	A	U	N	A	K	E	A	V	S	K	I	Y
T	X	N	O	L	G	L	A	C	I	E	R	E
W	D	T	N	T	I	C	E	L	A	N	D	T
A	N	E	Z	A	I	J	I	R	A	U	A	I
S	A	T	N	K	P	M	U	C	L	C	N	N
H	L	O	S	A	A	U	I	F	A	I	D	O
I	N	N	X	N	L	T	R	W	S	T	E	R
N	E	S	J	Q	C	I	S	N	K	C	S	T
G	E	A	U	R	A	L	S	E	A	R	Q	H
T	R	Z	A	S	K	I	O	G	R	A	F	P
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- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Alaska | 10. Fargo | 19. Siberian |
| 2. Alps | 11. Fuji | 20. Ski (appears five times) |
| 3. Alta | 12. Glacier | 21. South Pole |
| 4. Andes | 13. Greenland | 22. Steppes |
| 5. Annapurna | 14. Iceland | 23. Tetons |
| 6. Antarctica | 15. Kilimanjaro | 24. Urals |
| 7. Arctic | 16. Mauna Kea | 25. Yeti |
| 8. Denali | 17. Mt Washington | |
| 9. Everest | 18. North Pole | |

DIRECTIONS: The object is to find the 25 hidden words within the grid. Words can be found horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards or forwards. Return the completed wordsearch to Shawn Marie Simmons, Provost Office, Green Hall, Room 109. Please include your name, address and e-mail with your entry. A drawing of all correct entries will determine the winner. A URI prize will be given to the winning entry.

The winner will be announced in the next issue of URInformed. Good Luck!

Name _____ Dept. _____
 Campus Address _____
 Phone Ext. _____ E-mail _____

Personnel Script

Job Opportunities

The classified and non-classified application process is now automated so that you can apply on-line for positions here at the University. You will also be able to review the status of your application during the recruitment process, update your on-line application, and apply for positions that become available in the future. For the job opportunities visit:

<https://jobs.uri.edu>

We Welcome the Following People to our Community...

David Akesson (Bookstore), Emilio Alvarado III (State Crime Lab), Erik Anderson (Dean Environment & Life Science), Danielle Bailey (GSO Research), Christopher Baker (GSO Marine Office), Yodanna Bisono (Custodial Services), Christopher Boylston (CELS Academic Unit 2), John Brindamour (Info Tech Services), Carrie Brown (Conferences & Special Programs), Jennifer Cragan (Mech., Ind. & Sys. Engineering), Mackensie Crowley (GSO Public Engagement), Rachel Dahl (Mech., Ind. & Sys. Engineering), Christine DeFruscio (Dining ID Office), Christopher Emery (HRL M&R Facilities), Kirtley Fisher (Business Instruction), Robert Flynn (Community Equity & Diversity), Thais Fournier (GSO Coastal Resources Center), James Frost (Ocean Engineering), Sarah Gallo (Pharmacy Practice), Melinda Golembeske (Enrollment Services), Rachel Gomes (Emergency Management), Angela Google (CELS Academic Unit 3), Philippe Grandjean (Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sciences), Cheryl Hancin (Recreational Services), Desirae Heys (Nursing Instruction), Jacqueline Hodges (Online Learning & Teaching), Lisa Hollister (CELS Academic Unit 2), Amanda Jensen (Info Tech Services), Nicole Larkin (Ocean Engineering), John Lima (Dining Board Operations), Haley Ludvigsen (Recreational Services), Stacey Macedo-Tortorella (Dining Board Operations), Philip Marchetti (University College for Academic Success), Stephane Martinez (GSO Research), Kerri Maurice (Dean Nursing), Kimberly McIntosh (Dean Engineering), Victoria McNeil (Enrollment Services),

Robin Mosher (Human Resource Administration), Julianne Muller (CELS Academic Unit 2), Sabrina Oliver (Bookstore), Prasasti Pandit (Philosophy), Claudia Prior (Chemical Engineering), John Reasor (Police), Aubrey Rogers (Undergraduate Admissions), Steven Russo (Bookstore), Maegan Shanaghan (Facilities), Naomi Siravo (Custodial Services), Kerri Smith (GSO Research), Sarah Smith (GSO Coastal Resources Center), Kathleen Sullivan (Dean Nursing), Alicia Vignali Henry (Center Career Experiential Edu), Alexandra Walling (CELS Academic Unit 3), Tammy Whan (Pharmacy Practice), Zhu Zhang (Business Instruction)

... and Say Goodbye to ...

