

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Elizabeth Sharp has agreed to serve as Director of the Women's & Gender Studies program at Texas Tech University. Her appointment is effective August 22.

Dr. Sharp is a Professor of Human Development and Family Studies in the College of Human Sciences. Her teaching and research have centered on gender and relationships, feminist family studies, and singles. She held a two-year honorary fellowship at the Institute of Advanced Study and appointment as a visiting scholar in the School of Social Sciences at Durham University, England. She has been active in service and leadership with the President's Gender Equity Council, for which she served as chair, as well as teaching and leadership in women's studies throughout her career at Texas Tech. From 2017-2018, Dr. Sharp served as Interim Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

As Director of Women's & Gender Studies, Dr. Sharp will report directly to Associate Vice Provost Patrick Hughes. She will also work with Vice President Carol Sumner regarding the intersection of Women's & Gender Studies with Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. I am confident that Dr. Sharp is the right person to direct Women's & Gender Studies at Texas Tech as we look toward the program's increased academic offerings and enhancements, while maintaining its strong tradition of service and events that promote women's and gender issues.

As you join me in welcoming Dr. Sharp to this important new role, I want to especially thank Dr. Charlotte Dunham for her many years of effective and enthusiastic leadership of Women's & Gender Studies.