

Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud

Delivered on Monday, May 4, 2015

Location: Goldstein Alumni and Faculty Center

Remarks: Dean Announcement, College of Engineering and Computer Science

*The Chancellor was introduced by the Dean of School of Information Studies, Liz Liddy*

Thank you, Liz. Good afternoon, everyone.

This is an exciting day for the college and for Syracuse University. I am pleased to be here as we introduce Teresa Dahlberg, whom Interim Provost Liddy has selected to present to our Board of Trustees for confirmation as the new Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

Before I go any further, I want to thank the members of the Dean’s Search Committee:

* Professor Cliff Davidson, chair
* Trustee and ECS Dean’s Leadership Council Chair David Edelstein
* Lee Davis of the engineering firm O’Brien and Gere
* Academic Affairs Faculty Fellow and Professor Shiu-Kai Chin
* Professor Shobha Bhatia
* Professor John Dannenhoffer
* Professor Julie Hasenwinkel
* Professor Jay Henderson
* Professor Laura Lautz
* Professor Alan Middleton
* Professor Qinru Qiu
* Assistant Dean Michael Ransom
* And students Allison Johnston (graduate) and Mileysa Ponce (undergraduate)

Thanks also to Esther Gray in Academic Affairs, who served as the administrator of this search.

Before I turn the program over to Cliff Davidson to speak on behalf of the committee, I have a few words to share.

Syracuse University is a place of great ambition and we are at a critical point in our history. We are designing and pursuing an academic strategy to be a strong, thriving university that seizes the opportunities presented by change in the world.

Our priorities include commitment to further enhance the student experience, to advance research, and to embrace change and innovation in response to emerging needs and opportunities.

The College of Engineering and Computer Science is key to that strategy. It has been blessed by leaders in the faculty and administration for many years, including Eric Spina, Laura Steinberg, and a spectacular interim dean in Professor Chilukuri Mohan.

I am so grateful to Dean Mohan for his steady hand, insightful stewardship, and great sacrifice for ECS.

I am also grateful to the faculty leaders in this school – the department chairs, teachers, and researchers – and to the dedicated staff.

I thank Charlie Driscoll, who was announced today as chair to the Provost search committee, and who presided over his first meeting of that group.

There is so much groundbreaking work going on at this school, in every department, including:

* Biomedical and Chemical Engineering
* Civil and Environmental Engineering
* Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
* And, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

We have so much to build on, based on hard work and sacrifice in this school. The school deserves strong, innovative, and visionary leadership. There were great candidates for this position, a tribute to the progress of the school. On the advice of the search committee, I am confident that Teresa Dahlberg is the right leader for the school’s next stage of progress.

Teresa has a long record of accomplishments to support that conclusion. She has launched distinctive academic initiatives. She has innovated curriculum. She has forged collaborations both within disciplines and schools and outside of them.

She is a dynamic and experienced leader. She is also a strategic thinker and a consensus-builder. She has the capacity to both spot opportunities and mobilize others in response to them. I know she will play an important role in bringing the college’s perspective to bear as we move toward implementing the Academic Strategic Plan.

So, on behalf of Syracuse University, I proudly welcome Teresa Dahlberg as our new Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science

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