

May 31, 2024

TO: Dr. Peter Moore, Professor, Mathematics, Dedman College (Chair)
Karen Baker-Fletcher, Professor, Perkins School of Theology
Robert Bucker, Strategic Affairs, Development and External Affairs
Jill DeTemple, Professor and Chair, Religious Studies, Dedman College
Anthony Elia, Director of Bridwell Library and J.S. Bridwell Foundation
Endowed Librarian
Erika Fadel, Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Dedman
School of Law
Lisa Garvin, Chaplain and Minister to the University
Mark Grafenreed, Perkins School of Theology Doctoral Student
Cynthia Fierro Harvey, Resident Bishop, Texas Annual Conference of
The United Methodist Church; Perkins School of Theology Executive
Board Member
Andy Keck, Chief of Staff and Executive Director of Admissions
ad interim, Perkins School of Theology
James Lee, Associate Professor of the History of Early Christianity,
Perkins School of Theology
Katherine Lyle, Co-Vice Chair, Perkins School of Theology Executive Board
Rebekah Miles, Susanna Wesley Centennial Professor of Practical Theology
and Ethics, Perkins School of Theology
Karyl Patredis, Perkins School of Theology Graduate Student
Caren Prothro, SMU Board of Trustees Member
Rev. Paul Rasmussen, Senior Pastor, Highland Park United Methodist Church
Julie Yarbrough, Chair, Perkins School of Theology Executive Board

FROM: Elizabeth G. Loba, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: Search Committee - Perkins School of Theology Dean

For those receiving this memo who served during the 2023 – 2024 academic year, thank you for your contributions as members of the search committee for the next Leighton K. Farrell endowed dean of the Perkins School of Theology. Acting on that group's recommendations and as announced last month, we will extend the search through summer and fall 2024 with modest changes to the search committee's composition and with a new executive search partner. We are grateful to Peter Moore for remaining chair of the search committee and to Hugo Magallanes for serving as dean *ad interim* (effective June 1, 2024) until a permanent dean is in place.

After interviewing multiple executive search firms, all with strong experience placing academic leaders in religiously-affiliated schools, we have selected Storbeck Search as our new partners. Their leadership team has most recently supported the dean search at TCU's Brite Divinity School and impressed me during deliberations with their

World Changers Shaped Here

professionalism, deep understanding of the current leadership landscape, and commitment to expanding and curating the current applicant pool.

Please contact Shanon Rust by Friday, June 7, to let me know if you agree to serve on this committee. We will schedule one committee meeting this summer, joined by our new partners from Storbeck Search, to make the preparations needed for a re-energized search process in line with the start of the fall 2024 semester. I will join at the beginning of this meeting for a time of discussion and Q&A. After consulting everyone's schedules, a calendar invite with meeting logistics will follow.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth G. Loba', written in a cursive style.

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

The logo for Southern Methodist University (SMU), consisting of the letters 'SMU' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.