



PROVOST SHARON L. VASQUEZ RETIRES

After six years of service to the University, Provost Sharon Vasquez retired on June 30, 2016. When announcing her retirement, President Harrison said Vasquez “brought leadership, creativity, decisiveness, and a thorough knowledge of higher education to her role as the chief academic officer of the University. Under her direction, our academic programs have grown in nature and in scope, and in many cases in size. She presided over a dramatic increase in both enrollment and reputation of our disciplines in the basic sciences, in health sciences, and in engineering.” As the first provost of the University with an academic background in the arts, she was a tireless champion for their place in the University. One of Vasquez’s last projects was planning the renovation of the University Libraries that began in May.



H. FREDERICK SWEITZER NAMED INTERIM PROVOST

On July 1, H. Frederick Sweitzer became interim provost of the University. Since 2013, Sweitzer was the University’s associate provost and dean of graduate studies and responsible for the development,

implementation, and oversight of faculty development, the faculty search process, and the Faculty Center for Learning Development. He holds faculty rank as Professor of Educational Leadership. He joined the University faculty in 1985, the same year he received his EdD from the University of Massachusetts. When announcing Sweitzer’s appointment, President Harrison said “I am delighted we are able to call on a teacher, scholar, and administrator of his quality to serve in this role.”



T. CLARK SAUNDERS NAMED ASSOCIATE PROVOST AND DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES

T. Clark Saunders has been named associate provost and dean of graduate studies at the University. Saunders comes to the position from The Hartt School where, since 1999,

he has held a variety of administrative positions including twice serving as interim dean, which was his position immediately prior to this appointment. In addition to his skills as an administrator for academic affairs, Saunders brings experience and expertise in graduate education to the position, having served as graduate director at The Hartt School for many years.



ELIZABETH COOPER NAMED DEAN OF THE HARTT SCHOOL

Elizabeth (Betsy) Cooper is the new dean of The Hartt School and professor of dance. A native of New York City, Cooper came to UHart from Hunter College where she was chair of the CUNY (City University of New York) dance department. Prior to that, she had a long career at the University of Washington (UW), the flagship campus of that state system. At UW, Cooper was dean of the Division of Arts which serves over 1,000 undergraduate and graduate students in a wide array of programs. Prior to her career in academia, Cooper performed with classical and contemporary dance companies nationally and abroad. She holds a MFA in Dance from the University of Washington and graduated cum laude from Yale with a Bachelor of Arts degree in archaeological studies.