



COSAM Covalence E-News, Extra

Dr. Marie Wooten Named COSAM Dean



Dr. Marie W. Wooten, Scharnagel Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and COSAM associate dean for research, has been named dean of the college, effective Aug. 1.

"Dr. Wooten has been an integral part of the College of Sciences and Mathematics for a number of years," Auburn Provost Dr. Mary Ellen Mazey said. "She is an experienced classroom instructor, an internationally recognized scientist and a leader in interdisciplinary research and outreach."

Dr. Wooten has served as associate dean for research in the college since 2000. In this role, she has guided the creation of several programs, enhanced interdisciplinary research, developed strategic partnerships and sought to diversify the college's research portfolio. Under her leadership, external funding secured by the college has doubled over a 10-year period.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as the next dean of COSAM," Dr. Wooten said. "The faculty and students possess a passion for discovery and innovation that has enabled the growth of strong academic, research and outreach programs. I look forward to moving the college to the next level and collaborating with other units in key strategic areas."

Widely recognized for her contributions as a mentor,

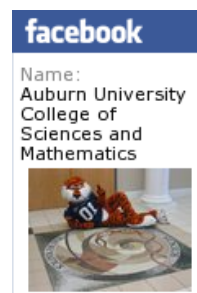
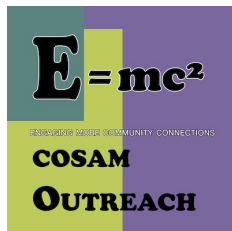
scientist, scholar and academic administrator, Dr. Wooten is committed to student training and outreach. She is co-founder of the Institute for Women in Sciences and Engineering and has provided leadership in developing numerous education initiatives in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, disciplines. Dr. Wooten is also a member of the National Science Foundation ADVANCE program, which focuses on enhancing diversity in STEM fields.



Dr. Wooten's research interests include cellular and molecular developmental neurobiology and neurodegeneration. She was recently awarded a four-year, \$1.3 million grant by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and her research program has received funding on a continuous basis from the National Institutes of Health since 1985. Additionally, Dr. Wooten has held grants from the National Science Foundation, the American Heart Association, NASA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She holds two patents and has commercialized one technology.

Dr. Wooten earned her Bachelor of Science in microbiology from the University of Memphis, her doctorate in cell and molecular biosciences from Texas Women's University, postdoctoral training from Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, and has been a visiting scientist at institutions in both South Africa and Spain.

Dr. Wooten follows COSAM Dean Stewart Schneller who will conclude his 17-year role as dean with a return to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry where he will engage in teaching and research.



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