

New business dean selected

YSU – Dr. Betty Jo Licata, dean of the Dahlkemper School of Business at Gannon University in Erie, PA, has been named dean of the Warren P. Williamson Jr. College of Business Administration.

The new dean's appointment will become effective July 1. A veteran with eight years of experience as dean and associate dean of colleges of business, Licata was chosen from three final candidates.

Licata will succeed Dr. James Cicarelli, who resigned last year as dean of WCBA to accept the deanship of the College of Business Administration at Roosevelt University in Chicago. Dr. David Decker is currently serving as interim dean of the WCBA.

Licata's 10 years of experience will be highly beneficial to her as she takes on her new responsibilities at YSU," said YSU President Leslie H. Cochran. "She will bring a collegial approach to decision making in the college as she leads it to an excellent future."

Licata said she is excited and proud to join the YSU community. "The Williamson College of Business Administration has an accomplished and dedicated faculty



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Dr. Betty Jo Licata

committed to excellence and preparing our students to meet the challenges of the 21st century," she stated. "We will continue to focus on enhancing the teaching-learning process and creating value-added experiences for our students."

The new YSU dean earned her doctorate in management, with a specialization in human resource management, in 1982 at

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. She also holds a master's degree in business administration from the institute and a bachelor's degree in psychology from State University College of New York at Geneseo.

Dr. James J. Scanlon, provost at YSU, said Licata will provide WCBA with accomplished leadership as it moves toward its goal of accreditation by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

"She is a member of the AACSB board of directors and its candidacy committee," stated Scanlon. "She has a history of building connections between business programs and the business community."

At YSU, Licata can be expected to strengthen the relationship between the WCBA and the business community in the Mahoning Valley, Scanlon said.

Dr. Jane Reid, marketing, served as chair of the search committee that recommended Licata's appointment. "Because of the hard work of the WCBA screening committee, which consisted of

See DEAN page 3

Dean

continued from page 1

faculty, students, administrators and a representative from the business community, we believe we were able to recruit the best candidate for the position," Reid said.

Prior to becoming dean of the School of Business at Gannon University in 1990, Licata served as associate dean and director of graduate programs at the College of Business Administration at Ohio University in Athens for three years.

She was also a tenured associate professor of management at OU during the same period. Prior to being named associate dean of the College of Business Administration at OU, Licata served as an assistant professor of management there for five years.

At the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Licata served as the assistant director of the professional leadership program, as a research assistant and as a teaching assistant. She also worked as a doctoral intern for several months with Ashland Oil Corp.

In addition to serving on the board of directors of AACSB, Licata has been a member of the Academy of Management and the Society for Human Resource Management. She has also done professional work with the American Society for Training and Development, the Ohio Board of Regents and the State University of New York.

Licata has been involved extensively in a number of community projects in the Erie and Athens areas.. She has also served on numerous academic committees and made many professional presentations.