

Updates from the Provost

Welcome Dr. Adrienne Archie, Assistant Dean and Director of Leadership Development

In November 2016, Belmont faculty and staff submitted Vision 2020 recommendations to form the framework for leadership development on campus. The proposal emphasized the desire for students to graduate as confident leaders who are equipped and prepared to engage and transform the world.

Dr. Adrienne Archie began her work as the Assistant Dean and Director of Leadership Development in August and has been charged to create a BELL Core foundation for leadership development, a Belmont Leadership Database and a Lead-

ership Development Hub. Each of these recommendations align with Belmont's mission, vision and values. Explicit and intentional student leadership development is essential to the Vision 2020 Phase IV: Strategic Priorities.

Archie has begun connecting with Belmont's expert faculty and staff to centralize and connect student leadership development across campus and build on existing learning goals. She has prioritized building relationships while closely auditing campus for effective curricular and co-curricular leadership development

opportunities and programs. Archie said, "We want Belmont leadership development to be seamless and impactful for all of our students regardless of their background, interests or field of study." For more information or

to provide insight on existing leadership development opportunities in your department or office, contact Archie at adrienne.archie@belmont.edu.



Provost's Office Restructure Under Way

In recent weeks, we have shared news about changes occurring in the Office of the Provost structure and staffing. The changes to the organizational structure will not only fill leadership vacancies, but will also help to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the office. Below is a summary of some of the major changes.

- Appointed **Dr. Phil Johnston** to the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs position.
- Received approval to fill the Assistant Provost for Assessment and Institutional Research position, which has been vacant since January 2016.
- Returning the budget management and faculty systems administration functions of the Provost's Office to a two-staff model. **Mr. Larry Brown** will focus on budget management and **Ms. Kim Carr** will focus on faculty systems support.

For the full organizational chart, please [click here](#).



Meet Our Faculty Fellows

Last year, we announced a new post-doctoral initiative, the Belmont Faculty Fellows Program, which engages recent doctoral graduates in a two-year fellowship that focuses on development of the teacher-scholar. This is the first in a three-part series that will highlight each of our Fellows over the next several newsletters.

Dr. Heather Finch is the first Belmont University Fellow to join the faculty in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. Dean Bryce Sullivan encouraged Dr. Amy Hodges Hamilton to lead the search for a Belmont Fellow in the Department of English, and Heather turned out to be a perfect fit. She joined the College as a Faculty Fellow in summer 2017. Heather received her PhD and MA in English from Auburn University and her BA in English from Tuskegee University. Her research and teaching experience and interests include Early American and African American literature with a specific emphasis on the fragmented narratives of pre-nineteenth century enslaved women and their efforts to secure freedom.

The fellowship allows the faculty mentor, Dr. Amy Hodges Hamilton, to work with Dr. Finch to further develop Dr. Finch's teaching and research experience in the field of English. Drawing on Heather's research in early American narratives of enslavement and Amy's research on writing and trauma, the pair are currently investigating marginalized voices in multiple contexts. In the classroom setting, Heather shadows Amy's course development, examining her pedagogy, sitting in on her conferences with students, and observing her classes. Amy also regularly observes Heather's First and Third-Year Writing courses and offers pedagogical instruction and ideas for further development as both a teacher and a scholar.

Heather's background and interests are a real bonus. In addition to her teaching experience in Women's Studies, before joining Belmont, Heather served as Coordinator of Diversity Initiatives for the Women's Center in the Office of Inclusion and Diversity at Auburn University.