



NEWS

www.gsw.edu/news

800 Georgia Southwestern State University Drive
Americus, Georgia 31709-4376

Division of University Relations / Office of Public Relations *phone* (229) 931-2028 *fax* (229) 931-2072

July 13, 2007

For more information, contact: Stephen E Snyder
(229) 931-2037 or ssnyder@canes.gsw.edu

Tietjen named GSW interim VP of Academic Affairs

AMERICUS—Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW) President Kendall A. Blanchard today announced that William L. Tietjen, Ph.D., professor emeritus of biology, has been named interim vice president of Academic Affairs (VPAA) and dean of faculty. This appointment comes after former VPAA Cathy L. Rozmus, DSN, accepted a position at the University of Texas Health and Science Center at Houston.

"The decision to recruit Dr. Tietjen as the interim vice president for Academic Affairs was the result of my consulting with various constituent groups on campus, in particular, the faculty," said Blanchard. "Support for bringing Dr. Tietjen back to campus in this capacity was almost unanimous. He is widely respected as a teacher, scholar, and leader. He is also known as a man of integrity, honesty, and trustworthiness, as well as someone with a great sense of humor.

"All these traits will serve him well in the VPAA position at this important time in the history of the University," said Blanchard. "We are excited about his joining our administrative team."

"I am humbled to be suggested by colleagues and friends and honored to be selected by President Blanchard," said Tietjen. "With over fifty years of association with Georgia Southwestern, first as a student and then as a professional, I obviously have great admiration for our university.

"I look forward with pleasure and anticipation to serving under Dr. Blanchard," added Tietjen.

Tietjen joined the faculty at Georgia Southwestern in 1967 as an associate professor of biology. During his tenure, Tietjen held such positions as Biology Department chair, acting dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and interim vice president of Academic Affairs. Following his retirement in 1998, Tietjen has remained active on campus, primarily in the area of water quality. In fact, Tietjen has played a significant role in securing over \$30,000 in grant money for GSW's Water Quality Laboratory.

His connection to GSW doesn't end as a professor emeritus. Tietjen holds an Associate of Science degree from Georgia Southwestern. He later earned a Bachelor of Science degree in entomology from the University of Georgia and a doctorate in radiation biology and zoology from the University of Tennessee.

Tietjen's wife, Mildred, is a former GSW employee, as well. Serving the University for a total of 34 years, she worked as director of the James Earl Carter Library for many of them and retired as assistant dean of academic affairs.