



Jan. 6, 2016

To: All DU students, faculty and staff

From: Amy King, Vice Chancellor, Human Resources



I am pleased to announce that Laura Maresca joins the University as our director for the Office of Equal Opportunity. Eager to join our team, Laura started her position on Dec. 21, and will report directly to me. Laura will lead all units in ensuring that our community becomes increasingly inclusive and that we comply with the University's anti-discrimination policies and promoting full compliance with federal, state and local discrimination laws.

In her role, Laura is a resource to managers and employees across the University seeking guidance on DU's employment policies. Together with an Employee Relations consultant, she will provide professional and discreet counsel on a variety of topics, including but not limited to discrimination, harassment or retaliation. The EO office she leads will emphasize training and education for employees to understand best practices in communication and management in order to prevent all forms of discrimination. In collaboration with University partners, focusing on diversity and Inclusive Excellence, Laura joins the team that will champion the institution's diversity goals and will contribute to gathering and reporting data measuring equity and diversity across campus.

Laura is already a part of the DU family, having received her Juris Doctor degree from the University of Denver, Sturm College of Law. She also holds a bachelor's in history from Mount Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Laura has had her own practice since 2006, specializing in employment law and human resources consulting. She has advised Human Resources professionals and business leaders on solutions to address a variety of employment challenges and is a trained mediator focused on the resolution of employment-based disputes. She has experience as a corporate HR executive and corporate attorney, and began her legal career litigating civil rights and employment law cases for the Colorado Attorney General's Office. Shortly after accepting the offer, Laura shared, "The education I received at DU has enabled me to have a rewarding and meaningful career. I'm so thrilled about returning to DU so that I can share my passion and experience in this area."

I want to thank all of you who participated in the selection process for this important position, including the hiring committee, comprised of faculty and staff from units across the University. Your comments and questions were a key component of the decision-making process.

Lili Rodriguez, vice chancellor of Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence and Frank Tuitt, senior advisor to the chancellor and provost on diversity and inclusion, said of Laura: "We are excited to be working with Laura in this role. She rounds out our new leadership structure for diversity and inclusion initiatives, which now includes a senior position in academic affairs, student affairs and human resources. Her wealth of experience with workplace law and advocacy will be an essential voice in that work."

Please join me in welcoming Laura to our campus.