



College of Arts and Sciences

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DATE: February 18, 2013

TO: Department of English, Faculty, Staff and Students

From: Mark Shanda, Divisional Dean
Arts and Humanities

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Shanda", written over the printed name.

RE: Chair appointment, Department of English

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Sebastian Knowles as chair of the Department of English, pending approval by the Board of trustees. Sebastian has served the College of Arts and Sciences well as Associate Dean of the Division of Arts and Humanities and is greatly anticipating the return to his home department as their new chair. Although I will miss Sebastian's wise counsel and strong advocacy for faculty across the Division of Arts and Humanities, I am certain that this new administrative challenge will yield nothing but great advances for the Department of English.

I would like to thank all the faculty and staff who provided me with insight and advice. Your input was substantive and strongly positive and I attached great value to it when making this decision. I particularly want to thank the English Department's search committee that included Professors Brenda Brueggemann, Elizabeth Renker and representing the dean's office from the Department of Classics, Professor Gregory Jusdanis.

I look forward to working with you and Sebastian over the next four years – a period, no doubt, of great change and opportunity.