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New dean at MacEwan University School of Business

Edmonton – John Corlett, vice-president Academic and Provost at MacEwan University, announced that Dr. Wanda Costen has been appointed as the new dean of the School of Business.

Costen is currently a professor and executive director of the School of Hotel and Restaurant Management at the W.A. Franke College of Business at Northern Arizona University. She brings more than ten years of business management experience in sales, operations and human services.

“Dr. Costen has taught courses in strategy, human resources, organizational behavior, employment law and her research interests include racial and gender inequality in organizations,” said Corlett. “We were highly impressed with her credentials and her academic philosophy.”

“I’m eager to begin my responsibilities as the dean of the School of Business,” says Costen. “I was very impressed with the faculty members and senior leadership members I met when I came to Edmonton for the initial interview. One of my primary goals when I move to Edmonton will be to continue—and build on—the relationships with the business community.”

Costen earned her PhD in sociology from Washington State University, an Executive MBA from Pepperdine University. She completed her undergraduate degree at the United States Military Academy at West Point. During the 2013/14 academic year, she served as a Fulbright Scholar with the University of the West Indies - Mona in Kingston, Jamaica.

Costen replaces outgoing dean Elsie Elford who is retiring after 16 years as dean. She had a prominent career as a lawyer before joining MacEwan. “Elsie was instrumental in developing innovative programs and curriculum for the School of Business, including the university’s four-year Bachelor of Commerce,” added Corlett.

Costen will begin her new role in January 2018.