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NURSING TO MERGE WITH EXERCISE SCIENCE TO FORM NEW SCHOOL

January 29, 2016

With an eye toward the future, Lindenwood University's School of Sport, Recreation, and Exercise Science will merge this summer with the School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences. The two schools, along with the Fire and Paramedic Science Program, will form the new School of Health Sciences.

The announcement was made Thursday by Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Marilyn Abbott, Ph.D. Abbott said the school's dean will be Dr. Cynthia Schroeder.

"This is an incredibly positive merger with tremendous synergy," said Schroeder, currently dean of the School of Sport, Recreation, and Exercise Science. "We've already had an opening meeting, and faculty members were excited about the possibilities."

Schroeder expects the merger will produce better chances for state-of-the-art laboratories, equipment, and hands-on learning opportunities to more fully engage students with faculty. She said the merger also plays an important role in relationship building through the region.

Peggy Ellis, founding dean of the School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, will be director of a new program group that will include nursing, public health, and fire and paramedic science. She will lead the relocation of her faculty and programs onto the St. Charles campus this summer from their current location in Dardenne Prairie.

"This merger will provide us with the resources and support to continue to grow and develop our programs," Ellis said.

Two other changes announced Thursday by Abbott are the move of the Criminal Justice Program to the School of Sciences, where it will join the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and the move of the Social Work Program into a department with Professional and School Counseling in the School of Education.

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