Dr. Hilary Ratner, Vice President for Research, has resigned her position as Interim Dean of the Graduate School effective today. I wish to thank Dr. Ratner for her service to the university and her excellent stewardship of the Graduate School during her tenure there. Many improvements have been made in the operations of both the Graduate School and the Division of Research and the future of the Graduate School is brighter for it.

Effective today, Dr. Ambika Mathur will serve as the Interim Dean of the Graduate School. Dr. Mathur will continue to serve as Director (Academic) of the M.D./Ph.D. Program in the School of Medicine and as Director (Academic) of the Postdoctoral Office. Dr. Mathur is currently Associate Dean of the WSU Graduate School.

Dr. Mathur received her doctorate degree in Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Iowa. Following postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Iowa and the University of Minnesota, she was appointed tenured associate professor at the University of Minnesota. She joined Wayne State University in 2003 and was appointed the first permanent director of the M.D./Ph.D. program in 2003 and first director of the newly created Office of Postdoctoral Affairs in 2008. Dr. Mathur is actively involved in the national American Association of Medical Colleges’ GREAT Leaders Steering Committee and other national policy-making bodies for graduate and postdoctoral education, and she has been awarded several independent national grants for her immunology research.

Please join me in thanking Dr. Ratner for her gracious and diligent service to the Graduate School and in congratulating Dr. Mathur on her interim appointment.