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Janet Schrunk Ericksen Named Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean

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[Janet Schrunk Ericksen Named Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean](#)

The University of Minnesota Morris has named [Janet Schrunk Ericksen](#) vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean. An internationally recognized medieval scholar, Ericksen has served the Morris campus since 1998. She has been the interim vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean since 2017.

As interim vice chancellor and dean, Ericksen successfully authored two grants: a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence proposal to bring an early childhood education expert to Morris in collaboration with the West Central Initiative and an [Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Governors' grant \("Engaged and Engaging Humanities"\)](#). In addition, she served as principal investigator on an existing [Margaret A Cargill Philanthropies grant \("Sustainability Leaders for the Future"\)](#). She worked collaboratively with others on campus to restructure several campus units to better coordinate student services. And she implemented new programming to support early career faculty.

Ericksen began her career at UMN Morris in 1998 as an assistant professor of English. Since then she has held a variety of administrative roles, including director of the Honors Program, chair of the Division of the Humanities, and interim chair of the Division of the Social Sciences. Additionally, she has been an active participant in University of Minnesota governance, including as a University Senator and two terms as a member of the Faculty Consultative Committee.

Ericksen recently authored a forthcoming University of Toronto Press monograph, *Reading Old English Biblical Poetry: The Book and the Poem in Junius 11*. A University of Minnesota Morris Alumni Association Teaching Award- and Horace T. Morse-Minnesota Alumni Association Award-winning teacher and member of the UMN Academy of Distinguished Teaching, she also continues to be active in the classroom and as a faculty advisor.

"I look forward to Janet's continued leadership in support of our mission and vision," says Chancellor Michelle Behr. "Her deep understanding of the Morris campus and community will help us to achieve our aspirations."

Ericksen will assume the role on July 1, 2020, subject to approval of the Board of Regents.