

MEMORANDUM

To: President's Leadership Team; Senate; Campus Council; USC and SOGS Executive; Affiliated University College Presidents

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

Date: November 22, 2024

Re: New leadership appointment: Acting Deputy Provost – Jeff Hutter

I am pleased to announce that Professor **Jeff Hutter** has agreed to assume the position of Acting Deputy Provost, beginning January 1, 2025 until June 30, 2026.

The new Deputy Provost position was created over the summer by the Provost and endorsed by President Alan Shepard and the Senior Policy and Operations Committee of the Board. A process for appointing a Deputy Provost will be proposed for addition to the Appointment Procedures for Senior Academic and Administrative Officers of the University which are in the purview of Senate and the Board of Governors. Prof. Hutter will provide interim leadership until a formal Search Committee can be constituted under these appointment procedures, with the expectation that the Deputy Provost will normally be selected as an internal candidate.

In response to the expanding scope and complexity of the Provost portfolio over the past 15 years, most U15 and many comprehensive universities have introduced a Deputy Provost position. At Western, the Deputy Provost role is an investment into accelerating sustainable change in the academy. The Acting Deputy Provost will extend the Provost's ability to capitalize on opportunities for revenue generation in the academy as well as support efforts to create efficiencies in the support units. The Acting Deputy Provost role is based on and supported by existing resources.

The Deputy Provost will provide administrative leadership and support to several support units, collaborate with academic and administrative leaders across campus to advance strategic priorities, and advance Western's academic mission.

Jeff Hutter is well-positioned to step into this new Acting Deputy Provost position. A Professor in the Department of Physics & Astronomy, he has gained significant academic and administrative experience throughout his 25 years at Western. Previously Acting Dean (2023-2024) and Associate Dean Academic four times between 2012 and 2023 for the Faculty of Science, Jeff has also served the University as Acting Vice-Provost (Academic Programs) in 2020 and again in 2022. Jeff is a dedicated university champion with a deep understanding of academic operations and has been involved in numerous innovative initiatives at the departmental, faculty and university-wide level.

Please join me in thanking and congratulating Jeff for accepting this important new acting position.