



April 29, 2021

Dear Faculty Colleagues,

I know you are in the midst of grading final exams, papers and projects this week. I am thinking of you and all of the work that is required to successfully close out the semester.

At last Wednesday's General Faculty meeting, I announced the appointments for two new DE&I positions in Academic Affairs. Both of these positions are part-time and will help Academic Affairs make progress toward the goals in our DE&I Strategic Plan. I wanted to formally share this exciting news in writing and have outlined more details below.

Marcus Stewart will step into the **Associate Dean of DE&I** position starting July 1, 2021. Marcus is an associate professor of management with 18 years on the faculty at Bentley, and he has taught undergraduate and graduate courses on leadership, workplace diversity, organizational change, human resource management, and organizational behavior. Marcus is a member of the editorial board of the Academy of Management Learning and his current research focuses on leadership, teams, cross-cultural skill development, diversity, and social justice. His research has been published in the Journal of Management and Journal of Applied Psychology, among other journals. Marcus earned his doctoral degree in Business Administration from the Kenan-Flagler Business School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and he is double Falcon, having earned an MBA ('95) and BS ('92) at Bentley. Through this new administrative role, Marcus will focus his efforts initially on priorities related to faculty recruitment, hiring, and development.

Isaura (Isa) Beltre will serve as the **Associate Director of the First-gen Presidential Fellows (FPF)** program starting July 1, 2021. Isa is a lecturer in the Marketing Department and teaches Retailing, Promotional Strategy, Intro to Marketing, and Marketing Management. She also consults for several local retailers and nonprofit organizations. Prior to teaching at Bentley, Isa held many positions in corporate retail from buying, merchandising, planning/allocation human resources, store execution, and marketing. She is also a double Falcon, having graduated from Bentley with a BA in Marketing, as well as obtaining her master's degree in Information Age Marketing. In the Associate Director role, Isa will work closely with the Director of FPF (Associate Dean of Arts & Sciences, Jane De León Griffin) to



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monitor the success of students in the FPF program, assess how the FPF program is fulfilling its goals, and help make adjustments as needed.

Please join me in congratulating Marcus and Isa as they take on these new positions.

Much thanks,

**Donna Maria Blancero, PhD**

*Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers