




MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty, Staff and Students, Department of Biological Sciences

From: Professor William Gough, Vice-Principal Academic & Dean 

Date: 22 January 2021

Re: **Academic Administrative Appointment – Acting Chair, Department of Biological Sciences**

I am pleased to inform you that the Agenda Committee of Academic Board has approved the appointment of Professor Kenneth Welch as Acting Chair, Department of Biological Sciences for a one-year term, from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022. This is to replace the current Chair, Professor Andrew Mason who will go on research and study leave during this period.

Professor Welch is currently the Associate Chair of Research and Graduate Affairs and a member of several faculty search committees. He is the Handling Editor of *Peer*, an Editorial Board Member for *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology*, and Chair of the Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry, Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology. Professor Welch has a strong research program and is a well-regarded graduate student supervisor. He has received multiple NSERC grants, an Environment & Climate Change Canada grant, a Human Frontier in Science Program grant, and a Discovery Accelerator Supplement from NSERC. He has a strong publication record, including a book chapter, “Stoking the Brightest Fires of Life Among Vertebrates” (*Cardio-Respiratory Control in Vertebrates: Comparative and Evolutionary Aspects*, 2009) and has participated in many presentations.

Professor Welch is enthusiastic about serving in the Acting Chair role. I know the Department will be in very capable hands and I look forward to working with him.