



Memorandum

Date: April 26, 2013

To: Council of Chairs, Principals and Academic Directors
Coalition of Arts and Science Directors

From: Meric S. Gertler, Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science

Re: Appointment of Vice-Dean, Research and Infrastructure

I am very pleased to announce that the Agenda Committee of Academic Board has approved the appointment of Professor Jay Pratt as Vice-Dean, Research and Infrastructure for a five-year term over six years, effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2019.

Professor Pratt received his PhD in Psychology from Washington University (St. Louis) in 1996 and then joined the Department of Psychology. Professor Pratt's research is in the area of visual cognition with a focus on how people selectively acquire information from the visual field and how that information influences both perceptions and actions. He has published over 170 articles on these topics and his research is funded by grants from NSERC and CIHR. He has been an editor for three journals, and serves or has served on eight journal editorial boards. He is a Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science, a winner of a Premier's Research Excellence Award, and has received twelve Dean's Excellence Awards.

In addition to his University of Toronto duties, he is an Adjunct member of the Centre for Vision Research at York University; an Adjunct Scientist at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute; and a Scientist, on the New Emerging Team (NET) for Innovative Approaches to Optimising Balance and Mobility in Older Adults at Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre. He is also a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee at Baycrest Hospital's Rotman Research Institute.

Professor Pratt has extensive administrative experience having served as Chair of the Department of Psychology since 2008. He has been an active member of several committees at the Faculty level that are directly related to his new portfolio, including the Budget Committee, the Biological Support Facility Steering Committee and the Space Occupancy Costs Committee. He is currently serving a six-month term as Acting Vice-Provost, Faculty and Academic Life of the University.

Please join me in congratulating and welcoming Prof. Pratt to his new role.