

MEMORANDUM

To: President's Leadership Team; Faculty of Engineering; UWOFA Executive; USC Executive; SOGS Executive; Affiliated University College Presidents; Campus Council, Advisory Council of Western Engineering

From: Florentine Strzelczyk, Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

Date: November 10, 2023

Re: **Re-appointment of Ken Coley, Faculty of Engineering**

I am very pleased to announce that **Ken Coley** has been re-appointed Dean, Faculty of Engineering for a second term, beginning July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029.

The recommendation to renew Ken's appointment was advanced with the unanimous support of the Faculty of Engineering Decanal Review Committee and President Shepard. The recommendation was informed by feedback gathered from members of Western's Faculty of Engineering and the campus community.

Ken was first appointed Dean in July 2019. Through the feedback process the review committee identified many of Ken's strengths, including his focus on consensus building that enables the Faculty and our university to advance shared goals. During his first term Ken guided Engineering faculty, students and staff through the difficult challenges of the pandemic, provided strong support to advance research grant success and output, and led the development and implementation plan for '[Engineering Impact](#)', the Faculty of Engineering's strategic plan 2022-2027. With a focus on ensuring an outstanding teaching and learning experience for students, Ken has made strides in developing stronger student supports to ensure higher retention rates, and strategically expanding program options for graduate and PhD students.

Ken has identified several ambitious and strategic goals for his second term as Dean that will build on his previous accomplishments, including a strong focus on cultivating an improved workplace culture that incorporates the prioritization of EDID efforts, identifying new opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration across faculties, developing the student experience through new programming and embedded experiential learning, as well as continued research advancement.

Ken is a nationally renowned researcher, educator and administrator. Prior to Western, he served as Associate Dean (Academic), Chair, and professor of Materials Science and Engineering at McMaster University, where he held the ArcelorMittal Dofasco Chair in Ferrous Metallurgy and served as Director of the Steel Research Centre in Hamilton. Prior to joining McMaster, Ken was the British Steel Lecturer in Process Metallurgy at University of Strathclyde and a senior scientific officer at the National Physical Laboratory (UK).

I want to thank members of the Selection Committee: Terra Ahrens (Engineering), Jayne Garland (Health Sciences), Katrina Moser (Social Science), Nathan Nauta (Undergraduate Student Representative), Bryan Neff (Research), Hossein Pouri (Graduate Student Representative), Angelo Psellas (Advisory Council of Western Engineering), Lars Rehmann (Engineering), Clare Robinson (Engineering), Zoe Sinel (Law), and Anthony Straatman (Engineering).

I am grateful for Ken's ongoing commitment to Western and look forward to supporting his continued success in leading the Faculty of Engineering in the years ahead.