

President Announcement Q&A

Why is this happening?

At a University Strategic Plan and Financial Update session today, President Martin announced that after seven years as President, she will be moving on to the next chapter of her life, effective July 7, 2015 (her seven-year anniversary as President). She will take a well deserved one-year sabbatical before assuming the tenured position of Full Professor in the EMU Department of Accounting and Finance in the College of Business in fall 2016.

In her remarks, President Martin said, "In December, I started thinking about what I want to accomplish with the rest of my career – what is the next chapter? It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as President but it is time to move forward with my life to new challenges and opportunities."

She added, "I have enjoyed serving this great historic University since I started at Eastern in 2008. That was a troubled time and together, we have accomplished many great things. The University is poised for future success with a great leadership team that is quite seasoned and capable. I have enjoyed working with so many talented and passionate people who, together, have worked to achieve our goals. It has been a very intense, but meaningful and rewarding seven years for me."

We all share the pride in what has been accomplished since Dr. Martin became President in 2008.

Below is a link to the news release that details the full announcement:
<http://www.emich.edu/univcomm/releases/release.php?id=1427815521>

What is she most proud of?

In her remarks, she indicated, "I have enjoyed serving this great historic University since I started at Eastern in 2008. That was a troubled time and together, we have accomplished many great things. The University is poised for future success with a great leadership team that is quite seasoned and capable. I have enjoyed working with so many talented and passionate people who, together, have worked to achieve our goals. It has been a very intense, but meaningful and rewarding seven years for me."

A list of accomplishments can be found at:
<http://www.emich.edu/president/documents/president-accomplishments.pdf>

How does President Martin's sabbatical and move to faculty work?

Under the terms of her contract, the President will take a one-year sabbatical before assuming the tenured position of Full Professor in the EMU Department of Accounting and Finance in the College of Business in fall 2016. Under the terms of the contract, she will be paid an amount equal to her most recent annual base salary and fringe benefits. Upon assuming her duties as a full professor, the President's academic year salary will be equal to the base academic year salary of the highest paid full professor in the department, plus 10 percent. Subsequent salary adjustments and all other terms and conditions relating to her appointment will be governed by the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement between the University and the American Association of University Professors – Eastern Michigan University chapter.

Why is this a good time for the University to have a transition like this?

The University is on the right track. The next President will be able to build on many successes and have opportunities to create new ways in which to improve aspects of campus life.

What is the University's Board of Regents comment about this?

Board Chair Mike Morris said, "President Martin has been an outstanding leader for Eastern Michigan University. She has brought stability and led the institution through a period of dynamic change and improvement. Her leadership has led to increased freshman enrollment with our largest class in the University's history two years ago, a greater number of students with higher GPAs and ACT scores, and an Honors College that has doubled in size since 2011. Investments in campus infrastructure, academic facilities and technology have had a significant impact on the overall campus environment. I have great respect and admiration for President Martin and the leadership she has provided to Eastern Michigan University."

How will a search be handled?

Board Chair Mike Morris stated, "Our obligation now is to move forward and find the best qualified person to continue leading this University and building on the success President Martin enjoyed as our first ever gender diverse leader. We will do that by forming a search committee to be led by Regent Michelle Crumm with a goal of identifying an outstanding candidate who will continue to move Eastern forward. In the short term, the Board also will begin to develop the process for identifying an interim leader to manage the University after President Martin's departure."

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