

KU Names Mary Lee Hummert as Interim Vice Provost

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LAWRENCE — Mary Lee Hummert, associate vice provost for research at the University of Kansas, has been named vice provost for faculty support, succeeding Sandra Gautt, who held the position for 17 years.

Hummert's responsibilities will include developing programs to help new faculty prepare for the promotion and tenure process and training department chairs for their administrative duties on KU's Lawrence campus. This position reports to Kathleen McCluskey-Fawcett, senior vice provost for academic affairs.

"Mary Lee demonstrated excellent administrative leadership in her year as interim vice provost for student affairs and has continued to broaden her administrative skills and knowledge of KU during her time as associate vice provost for research," said Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Richard Lariviere.

Hummert will retain her position as professor of communication studies and research associate in the Gerontology Center at KU's Life Span Institute. She received her doctoral degree in communication studies at KU in 1987, her master's degree in 1978 from the University of Nebraska-Kearney and her bachelor's degree in 1968 from Fontbonne University.

Her research on age stereotypes and communication has been funded by the National Institute on Aging/National Institutes of Health. She is a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and recipient of the Giles-Nussbaum Distinguished Scholar Award from the Communication and Aging Division of the National Communication Association. At KU, her honors include the Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence, the Byron A. Alexander Graduate Mentor Award and induction into KU Women's Hall of Fame.

"I am looking forward enthusiastically to being part of Provost Lariviere's administrative team and am excited about the opportunity to expand the faculty support role initiated by Vice Provost Gautt," Hummert said.