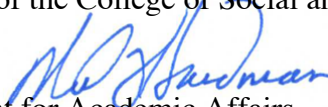


**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Faculty, Staff, and Students of the College of Social and Behavioral Science

**From:** Michael L. Hardman  
Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs 

**Date:** February 22, 2013

Dear CSBS Colleagues and Students,

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Cynthia Berg, Professor of Psychology, as Interim Dean for the College of Social and Behavioral Science effective July 1, 2013, pending the approval of the Board of Trustees. Professor Berg has a distinguished record as a department and college leader and clearly enjoys the respect of her colleagues and students as a researcher and teacher.

Professor Berg received her undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Washington and her master's and Ph.D. in psychology from Yale University. She joined the faculty at the University of Utah in 1986 and has served as the Chair and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Psychology. In her administrative roles, she has developed initiatives related to improving graduate student mentorship, faculty development (including tenure-track faculty mentoring and facilitating grant support), and undergraduate instruction.

Professor Berg's research is at the intersection of developmental and health psychology, examining how individuals cope with chronic illness (e.g., diabetes, cancer) within close relationships and family systems. Her work demonstrating that parental involvement is essential to good diabetes management across adolescence and emerging adulthood has been published in *Diabetes Care*, *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*, and *Journal of Family Psychology*. Further, her work conducted on couples coping with cancer indicates that working together can boost cognitive performance, enhance satisfaction with the relationship, and reduce psychosocial distress (published in *Psychology and Aging* and *Journals of Gerontology*). She brings together a highly collaborative and interdisciplinary research team (from Psychology, Pediatrics, Medicine, and Huntsman Cancer Institute) to approach these challenges. She has published over 100 articles and book chapters in top outlets in her field. She is on the Editorial Boards of the *Journal of Family Psychology*, *Journals of Gerontology*, and *Psychology and Aging*. She has received numerous awards for her research and mentoring, including the University of Utah Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Scholar Distinguished Mentor Award in 2006; the 2007 Master Mentor Award from APA's Division 20; and the 2012 Irwin Altman Award for Distinguished Research, Teaching, Mentoring, & Service. Her research has been funded by NICHD, NIA, NIDDK, and the Spencer Foundation.

I look forward to working closely with Cindy and the department/college leadership over the next few months to assure a smooth transition into the new academic year and initiate discussions on the formal search for a permanent dean. Please help me welcome Cindy Berg as the Interim Dean for the College of Social and Behavioral Science.