



Provost and Senior Vice President

Division of Academic Affairs

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Good morning, Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to announce that pending approval by the OSU/A&M Board of Regents at their upcoming meeting on April 26, the position of Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) has been filled. **Dr. Melinda Cro** has accepted the position of Dean and Professor in the Department of Languages and Literatures. As Dean, Dr. Cro will also hold the *Puterbaugh Foundation Endowed Chair*, established to promote excellence in teaching, research, and scholarship in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Currently, Dr. Cro serves as Associate Dean for Student Success, Engagement, and Undergraduate Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences at Kansas State University and as a tenured position as Professor of Modern Languages. Dr. Cro has served in successive leadership roles throughout her time at Kansas State, including Graduate Program Director and Department Head of Modern Languages. In her current role, she oversees strategic enrollment management efforts and coordinates student success initiatives across the College. A digital humanist and early modernist, Cro's research focuses on two areas: (1) the development of the novel and representations of nature in the 16th-18th centuries and (2) digital pedagogy and best practices in second language pedagogy.

Dr. Cro was one of three finalists brought to campus following an intensive national search that began in the fall and included virtual interviews, campus interviews, and directed and non-directed reference calls. Dr. Cro received significant support from the many individuals and groups involved in the interview process.

I would like to thank Associate Provost and Dean Randy Kluver, Chair of the Search and Screening Committee, and all Committee members for their significant efforts to recruit an outstanding pool of candidates. President Shrum and I are confident we succeeded in identifying the individual best suited to lead the College of Arts and Sciences, and we look forward to Dr. Cro joining the OSU leadership team.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Melinda Cro on this appointment and welcoming her to Oklahoma State!

Best,

Jeanette

Jeanette M. Mendez

Provost and Senior Vice President

BCC distribution: CAS Search and Screening Committee; CAS faculty, staff, student leaders and external friends/constituent groups; OSU and OSUF Leadership Teams; Council of Deans; Faculty Council Officers; and Academic Affairs Unit Heads.

[CV Melinda A. Cro](#)