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Subject Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce that James V. Staros has accepted the position of Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences beginning July 1st. Dr. Staros comes to us from Vanderbilt University where he is Professor and Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences. He has a distinguished record of research in biochemistry, and currently has support from the National Institutes of Health for research, training graduate students at the interface of the physical and biological sciences, and traineeships in the biomedical sciences for under-represented minority students. The Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Biological Sciences Education program has supported his work in several education initiatives at Vanderbilt.

He has been highly effective as department chair and in faculty governance at Vanderbilt where he has guided enhancements of biomedical research capabilities through key faculty recruitments and fund raising.

Dr. Staros has a clear vision of what it takes for modern research universities to fulfill their multiple missions. He is the right person to lead our College of Arts and Sciences forward to still more accomplishments.

I thank the Arts and Sciences Dean search committee chaired by Professor Jeffrey Segal for its excellent work in developing and implementing the process that led to Jim Staros' appointment. I also want to express gratitude to Professor Robert Liebermann for his willingness to serve as Interim Dean of the College for what will have been one and a half years. Coming into the office "cold" he has worked wisely and effectively in maintaining college leadership during crucial times. The many people across campus who know Bob understand that he is an outstanding citizen of our university, and will wish him the best after July 1st in his well-deserved sabbatical research leave.

- Robert L. McGrath, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs