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Daniel Guyette Named Dean of WWU's College of Fine and Performing Arts

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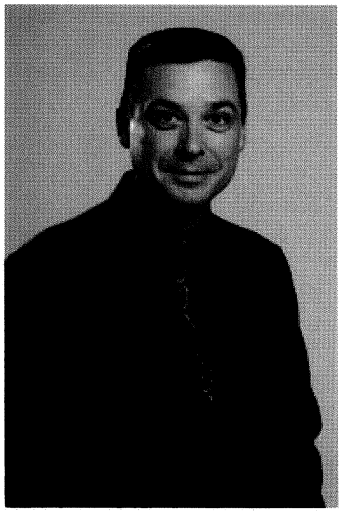
BELLINGHAM - Daniel Guyette has been appointed to serve as dean for the College of Fine and Performing Arts at Western Washington University, Provost Dennis Murphy announced today.



Daniel Guyette

courtesy photo

"It became clear through the interview process that Dr. Guyette had strong support from both the search committee and members of the College," said Murphy. "We're excited he's going to be here, and we look forward to many long years of service."

Guyette, the current dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of South Dakota, will begin at Western on July 1, and was selected following a national search. He will replace Ron Riggins.

"We would be remiss not to thank Dean Riggins for his yeoman duty and steady hand guiding this college," said Murphy. Riggins was appointed to a two-year term as dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts (CFPA) in August 2007 by former Western President Karen Morse, and has also served as dean of WWU's Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies and chair of the Modern and Classical Languages Department.

Guyette received a bachelor's degree in Theatre Arts from Northwestern University and a master's degree in Scenic Design from Pennsylvania State University. Prior to going to the University of South Dakota in 2004, Guyette worked for 11 years at the University of Northern Colorado, where he was professor and chair of the Theatre Arts and Dance Department, and at Utah State University, where he was honored as Artist of the Year in 1992.

In 1989, Guyette received the Gene Chesley Award for Scenic Design from The Utah Shakespearean Festival. He was twice honored with awards for service to the Rocky Mountain Theatre Association as well as by the Rocky Mountain section of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology.

"I'm very excited to be here, to be coming to such a fine institution as Western," said Guyette. "We have quite a few challenges ahead of us, to be sure, but based on the talent of the faculty and the students in this College, there isn't any

challenge we can't overcome."

The College of Fine and Performing Arts encompasses the Art, Dance, Theater and Music departments as well as the Western Gallery and the WWU Outdoor Sculpture Collection. For more information on the College, go to http://www.wwu.edu/cfpa/.

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