

Dear Salisbury University Colleagues,

As I reflect on my time at SU, it has truly been the honor of my professional life to serve as Provost and support the campus at times of great challenge and success. Our remarkable institution has afforded me countless opportunities, experiences, and memories for which I will always be grateful. While stepping down as Provost was a very bittersweet decision for me, retiring from Salisbury University at the end of 2023 will provide the geographic flexibility I need to best support my family.

I thank President Lepre for her understanding and graciousness in supporting my decision and will continue to work tirelessly to support our campus, and all of you, through the upcoming year.

With the Thanksgiving holiday ahead, I join many of you in thinking about the people and experiences for which we are thankful. Certainly, all of you – my SU family – who make this place better every day, are on my list. I’m also thankful for the opportunity to support the campus in helping our graduates make tomorrow theirs by preparing them for meaningful careers, engaged citizenship, and life-long learning. My thoughts also go to the amazing leaders on campus, whether formally appointed or those who lead by example through their outstanding teaching, engaging scholarship and creative activity, meaningful service, and unwavering compassion. And finally, I’m thankful for my own family and the opportunity to spend more time with them in the coming years.

Throughout my career, I have often contemplated these words from Teddy Roosevelt: “Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is a chance to work hard at work worth doing.” I’ve received this prize every day during my time here and hope that you have found the same reward. I am so thankful for the hard, and very important, work that you do.

I wish you and yours a relaxing and restorative Thanksgiving holiday,
Karen

Karen L. Olmstead, Ph.D.
Provost & Senior VP for Academic Affairs

Karen L. Olmstead, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior VP of Academic Affairs
Salisbury University
www.salisbury.edu
Voice 410-548-3374