

From: Vice Provost and Dean Robin L. Garrell
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 10:34 AM
Subject: Appointment of New Assistant Deans in the Graduate Division

UCLA

Graduate Division

To: Deans, Directors, Department Chairs, and Faculty:

I am delighted to announce the appointment of two new Assistant Deans in the Graduate Division.

Nickey Woods begins her appointment as Assistant Dean for Diversity, Inclusion and Admissions (DIA) in the Graduate Division on February 3, 2020. A true Bruin, Nickey earned her BA in psychology from UCLA and played on our renowned women's basketball team. She went on to earn her doctorate in educational leadership from the Rossier School of Education at USC.

While at USC, Nickey was involved in admitting the inaugural cohort of students in the online Ed.D. program and helped develop its diversity course. Nickey also served as an adjunct faculty at Woodbury University, where she developed course management systems and facilitated a faculty learning community designed to expand understanding of disabilities and the accommodations process.

Since 2016, Nickey has served as Director/Deputy Director of UCLA's Center for Accessible Education (CAE), where she led its transformation into a more outward-facing unit that has forged stronger collaborations with faculty, staff and students. Nickey has broad knowledge of the UCLA campus community, a deep commitment to student success, and tremendous skills in leading teams, building effective collaborations and improving programs and services.

As the Assistant Dean for DIA, Nickey will oversee outreach, recruitment and admission of prospective students, as well as Graduate Division programming and services to support the academic success of newly enrolled and continuing students. Her team will continue to recruit at national conferences, regional diversity forums and minority-serving institutions; promote the success of faculty and student participants in the UC-HBCU initiative; coordinate summer bridge programs for prospective and entering doctoral students; provide expertise and support for programs seeking to advance graduate student diversity and inclusion; sponsor campus networking events for underrepresented graduate students; sponsor the UCLA Chapter of the Edwin A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society, and provide expertise and leadership on funded projects.

Daniel Wong will begin his appointment as Assistant Dean for Academic and Postdoctoral Services on March 9, 2020. Daniel earned bachelor's degrees in Biochemistry and English Literature from the University of Kansas and his Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). As the current Director of Graduate Student Recruitment and Retention at UIUC, Daniel has more than 14 years of experience leading programs that have broadened the participation of diverse populations in graduate education. He has led recruitment efforts, research-intensive opportunities, and scholar-centered professional development and retention initiatives.

As the Director of the Illinois Professorial Advancement Initiative, funded by the NSF Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), Daniel led professional development seminars

for postdoctoral scholars, facilitated intercampus visits by graduate students and postdoctoral scholars, and liaised with the Big-Ten Academic Alliance to support the placement of postdoctoral scholars in faculty positions. As co-chair of the UIUC Graduate College Strategic Group on Mentoring Policy, Daniel has provided leadership in implementing new campus policies and procedures to improve graduate student mentoring. He also developed and leads a mentor training and certificate program that teaches effective, culturally competent, student-centered mentoring practices.

Daniel's portfolio in the Graduate Division includes responsibility for the policies, procedures, and services that support graduate student academic progress, and the appointment of postdoctoral scholars and visiting graduate researchers (VGRs). He will also serve as liaison with the Graduate Council on policy refinements and student success initiatives. His team will continue to provide the campus community training in academic policies and procedures; expertise and guidance on best practices in mentoring and advising to support student success; consultations on individual student situations; and professional development for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars, in collaboration with campus partners.

Please join me in welcoming Nickey Woods and Daniel Wong to their new positions in the Graduate Division.

With best regards,

Robin L. Garrell

Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean, Graduate Division