



Spring 5-3-2017

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University Communications  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

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### **Recommended Citation**

University Communications, "Brodl Named Provost at Illinois Wesleyan University" (2017).  
*News and Events*. 3580.  
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/3580>

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# Brodl Named Provost at Illinois Wesleyan University

May 3, 2017

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — Mark Brodl, currently Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs: Budget and Research at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, has been named the next provost of Illinois Wesleyan University, effective July 17.

Brodl joined Trinity as the George W. Brackenridge Distinguished Professor of Biology in 2001, and has remained active in teaching and research at the private liberal arts college since taking on his administrative role in 2012. He has established a reputation for his work in support of student-faculty research, particularly work with an interdisciplinary focus.

"The depth and breadth of Mark's experience stood out amongst an exceptional group of candidates," said Illinois Wesleyan President Eric Jensen. "The position is multifaceted, and Mark brings both practical administrative experience, stemming from his years of developing and administering academic budgets, and a strategic understanding of the intricacies involved in building and nurturing academic programs and fostering diversity. His collaborative style of leadership will serve him well here, and I'm excited to welcome Mark to campus in July."

"Illinois Wesleyan has a well-established reputation for having an outstanding faculty and excellent students who enjoy remarkable success," Brodl said. "While we live in challenging times for higher education, Illinois Wesleyan is advantageously positioned to leverage a time of challenge as an opportunity. The vibrancy of student-faculty engagement here creates an energy that you feel the moment you walk onto campus. I'm tremendously excited about this leadership opportunity to work with faculty and President Jensen to tap that energy. I can't wait to get started."

Brodl played an active role in the planning and implementation of Trinity's strategic plan – including a new Center for International Engagement – and in planning the university's new "Pathways" curriculum, which was unanimously approved by faculty. He was instrumental in securing grants and external funding to support initiatives in the humanities; programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM); and establishing a McNair Scholars Program, which fosters academic career paths for students from underrepresented groups, first-generation or low-income students.

Brodl has served a rotation as program director at the National Science Foundation and previously taught biology and chaired the Biology Department at Knox College. He earned his bachelor's degree in biology from Knox, a master's in plant biology from the University of Illinois at Urbana and a Ph.D. in plant biology from Washington University in St. Louis. His research – consistently involving students – has focused on heat shock responses in plant secretory cells, which play pivotal roles in key, vulnerable steps in plant life cycles.

Brodl will succeed IWU Provost Jonathan Green, who has been named president of Susquehanna University, a private liberal arts university in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania, effective July 1.



Mark Brodl