

**Subject:** SRU welcomes founding dean for new College of Health Professions

**Date:** Friday, February 26, 2021 at 2:21:15 PM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Office of the President

**To:** SRU Stakeholder

Feb. 26, 2021

Colleagues,

Earlier this month, the University announced that it was working to create a College of Health Professions, with a targeted start of fall 2022, that will support existing departments and academic programs related to health care that are mostly housed, at present, in the College of Health, Engineering and Science.

On the heels of that announcement, it is my pleasure to share with you that SRU has hired John Bonaguro as the new college's founding dean, effective March 1. John's role will focus on setting the foundation for the new college, including preparing materials for council of trustee approval of the new college. A permanent dean will be searched following COT approval of the new college.

John was the founding dean of Western Kentucky University's College of Health and Human Services in 2003, serving as dean and professor of public health at WKU before retiring in 2016. He's since taken on an interim placement, from 2016-17, at Housatonic Community College as associate dean of continuing and professional education before finding his way to The Rock.

Prior to his role at WKU, John was the associate dean of the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance at Ithaca College in New York, where he worked from 1993-2003. After getting his start as a public-school teacher in his native Chicago in the mid-1970s, he was a professor of health and sport science at Ohio University (1978-89).

John earned his Ph.D. in health education from the University of Oregon, and master's and bachelor's degrees from Southern Illinois University in health education and biological sciences, respectively.

Please join me in welcoming John to our campus community.

Best,

Bill