



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

W A S H I N G T O N , D C

October 30, 2015

To: Campus Community

Fr: Gail Short Hanson, Vice President of Campus Life

Re: Appointment of Title IX Officer

On December 1, 2015, Heather Pratt will join the Office of Campus Life as AU's first, full time Title IX Program Officer. Ms. Pratt is an experienced employment attorney and seasoned investigator with more than eight years as in-house counsel for corporations in Pennsylvania. She holds certification as a Title IX Coordinator from the Association of Title IX Administrators (ATIXA) and is eager to re-focus her work in a university setting. Early in her career, she worked in career services at the Technical Career Institute (TCI) and at St. John's University, both in New York.

Ms. Pratt is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of The Dickinson School of Law (Penn State). She holds a B.S. in Business from SUNY-Albany and an M.S. in Industrial and Labor Relations from Bernard Baruch College in New York.

We look forward to introducing Ms. Pratt to the AU community and supporting her efforts to extend our work in Title IX compliance and in creating a safe and equitable campus climate. We appreciate the engagement of students, faculty and staff in the interview process leading to Ms. Pratt's appointment, including AU's Title IX deputies, members of the Sexual Assault Working Group and campus partners.

Assistant Vice President of Campus Life and Dean of Students Rob Hradsky has served as AU's Title IX Coordinator and has provided leadership in laying the foundation for our work in gender equity and building out our programs for sexual assault prevention through the Sexual Assault Working Group. He has our appreciation for his outstanding work. After December 1, Dr. Hradsky's continuing commitment to Title IX work will be as deputy coordinator for students.

A full list of Title IX contacts can be found at [www.american.edu/ocl/TitleIX/contacts.cfm](http://www.american.edu/ocl/TitleIX/contacts.cfm).