

Sent via email April 11, 2018



CAL STATE LA

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

Dear Campus Community:

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Dr. Linda Essig will be appointed dean of the College of Arts and Letters, effective July 1. Dr. Essig is a distinguished scholar and educator with over a decade of experience as an academic administrator. She currently serves as Director, Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Programs, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, at Arizona State University (ASU). Dr. Essig is a nationally recognized expert in Arts Administration and Arts Entrepreneurship. She is the author of *Lighting and the Design Idea*, *The Speed of Light*, and *The Arizona Arts Entrepreneur Toolkit*, as well as dozens of scholarly publications, exhibitions and presentations.

Dr. Essig has held several leadership roles at ASU and at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She was the Founding Director of the School of Theatre and Film at ASU and launched the award-winning Pave Program in Arts Entrepreneurship, which grew into a national model for university-based arts venture incubation. Dr. Essig served as the Director, School of Theatre and Film, and Chair, Department of Theatre at ASU and has held the Evelyn Smith Professorship in Theatre. She currently leads the MA in Creative Enterprise and Cultural Leadership and the MFA concentration in Arts Entrepreneurship and Management. Dr. Essig sits on the boards of directors of the Association for Arts Administration Educators and Rising Youth Theatre. Prior to her experience at ASU, she served as Chair of the Department of Theatre and Drama, and Director of University Theatre at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. Essig earned her BFA in Design and her MFA in Design for Stage and Screen at New York University Tisch School of the Arts. She holds a PhD in Public Administration and Public Policy from Arizona State University.

I would also like to take a moment to thank the search committee for their work on this important search which coincided with a very busy time in the semester: Aminah Bakeer Abdul-Jabbaar, Rami Maysami, David Olsen, and John Ramirez. Special thanks to Mika Cho for chairing the committee.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Essig on her new appointment.

Best wishes,

Lynn Mahoney, PhD

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs