

Dr. Judy Beal Resident Appointed as Dean of the College of Natural, Behavioral, and Health Sciences

Appointment Comes as Simmons Acquires University Designation

Boston, Mass., August 29 – Simmons, one of the first institutions of higher education in the United States to focus on preparing women for leadership, announced today the appointment of Dr. Judy Beal as the inaugural Dean of the College of Natural, Behavioral, and Health Sciences (CNBHS). The appointment comes as Simmons College announces it will become Simmons University effective September 1, 2018.

Dr. Beal describes her “vision, hopes and dreams” for the new CNBHS to be the creation of a community of scholars, leaders, and practitioners who are true partners with Simmons students.

“We will build relationships, trust and respect for each other, and we will embrace a warm and welcoming culture that strives for excellence for all,” she said.

On the university designation, Dr. Beal said, “I am excited about it for many reasons, but mostly for the opportunities for enhanced synergies between and among the disciplines. I anticipate Simmons University becoming a leader in STEM that will include health and behavioral sciences. This designation will expand our global footprint and impact.”

Before the appointment of her new inaugural position, Dr. Beal served as Professor and Dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences at Simmons University. In this position, she pioneered the successful expansion of Simmons’ Master of Family Nurse Practitioner program to the online curriculum and was instrumental in building early innovative models of academic practice partnerships both locally and globally, including international collaborations with Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Israel. A widely published scholar with over 100 peer reviewed articles, Dr. Beal serves on the editorial board of *The American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing* as well as a peer reviewer for the *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*, *the Journal of Professional Nursing*, *Nursing Outlook*, and *Research in Nursing and Health*.

“Dr. Beal is a proven pioneer in health sciences and education,” said Helen Drinan, President of Simmons University. “She has already served as a top educator at Simmons, and we know she will continue to provide strong, engaged, innovative, and progressive leadership as Dean of this new College. We are delighted to advance Simmons University’s bright future with Dr. Beal in this key role on campus.”

Dr. Beal received her BSN from Skidmore College, her MSN from Yale University, and DNSc from Boston University. She is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and the National Academies of Practice and is the Chair-elect of the American Association of Nursing.

About Simmons University

Simmons University (www.simmons.edu) is a nationally recognized private college located in the heart of Boston. Founded in 1899, Simmons is the only undergraduate women’s college in Boston, and maintains a history of visionary thinking and a focus on social responsibility. Follow Simmons on Twitter at [@SimmonsUniv](https://twitter.com/SimmonsUniv) and [@SimmonsNews](https://twitter.com/SimmonsNews).