



Elizabeth G. Lobo, Ph. D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Office of the Provost

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Dear Colleagues:

Jennifer Collins, Judge James Noel Dean and Professor in the Dedman School of Law, has informed President Turner and me that she has accepted an offer to become the next President of Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee on July 1, 2022.

During her time as Dean, Dedman Law has nearly doubled the diversity of its entering classes while increasing the median LSAT score and GPA of entering students. Three academic centers have launched under her administration – the Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center, the Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation, and the Robert B. Rowling Center for Business Law and Leadership. These have broadened opportunities for Dedman Law students and have made impact at the local, regional and national levels.

Prior to Dean Collins' departure from SMU, we will launch a national search for her replacement. I will appoint an individual to chair the search. And together, we will charge a search committee in early spring 2022 to identify candidates for the permanent Dean of the School of Law. The committee will be comprised of representatives of the SMU faculty, staff, and students, as well as members of the outside community.

Please join me in congratulating Dean Collins on her new appointment. You can read more [here](#).

Sincerely,

Elizabeth G. Lobo, PhD
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Southern Methodist University
<https://www.smu.edu/provost>

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