Jie Fang (CELS Academic Unit 1), Juan Fernandez (CELS Academic Unit 3), Courtney Blanks (Small Business Development Center), Meinca Pinchinat (Undergraduate Admissions), Sarah O'Sullivan (Undergraduate Admissions), Jian Ma (Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sc), Wendy Shattuck (CELS Academic Unit 1), Miriam Spiconardi (Athletics' Custodial Services), Michael Blackmar (Automotive), Alexander Knyshev (CELS Academic Unit 3), Neil Nachbar (Dean Engineering), William Poole Jr (Dean Nursing), Benjamin Dustin (Dean Nursing), Michael Scaramozza (Dining Board Operations), Kerri Pezzi (Dining Board Operations), Linda Fournier (General Accounting), Jennifer Critcher (GSO Coastal Resources Center), Phillip Teixeira (GSO Computer/Copy Center), Jessica Olsen (Mech., Ind. & Sys. Engineering), Zachary Stanley (Nursing Instruction), Nicole Wagner (Police), Pamela Hallagan (Risk Control and Insurance), India Hareld Stanton (Talent Development), Chen Gu (Sponsored & Cost Accounting), McHale Perkins (University College for Academic Success), Katherine Rego (Dining Board Operations), Scott Harris (Dining Board Operations), Cheryl Burns (HRL Facilities), Andra Davis (HRL Facilities), Timothy Lackie (Police), Amelia Topper (Student Learning)

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Dennis...continued from page 3

"I am thrilled to continue working with the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies community as we align our strengths with the priorities of URI's new strategic plan," Dennis said. "We have incredible talent in our college, and we will continue to build on our successful programs, further our research reach, and develop new and creative programs that meet the needs of today's educators and leaders."

Provost Barbara Wolfe, who served as dean of the College of Nursing at URI for six years, said, "Danielle has exhibited exemplary leadership as interim dean of the college, and she has been a thoughtful and respected partner to fellow deans and University leaders." Wolfe also gave praise to Beauvais for leading the process and "for all that she has done to advance this University during her time as provost and over her more than 30 years of dedicated service to URI."

Prior to her arrival at URI, Dennis was associate professor at the University of South Florida from 2013 to 2019, where she served as coordinator of its Urban Teacher Residency Partnership Program, designing and developing one of the first undergraduate urban teacher residencies in the country; program director of the Cambridge (United Kingdom) Schools Experience; professor-in-residence at Cottenham Primary School, Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom; and Global Faculty Fellow with USF's Global Citizens Project. As associate professor, she received the Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award.

She was an assistant professor at South Florida from 2007 to 2013. In 2005, she was a UNESCO Facilitator in Nairobi and Njoro, Kenya, where she designed professional development and research programs with teachers in diagnostic teaching strategies.

Dennis earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Florida Gulf Coast University, a master's degree in education from the University of Minnesota, and a Ph.D. in language and literacy education from the University of Tennessee. She holds a certificate in adolescent literacy from the University of Colorado.

Comings and Goings...continued from page 8

... and Best Wishes To Those Who Retired

George Loomis (CELS Academic Unit 2), Cynthia Mace (Controller), Bonnie Saccucci (Enrollment Services), Alan Wild (Info Tech Services)

In Memoriam

- ❖ Vincent Caramadre, Lab Manager, Chemical Engineering
- ❖ Richard Hanson, Professor Emeritus, Landscape Architecture
- ❖ Surendra Malik, Professor Emeritus, Chair, Physics
- ❖ Bryna Wortman, Professor Emerita, Theatre



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Pets Corner Invitation

Send us your favorite photo of you and your pet.

We need a high resolution jpg.

Your name and department

Your pet's name, breed

One or two sentences about your pet.

Maybe the photo will tell us all we need to know.

Contact:

Nancy Gillespie
ngillespie@uri.edu



Finn is such a clown! He's almost 2 and keeps us laughing out loud every second!!! | -- Cherie Taylor, Psychological Consultation Center

Cook's Corner

Share your favorite recipes in the Cook's Corner

Greek Oregano Chicken with Spinach, Orzo, and Grape Tomatoes

For a Greek feast, serve a spread of stuffed grape leaves and spanakopita as an appetizer to this slow cooker chicken and pasta dinner.

Ingredients:

- 1 teaspoon dried oregano, crushed
- 1 teaspoon dried basil, crushed
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley, crushed
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ⅛ teaspoon ground black pepper
- 4 8 ounce skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 14.5 ounce can reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 10 ounce package frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed dry
- 2 cup grape tomatoes
- 1 ½ cup cooked orzo pasta (rosamarina)
- 1 teaspoon finely shredded lemon peel
- 2 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese
- Snipped fresh oregano

Directions:

1). In a small bowl combine dried oregano, basil, parsley, salt, and pepper. Sprinkle mixture evenly over chicken; rub in with your fingers. In a large skillet cook chicken in hot oil over medium-high heat about 6 minutes or until brown, turning once. Remove from heat.

2). In a 3 1/2- or 4-quart slow cooker combine chicken, broth, and garlic. Add spinach; top with tomatoes. Cover and cook on low-heat setting for 4 hours or on high-heat setting for 2 hours.

3). Remove chicken from cooker; cover and keep warm. Using a slotted spoon, transfer spinach and tomatoes to a large bowl; discard liquid. Stir cooked pasta, lemon peel, and lemon juice into spinach mixture. Serve chicken with pasta mixture. Garnish with cheese and fresh oregano on top.

-- This recipe is courtesy of Iowa Girl Eats



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