



Celebrating the Distinguished Accomplishments of Georgette Chapman Phillips as Dean of the College of Business

Today I write to share the news that Georgette Chapman Phillips, dean of the College of Business, has announced that she will retire at the end of the next academic year (June 30, 2024). Georgette has had a tremendous impact on the college and the university over the last nine years. Personally, I will miss the wit and wisdom that she brought to every interaction and the deep commitment that she has shown to making the Business College and the university stronger. At the same time, I recognize that this is the right moment for her to retire and I am happy that she will leave the role with the college in a very strong position.

Throughout Georgette's remarkable tenure as dean, she has championed the growth of Lehigh Business, fostered an environment of academic excellence, and left an indelible mark on countless students and colleagues. By focusing on the importance of faculty research and scholarship she has elevated the college's reputation and fostered the recruitment and retention of highly successful faculty. By emphasizing the opportunity for Lehigh Business to stand at the intersection between business and technology, she has provided a roadmap for the future of the college that promises to increase the impact and reputation of the business college for years and decades to come.

Georgette joined Lehigh from the University of Pennsylvania in 2014 and over the past decade has transformed Lehigh's undergraduate and graduate business offerings. Through her work, she has enhanced the reputation of Lehigh's highly regarded MBA programs, established a thriving executive education program, and innovated in shaping interdisciplinary opportunities for students, including the development of co-curricular and entrepreneurial programs that are critical to the success of today's business students. She has worked collaboratively with faculty and staff to establish a strong culture of clear communication and continuous innovation and improvement.

Georgette's leadership has not been limited to Lehigh's campus. She has forged partnerships with external organizations such as the Nasdaq Center and sought opportunities to strengthen the pipeline for underrepresented students to become business leaders through scholarships and collaborations with programs that support high-potential youth of diverse backgrounds. Her relentless pursuit of excellence and her persistent focus on forward-looking opportunities has solidified Lehigh Business's position as an innovative leader in business education.

For all of this work, without a doubt, one of Georgette's signature and lasting achievements will be her work in driving the design and funding of the new Business Innovation Building. This building, which opened this past spring, is the most philanthropically supported building in Lehigh's history. This support came only because of Georgette's dedicated work to describe her vision for the potential and impact of the building to alumni and donors. I encourage you to learn more about her invaluable contributions by following this [link](#).

As we embark on this transition, we will begin the search for a successor who will possess the vision, passion, and dedication necessary to lead the College of Business into an exciting new chapter and carry forward the legacy that Georgette has cultivated. Please join me in expressing our deepest appreciation to Georgette and in extending our warmest wishes for a fulfilling and joyous retirement. Her legacy will continue to inspire us as we move forward, building upon the solid foundation she helped establish.