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WKU names new provost

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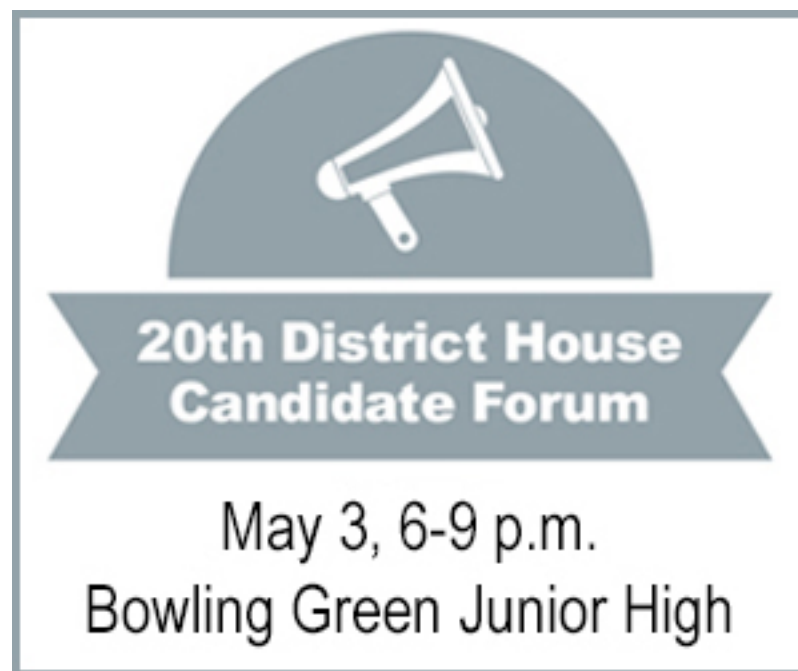
Terry Ballman

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Western Kentucky University has named a new provost to replace the retiring David Lee.

Terry Ballman, dean of the College of Arts and Letters at California State University, San Bernardino, will be the next provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at WKU, according to a news release.

She will officially step into the role Aug. 1 after Lee retires June 30.



Ballman brings 33 years of higher education experience working at universities across the country.

She's been with California State University, San Bernardino, since 2013 and was previously at the university's Channel Islands location since 2003. Ballman has also worked at Western Carolina University from 1998 to 2002, the University of Northern Colorado from 1993 to 1998, California State University, Long Beach, from 1988 to 1992 and Binghamton University in New York from 1985 to 1987.

“I was drawn to the mission of WKU as a student-centered applied research university that prepares students of all backgrounds to succeed in a global society,” Ballman said in a news release. “After visiting WKU’s beautiful campus and meeting with dedicated faculty, staff and students, I was even more intrigued with the opportunity to serve.”



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According to the release, Ballman earned a Ph.D. in Hispanic Linguistics from the University of Texas at Austin, a master’s degree in Latin American Literature from California State University, Long Beach, and a bachelor’s degree in Spanish and German from CSULB.

“Dr. Ballman brings with her a wide range of experience as an administrator and professor that will serve well in her role as WKU’s new provost,” WKU President Timothy C. Caboni said in the release. “We look forward to her leadership as we develop our shared vision to elevate WKU for the next decade.”

S. Keith Hargrove, dean of the College of Engineering at Tennessee State University, was also a finalist during the search.

Ballman will replace Lee, who took the job as WKU's provost and vice president of Academic Affairs in 2015. He was previously the dean of the Potter College of Arts and Letters for 23 years, and he first came to the university in 1975.

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