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## Message from Acting President Pinto

Colleagues,

It is with pleasure that I announce that Dale B. Billingsley, Professor of English and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, has accepted my offer to serve as Acting Executive Vice President and University Provost. Dr. Billingsley will provide strong leadership and the needed continuity to the office and university during the transition to a new president. His appointment will be effective Aug. 15, 2016.

Dr. Billingsley is a 38 year member of the faculty, having come to UofL in 1978 as Assistant Professor of English. He has taught throughout his 21 years of service on the provost's senior staff. Dr. Billingsley is intimately familiar with the workings of the university and the provost's office. He is respected and admired by the entire university community having served in various roles in his department, his unit, and university-wide. He is a former Chair of the Faculty Senate and served as faculty trustee. His experience and knowledge of the university and his background and history will enable him to continue the momentum in the implementation of the 21st Century University Initiative: Powering the 2020 Plan, as well as the other facets of the provost's position. His main regret in the new appointment is the loss of regular classroom contact with students.

Many of you know that Dr. Billingsley had planned to step aside as Vice Provost upon the appointment of a new Vice Provost for Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Success. That appointment is imminent and that individual will be taking on many of the responsibilities associated with Dr. Billingsley's role as vice provost. This circumstance makes Dr. Billingsley's new appointment possible since he will be freed from those obligations. When the new appointment ends, he plans to return to the classroom to teach until his retirement.

I am very grateful for Dr. Billingsley's willingness to take on a new role at a critical time for our university. I know I can count on your support of his work. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Billingsley on his appointment.

Neville Pinto  
Acting President

