



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 16, 2017
TO: Administration, Faculty and Staff
FROM: Lawrence Schovanec, President
SUBJECT: Vice President for Research Appointment

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Joseph Heppert as the Vice President for Research at Texas Tech University. Dr. Heppert is currently an Associate Vice Chancellor for the Office of Research at the University of Kansas and will begin his new role September 18.

Dr. Hepper's leadership contributed to a research enterprise that has achieved annual research expenditures of more than \$240 million at the University of Kansas, one of the nation's 34 public institutions with Association of American Universities membership. As a faculty member, he has an extensive and productive background in research.

A professor of chemistry and former Director of the KU Center for Science Education, Dr. Heppert has been involved in the oversight of several centers at Kansas since beginning his tenure in Lawrence in 1985. He was appointed chair of the Chemistry Department in 2005 and named a fellow of the American Chemical Society in 2012. Dr. Heppert holds an undergraduate degree in chemistry from San Jose State University and a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the University of Wisconsin.

I would like to thank search committee chair Dean Al Sacco, members of the search committee, and Isaacson, Miller for their thorough search and review of four talented candidates during this process. I would also like to acknowledge Dr. Guy Loneragan and thank him for his leadership as Interim Vice President for Research throughout this process.

Dr. Heppert will be a great addition to Texas Tech University, and I look forward to working alongside him, our faculty, staff, students and administration.