



## **King's welcomes new Director of School of Social Work**

January 14, 2015

King's Principal, Dr. David Sylvester, is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Peter Donahue as the new Director of King's School of Social Work, effective July 1, 2015. Dr. Donahue will succeed Dr. Barbara Decker Pierce, who will step down this June after nine years of exemplary service as Director of the School of Social Work. Dr. Donahue's appointment follows an international search by the Director's Selection Committee chaired by Vice-Principal and Academic Dean, Dr. Sauro Camiletti and which included faculty, staff and students.

Dr. Donahue joins King's from Renison University College at the University of Waterloo, where he holds an appointment as Associate Professor and serves as Chair of the Department of Social Development Studies. Previously, he was an Associate Professor of Social Work in the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Calgary. He holds a PhD and Master of Social Work from the University of Toronto, and a BA (Gerontology) and BSc (Biology) from McMaster University.

"We are delighted that Dr. Donahue will be joining the King's School of Social Work," says Principal Sylvester. "His leadership experience and his expertise in gerontology will bring a new dimension to a dynamic and strong faculty that has over 40 years of educating social work professionals. We know that our students, at both the undergraduate and master levels, will benefit tremendously from his teaching, scholarship and leadership," adds Sylvester.

"Dr. Donahue has a particular interest in applied research that examines the issue of aging from multidimensional perspectives that include clinical care, mental health, retirement and homelessness, to mention just a few. Furthermore, his work in gerontology not only has societal import but complements very well the research and teaching strengths of our School of Social Work," says Dr. Camiletti.

Dr. Donahue has been involved in a variety of professional organizations focused on aging, ranging from the Ontario and Alberta Associations on Gerontology to the Canadian Association on Gerontology, and is currently a member of the Commission on Accreditation for the Canadian Association for Social Work Education.

"I am truly excited to be joining an institution of higher learning that is committed to academic excellence while caring deeply about its students and the broader community in which it operates. The School of Social Work at King's University College is well known for its preparation of strong social work practitioners who will be the next leaders of our profession. The faculty members are known, not only for their contributions to research and knowledge

building, but for their service to the community at the local, provincial, national, and international levels. I look forward to building upon this proud and strong reputation as the next Director of the School of Social Work,” says Dr. Donahue.

King's is a publicly-funded Catholic post-secondary institution founded in 1954. King's provides general and honors degree programs in the liberal arts, social sciences, business, and a master's degree in social work. It is positioned in the top rank of institutions of higher learning in Canada for the high quality of its teaching faculty and student experience. Institutionally-autonomous, King's is academically-affiliated with Western University. King's is open to students of all faith backgrounds, with its community centered on the values of social justice, equality and the education of the whole person.

**For more information please contact:**

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