



LEWIS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
BRAD D. SMITH SCHOOLS OF BUSINESS
MONDAY MORNING MEMO
from Associate Dean Nancy Lankton

April 17, 2023

Dr. Don Capener Announced as New Dean of the Lewis College of Business



Dear Marshall University Community and Friends:

I am delighted to welcome **Dr. Don Capener** as the new dean of the Lewis College of Business. This recruitment was part of an extensive nationwide

search conducted by AGB Search, and we are confident that his expertise and experience will significantly benefit our institution. His start date will be July 3, 2023.

As a testament to Marshall's brand and future opportunity, we benefited from a strong applicant pool, with 32 candidates from around the country representing experienced administrators, including endowed chairs, associate deans, deans and even a president. The search committee narrowed this pipeline to 9 semifinalists who were invited to airport interviews in Columbus, and the committee recommended the top three finalists. We emerged from that process with strong alignment on three finalists who were invited for on-campus interviews over the past few weeks. Each campus finalist had a campus-wide presentation and Q&A session, along with the opportunity to meet with the faculty, staff, students and administration. We also had the benefit of watching the recorded video of the public forum and reviewing the feedback surveys and ratings from all stakeholders.

While each finalist proved to be uniquely qualified, Dr. Capener emerged as being the most qualified candidate to steward Marshall's excellence in business education. He has served at the highest levels of university administration for twenty years, including as vice president at Monmouth College in Illinois, dean at both Jacksonville and Utah Valley universities, and as associate provost and graduate director at Utah Valley.

After serving for seven years as the dean of business at Jacksonville University (JU) in Florida, where he started the doctoral program in business and master's in business analytics, Dr. Capener accepted an assignment as associate provost and graduate director of business at Utah Valley University (UVU). With an eye towards innovation and revenue growth, he now leads all UVU professional education and is the lead administrator at the Heber and Lehi campuses for UVU. He also started the tech management and health care M.B.A. programs at UVU. At Monmouth, Dr. Capener was the chief marketing officer and the architect of the new general education program and international business major.

Don is an active volunteer leader for AACSB, having led peer-review teams in China, Taiwan, Malaysia, Japan and nine U.S.-based business schools. He successfully led UVU's Woodbury School of Business through AACSB re-accreditation in June 2022. Don published 12 peer-reviewed journal articles in publications such as *International Economics* and the *American Journal of Economics and Sociology* as recently as February 2023. Dr. Capener earned his Ph.D. in International Business, an M.B.A. in marketing, and a bachelor's degree in political science and economics. In industry, Dr. Capener distinguished himself at international companies such as Leo Burnett. Don founded several companies including his own successful San Diego-based marketing agency and Above the Rim Hoopwear, and as a C-suite level executive with Nacentives and Chang Industrial. Don is fluent in the Japanese language. His administrative experience, business acumen, and professional demeanor and engagement combined to elevate his candidacy from the others.

This has been a very rigorous search process in support of a very important position. I want to thank the broader campus community of faculty, staff, students, alumni, fellow deans and other administrators, who did an amazing

job in advancing and informing the ultimate selection of our next dean of the Lewis College of Business. I am grateful for your engagement and for your continued support and counsel. Last, but not least, President Smith and I are excited to see the impact Dr. Capener will have in his new role.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Capener as our new dean of the Lewis College of Business at Marshall University.

Sincerely,

Dr. Avi Mukherjee
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

For more information contact [Nancy Lankton](#)



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