

*John J. Contreni*  
*Justin S. Morrill Dean*

16 June 2008

**TO:** Provosts, Vice Presidents, Vice Provosts, Deans, Directors, and Heads of Schools, Divisions, Departments, and Offices

**FROM:** John Contreni

**SUBJECT:** Dr. JoAnn L. Miller appointed Associate Dean for Interdisciplinary Programs and Engagement

I am pleased to announce that Dr. JoAnn Miller, professor of Sociology and affiliated member of the Women's Studies faculty, has accepted an appointment as the College's associate dean for interdisciplinary programs and engagement.

After earning degrees at the University of New Hampshire and the College of William and Mary, Dr. Miller earned the PhD in sociology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. JoAnn came to Purdue in 1984. She has served as director of graduate studies and acting director of the department's Social and Demographic Research Institute. She was a visiting associate professor of sociology at the University of Hamburg in Germany and the University of Indonesia, Depok. She was a Fellow in Law and Society at the Harvard Law School.

Seven-time recipient of her department's teaching award, JoAnn created the Law and Society major in which two-thirds of her department's nearly 500 students major. Her scholarship focuses on how organizations and social groups work to achieve just mechanisms for social control and social change with a particular emphasis on courts and family abuse and violence. The author and co-author of numerous books, articles, and chapters, she also has held significant editorial positions on important professional journals, including service as an editorial board member for *Marriage and Family Review* (1999-2005); as associate editor for *Social Problems* (1994-96); and, as co-editor of *Contemporary Sociology* (2001-2005). She is president-elect of the Society for the Study of Social Problems.

JoAnn's scholarship of engagement has been supported by sizeable grants from the Midwest Universities Consortium for International Activities and the Office of Justice Programs (U.S. Department of Justice). The most recent grant, "Downtown Lafayette Weed and Seed Community," will bring \$1M over five years to the city of Lafayette from the U.S. Department of Justice's Community Capacity Development Office.

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