

To: Montgomery College Community

From: Dr. Jermaine F. Williams, President

Subject: Appointment of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/College Provost

Date: November 28, 2023

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Deidre Price as the new senior vice president for academic affairs/college provost. She will join Montgomery College on January 1, 2024. Dr. Price is deeply committed to the transformative power of education, student success, and equity and inclusion. Her experiences include teaching in-person and online classes; leading faculty and staff and academic programming; working with educational agencies, local industry, local and state legislators, and community stakeholders; and establishing articulation agreements and cooperative arrangements. In her current role, she has responsibility for traditional community college associate degree and certificate programs, bachelor's degrees, workforce development, academic services, as well as a high-performing charter high school located on campus and operated by the college. Her contributions have led to innovations in online learning and faculty development, the expansion of dual enrollment, and significant grant awards targeting program enhancements in career and technical education.

Dr. Price has two decades of experience in higher education and currently serves as the vice president for academic affairs at Northwest Florida State College. She began her education career as an adjunct faculty member teaching English at Okaloosa-Walton Community College (later renamed Northwest Florida State College), the University of South Alabama, and Tallahassee Community College. She served as a full-time faculty member for 11 years, then transitioned to serve as director of instructional technology and online education, then dean of academic strategies, innovation, and support, and finally to vice president for academic affairs.

Dr. Price holds dual bachelor's degrees in English and philosophy and a master's degree in English from the University of South Alabama. She earned her Ph.D. in English from Florida State University in the literature, media, and culture program with a concentration in new media studies.

The robust international search process for filling this role began in July and culminated earlier this month when finalists visited the College. I want to thank the search advisory committee that consisted of 25 people from across the College and Chief of Staff/Chief

Strategy Officer Stephen Cain, who led the search process. This committee was a mix of faculty, staff, administrators, and students and simultaneously represented the College's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The committee had individuals from all divisions, with nearly three-fourths of the members being from Academic Affairs. The committee was also joined by a search advocate whose advisory role was to enhance the equity, validity, diversity, and inclusion in the recruitment and interview process.

Finally, I want to express my deepest gratitude to Dr. Sharon Fechter, who has served with distinction as the interim senior vice president for academic affairs since April. She stepped up to lead academic affairs work and initiatives so that they did not miss a beat and served as a member of Cabinet during this time. She will assist in Dr. Price's transition to Montgomery College.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Deidre Price as MC's new senior vice president for academic affairs/college provost.