

July 25, 2013

Dear Faculty, Staff, and Friends of the College of Business:

As many of you may have anticipated, I have long planned to step down as Dean upon reaffirmation of AACSB accreditation, completion of the COB Education Center and successful achievement of other notable accomplishments. In January, upon her arrival at UWF, I confirmed these plans with Provost Saunders.

The time has now arrived. Effective August 8, 2013, I will begin an administrative sabbatical and in June 2014, I will step down as Dean and return to faculty with certain assigned administrative and teaching duties. While on administrative sabbatical, I will retool for classroom and online teaching and continue to work on certain key initiatives, including COB fundraising, plans for COB Phase III, and other assigned outreach duties.

Provost Saunders is scheduling meetings with the COB Council, Chairs, administrative team and others to discuss College leadership during my sabbatical and beyond.

I trust all of you know well what a distinct honor it has been for me to serve as your Dean for almost thirteen years. During this time we have accomplished much together due to the commitment of an outstanding team of faculty, staff, administrative colleagues and community leaders dedicated to our mission of preparing students for successful careers and lives.

I love the University of West Florida and the College of Business and it has been a great joy, personally and professionally, to work with such dedicated colleagues in pursuit of a noble mission.

Thank all of you for the opportunity to contribute to our noble mission and to the successes of the University, our College and, most importantly, to the students and communities we serve. I treasure our time and work together and remain dedicated to our continued successes in my new role.

Sincerely,



Ed Ranelli

cc: President Judy Bense  
Provost Martha Saunders  
College of Business Advisory Council