

Thursday, July 9, 2015

Jon Margerum-Leys named dean of OU's School of Education and Human Services

Oakland University Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost James Lentini has announced the appointment of Jon Margerum-Leys, Ph.D., as dean of Oakland's School of Education and Human Services (SEHS). Margerum-Leys began his duties on July 1.

Dr. Margerum-Leys joins Oakland from California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo, where he was dean of the School of Education. He brings to Oakland University more than a decade of expertise in academic administration and nearly three decades of scholarship in educational media, technology and teaching at the K-12 level.

"Dr. Margerum-Leys brings to Oakland a strong record as an administrator, teacher educator, educational researcher, K-12 classroom teacher and educational technologist," Lentini said.

"He is a collaborative leader with a commitment to diversity, teacher preparedness and developing new programs.

"We believe that his technological expertise will provide invaluable insight into and a practical approach toward an evolving education landscape — advancing Oakland's teacher education programs and reputation within and beyond the region."

Dr. Margerum-Leys has been committed to developing new academic initiatives such as an anticipated master's degree in curriculum and instruction and a bilingual certificate for teachers at Cal Poly, and to partnerships that benefit the larger community. In a prior role as associate dean of students and curriculum at Eastern Michigan University, Dr. Margerum-Leys oversaw an Autism Collaborative Center funded by more than \$1 million in Michigan legislature appropriations.

Diversity is important to Dr. Margerum-Leys, whose K-12 teaching experience includes an area of small town poverty in Claremont, New Hampshire, and a predominantly Latino/a community of Santa Maria, California.

"I'm a veteran of the U.S. Army and have benefitted from working with Americans across socioeconomic, race, class and regional backgrounds," he noted. At Cal Poly, he served as Honorary Commander of an Air Force unit as a means to reach a more diverse group of potential teachers.

Upon moving to California, he studied Spanish in an attempt to reach out to the Latino/a community, and served as a guest graduation speaker for a Latino/a group that sought to help parents understand how to get their students through high school and into college.

"OU's School of Education and Human Services has an outstanding reputation — it touches the lives of thousands of learners of all ages and in every part of the world," Dr. Margerum-Leys said. "The students, alumni and faculty enhance their communities and shape the future of their professions. I am looking forward to building on this strong reputation and learning environment."

Dr. Margerum-Leys is the author of numerous peer-reviewed articles in scholarly journals. His research interests are educational technology, knowledge acquisition and transfer by student and cooperating teachers, and professional development of P-12 teachers.

Dr. Margerum-Leys' dissertation, "Teacher knowledge of educational technology: A case study of student teacher/mentor teacher pairs," won the 2002 Outstanding Dissertation Award from the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. His Ph.D. is in educational studies (educational technology and teacher education) from the University of Michigan, where he



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also earned a master's in educational technology. Dr. Margerum-Leys has a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from California State Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo and a bachelor of music in education from the University of Wisconsin.