

Nicola Pitchford Named Vice President of Academic Affairs

“Dean Pitchford has ably served Dominican in her role as the Dean of the [School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences](#) and will be a tremendous asset in carrying out the mission of Dominican as we expand our work to further strengthen the academic program and elevate student learning,” President Marcy said. “Her leadership will guide us as we create a model that honors our core values, respects the diversity of our Dominican community, and supports our accelerating achievements in research and scholarship.”

Since joining Dominican in 2011, Pitchford has been central to the University’s Campus Planning Process to develop a distinctive model of academic programming and student support. She has served as co-Chair of the Dominican Experience Task Force and as a member of the Dominican Experience Planning Committee.

“I am pleased and honored that President Marcy appointed me for this challenging position, and I look forward to serving the Dominican community in this new capacity,” Pitchford said. “I am truly fortunate to work with a faculty committed to student mentorship and guided by Dominican’s core values of study, service, community, and reflection. Our faculty set the standard for engaged learning, as well as for leading local and international educational and service opportunities.”

Pitchford came to Dominican from Fordham University, where she served as Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Associate Chief Academic Officer from 2009-2011. Pitchford joined the faculty at Fordham in 1995 as an Assistant Professor of English and received tenure in 2001. She served as Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of English, Co-Director of the Literary Studies Program and then as Chair of the Department of English, where she oversaw 59 full-time faculty on two campuses.

As Associate VP and Associate CAO, Pitchford had particular responsibility for overseeing faculty hiring and its integration with both budget and strategic planning; assessment and accreditation; the integration of faculty governance and administrative leadership; and assisting in the preparation and management of all academic budgets.

Pitchford, who was born and raised in Great Britain, began her academic career as a teaching assistant while pursuing her doctorate at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Pitchford earned her bachelor’s degree at Pomona College in English and Creative Writing. She received her MA and PhD from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in English, with an emphasis on modern and contemporary U.S. and British literature.

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