

June 14, 2024

Colleagues,

Matthew B. Myers, Tolleson Chair in Business Leadership, David B. Miller endowed Professor, and ninth dean of the Cox School of Business, has informed me of his intention to step down from the deanship by the end of the 2024 – 2025 academic year. As detailed in the following [press release](#), the Cox School has never been better positioned to continue its national ascent. Matt has prepared the School quite well for a positive new era of growth and development. I know you join me in thanking Matt for his past and continuing leadership until a new dean comes onboard.

Matt became dean of the Cox School of Business on August 1, 2017. Prior to his deanship at SMU Cox, he served as dean and Mitchell P. Rales Chair of Business Leadership at the Farmer School of Business, Miami University (Ohio).

Among his accomplishments as Cox dean, I believe two interrelated examples illustrate Matt's unique leadership contributions in service. First, Matt was dean for Cox's Centennial year (2020), which as we all well know overlapped with the start of a global pandemic. More than simply overseeing the school's transition to virtual learning in order to maintain academic continuity, Matt rightly identified the fact that students would expect more value from their educational experience in the challenging environment we were all facing at that time. He positioned the Cox School to provide this value, in service to our students, and the market continues to respond favorably to this strategy.

Second, as part of Cox's Centennial festivities in 2020, Matt laid out a compelling vision for the next 100 years at SMU Cox. That vision, as well as Matt's advocacy and engagement, ultimately inspired Cox's dedicated, generous and visionary supporters to embark on a bold \$140M renovation and construction project to establish the David B. Miller Business quadrangle. These new facilities, designed to prepare students for an ever more collaborative and technologically integrated world, represent a 32% footprint expansion for Cox and position the school for generations of sustained excellence.

I will begin meeting with Cox faculty, executive board members, staff and students to inform the position description that will guide our search for the next dean. Invitations will go out to the search committee next week, which, once confirmed, I will share with you in the near future. In the interim, I am pleased to announce that Jason Nance, Judge James Noel Dean of the Dedman School of Law, will serve as committee chair and that Korn Ferry International will serve as executive search partner for this search.

Please join me in thanking Matt for his service and congratulating him on his many, lasting accomplishments for Cox and SMU.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth G. Loba, PhD
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Southern Methodist University
<https://www.smu.edu/provost>

SMU