



# University of Pittsburgh

*Office of the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor*

801 Cathedral of Learning  
4200 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260  
412-624-4223  
Fax: 412-383-9640

Patricia E. Beeson  
Provost  
Senior Vice Chancellor

January 31, 2017

Dear Colleagues:

Over the past 28 years, Juan J. Manfredi has provided exceptional administrative service to the university first as chair of the Math Department, then as Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies in the Dietrich School, and, since 2010, as Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies. So it is with gratitude for all he has done to strengthen our undergraduate programs and the university more broadly, that I write to inform you that he has asked to step down as vice provost and return to the faculty to pursue his scholarly interests, effective August 31, 2017.

Throughout his career, Juan has been deeply engaged with undergraduate education. As an early recipient of the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award, advisor to the Panther Amateur Radio Club, scholar dedicated to improving math education and on into his administrative roles, Juan has been committed to our students and their success. As Vice Provost he has been instrumental in increasing the quality and diversity of our students, and strengthening our ability to provide an excellent undergraduate education for all students. He has done so by collaborating with deans, campus presidents, faculty, staff, and students to develop and implement programs that improve how we educate our students and prepare them to lead lives of impact.

As vice provost and co-chair of the Enrollment Management Committee, he has led efforts to enhance the recruitment, retention, and graduation of students. Working with the Undergraduate Research Committee he has expanded opportunities for students to participate in faculty research and to present their work in forums such as the ACC Meeting of the Minds Conference (which he brought to Pitt) and Undergraduate Research at the Capitol. He also led the *Advance Academic Excellence* working group to produce a set of strategies to ensure the alignment of undergraduate education with the University-wide strategic plan.

Juan has also worked to ensure that Pitt remains a leader in innovative, holistic measurement outcomes that lead to continual and lasting improvement. The University's Annual Assessment Conference that he established in 2013 gathers and educates faculty and staff on assessment as part of the University's continuing assessment efforts. Under his stewardship, the University was re-accredited in 2012, and the resulting report from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education praised the University's culture of assessment and credited both an unwavering commitment to excellence and strong leadership as key contributors to progress. Through his guidance, we were able to track and measure the long-term success of graduates as they pursue a good job and a better life through instruments including the Pitt-Gallup Reports. Through these efforts, he has advanced the mission of the University and has positioned us well to further advance academic excellence.

Juan also has worked with colleagues across the country to strengthen undergraduate education. In leadership roles with the Reinvention Center and the ACC Academic Consortium, and as the University's representative on state-wide committees, Juan's insights have led to important developments in student education and on-campus experiences both for the wider community and for our university community.

As a committed colleague who has offered his service in so many ways, Juan has had a tremendous and lasting impact on the University. Those of you who know Juan know what a pleasure it is to work with him, and so understand how much he will be missed in my office and by all who have had the opportunity to work with him in his role as vice provost. Fortunately, he will continue his work as a faculty colleague and we will benefit from his contributions for many years to come. Please join me in thanking Juan for all he has done to advance the University of Pittsburgh.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia E. Beeson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Patricia E. Beeson