



LEHMAN
COLLEGE



PROVOST AND SENIOR
VICE PRESIDENT FOR
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND
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Dear Colleagues—

I am delighted to announce the recommendation to President Fernando Delgado of the appointment of Dr. Conrad Walker to the role of Assistant Vice President/Dean of Students, effective December 2, 2021.

This recommendation is based on thoughtful consideration and evaluation of several factors: the leadership expectations for the position, consultation with and feedback from the search committee, careful review of input received from various campus stakeholders, and evaluation of each of the finalists for the position relative to their skills, fit, and understanding of the division of Student Affairs and our institutional priorities.

Reporting directly to the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students is the number two person in the division of Student Affairs and works closely with the Vice President to manage and lead the day-to-day operations of the division and to develop and/or implement policies, processes, and strategic initiatives that enhance and strengthen student support services across the college. This includes leadership and supervision of staff and program outcomes; managing student transitions and retention; development of partnerships to create and implement vibrant, student-centered, learning-focused, high-impact co-curricular experiences; coordination of grant proposals; coordination of divisional publications such as the Student Handbook; leadership and oversight for student emergencies, and investigation and adjudication of violations of the student code of conduct. The Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students serves as a member of the Student Affairs leadership team and the Provost's and Deans' Council.

Dr. Walker brings more than fifteen years of experience to the position as a skilled student affairs' professional and leader at various CUNY colleges and private colleges in New York City. He joined Lehman College in 2017 as the Director of Compliance and Operations, with responsibility for leading and managing the Office of Campus Life, Student Housing, and the Urban Male Leadership Program; serving as Conduct Officer, Academic Integrity Officer, and the Title IX designee responsible for SPARC compliance and Title IX/Sexual Misconduct education for all Lehman College students. These complex set of responsibilities provided unique opportunities to work closely with our faculty, staff, and students on multiple issues at multiple levels.

Dr. Walker has also been a key partner with the Division of Institutional Advancement with responsibility for administering emergency microgrants to Lehman College students generated from philanthropic support from such organizations as the Petrie Foundation. He also worked with the division to secure additional gap year funding for Lehman Scholars when the college switched to remote learning last year. The same year, he launched a revamped Student Travel Grant program, which set aside some funding to support students' participation in virtual academic conferences to enhance their professional development.

Prior to Lehman, Dr. Walker held multiple roles at Berkeley College where he was Associate Dean of Students for Berkley College's New York City and Westchester Campuses and the founding Chief Operating Officer for the College's Brooklyn Campus. As Associate Dean of Students, he supervised all Student Affairs staff in the division, which included Student Activities, Counseling, Judicial Affairs and Student Conduct, New Student Orientation, Academic Integrity, and Residential Life. During his time as Associate Dean of Students, student involvement in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities grew 10% each year.

As the founding Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Walker was responsible for all enrollment and degree completion targets for the campus. Under his leadership, he more than doubled the full-time staff of the campus from 7 to over 20. In addition, during his tenure, the campus experienced consecutive years of more than 100% enrollment growth.

At La Guardia Community College, where he served as Senior Director for Student Affairs, he partnered with the Lumina Foundation to introduce digital badging to La Guardia Community College students and expanded the use of the e-portfolio platform by students. In addition, he helped to establish the college's first LGBTQIA Center. He was also instrumental with re-designing and better integrating New Student Orientation, as a singular LaGCC student experience across the campus. This re-design signaled a shift away from multiple orientations and minimal involvement from students, to a new student orientation that achieved more than 80% of new student involvement. While at LaGCC, he also secured more funding to support the growth and expansion of the SGA Tutoring Center and Women's Center, and he established a \$10,000 microgrant co-curricular initiative to fund increased engagement and collaboration between the faculty and students outside of the classroom.

Dr. Walker holds a B.S. in Information Sciences and Systems from Morgan State University, Baltimore, a Master's in Higher Education from New York University, an Ed.M. with a concentration in Organizational Leadership from Teachers College, Columbia University, and a Ph.D. in Public and Urban Policy from The New School. He holds memberships in such professional associations as the American College Personnel Association, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, the American Sociological Association, and the American Planning Association. Dr. Walker also serves an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Sociology at Lehman College and continues to present scholarly papers at numerous conferences.

I am grateful to our campus community for your participation in this important leadership search. I am also grateful to members of the search committee for their diligence and hard work throughout this process. Members of the search committee were:

- Jaye Jones, Interim Associate Dean, School of Health Sciences, Human Services, and Nursing (co-chair)
- Dugeidy Ortiz, Director, Student Support Services Programs (co-chair)
- Bertrade Ngo-Ngijol Banoum, Chair, Department of Africana Studies/Women's and Gender Studies
- Marisol Jimenez, Director, Instructional Support Services Programs
- Chris Mowatt, Assistant Bursar
- Emile Gio Zounon, President, Student Government Association

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Walker in his new role.

Sincerely,

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Peter O. Nwosu, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Student Success
Director, The CUNY Leadership Institute