



University of Pittsburgh

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Patricia E. Beeson
Provost
Senior Vice Chancellor

November 24, 2015

Dear Colleagues:

Richard Schulz has served as director of the University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR), and as a valued member of the Council of Deans since 1999. So it is with appreciation for his commitment to strengthen the University and its support for behavioral and social science research that I write to inform you that he has decided to step down from these roles, effective September 1, 2016.

In his role as director of UCSUR, Dr. Schulz established a research infrastructure to support faculty researchers, with the capacity to conduct cutting edge survey research; carry out regional econometric modeling; obtain, format, and analyze spatial data; acquire, manage, and analyze large secondary and administrative data; and carry out all phases of qualitative research from data collection to analysis. Under his leadership, UCSUR has become a resource for more than 90 faculty annually helping with grant development and execution, and for community leaders who need data and/or analysis on policy issues facing the region. Dr. Schulz has led an increase in scholarly activity and funding in the Center, and helped enhance UCSUR's contributions to regional leaders seeking data or analysis on policy issues. Nothing exemplifies this success more than the Regional Data Center, which opened earlier in 2015 and has quickly become an essential tool for providing data and analysis services to the region's decision makers.

Dr. Schulz earned his PhD in social psychology from Duke University in 1974. His first faculty appointment was in the Department of Psychology at Carnegie Mellon University, and he held positions as associate professor, professor, and director of the Aging Institute at Portland State University before being recruited to Pitt in 1984 as an associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry. At Pitt, he was promoted to professor in 1990 and distinguished service professor in 2013. His collaborative spirit is reflected in the many secondary appointments he holds, including the School of Nursing, School of Public Health (Epidemiology and Community Health), Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences (Psychology and Sociology), School of Social Work, and the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

During Dr. Schulz's tenure at UCSUR, the University of Pittsburgh became one of the leading centers of research on aging in the world. In addition to growing his own research program in social

gerontology, he has mentored dozens of graduate students, fellows, and junior faculty, recruited new research faculty, and helped establish multiple NIH and NSF research centers at the University. In 2002 he co-founded the Aging Institute at Pitt. His leadership contributions at Pitt are evident in the many programs and centers he continues to direct, including the Gerontology Program, the Geriatric Education Center of Pennsylvania, and the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology Program.

It has been my pleasure to work with Rich, both in his role as director of UCSUR and in his participation in the activities of our Council of Deans, and I am pleased that he will not only continue his career as a faculty member at the University, but will continue to provide leadership at UCSUR as director of the Gerontology Program. I know you will all join me in thanking him for his commitment to UCSUR for so many years. A search committee will be formed in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patricia E. Beeson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Patricia E. Beeson