

Dear Colleagues,

I write to inform you that I will be stepping away from the position of provost and vice president of academic affairs effective May 31, 2023.

I came to USF with a vision of advancing equity and justice through collaborative co-design, and it has been a privilege being in partnership with each of you as we have worked together to reimagine Jesuit education, build a radically inclusive, equitable, and participatory campus community, and help shape a more humane, just, and sustainable world.

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to witness Bernice Johnson Reagon and Toshi Reagon's illuminating interpretation of Octavia Butler's "Parable of the Sower," and I was reminded of her powerful words: "All that you touch, you Change. All that you Change, Changes you." I am grateful to have had the opportunity to touch the lives of so many students, faculty, librarians, staff, and administrators at USF, and in turn to have changed and grown because of what I learned from you all. USF's students, faculty, librarians, and staff are passionate, creative, committed, and brilliant, and it has been my honor serving as your provost.

After a total of seven years working in provost's suites, I look forward to spending the coming year on sabbatical, launching the second edition of my co-edited book *Birthing Justice*, and discerning my next spiritual assignment. I hope that each of you finds time to rest and rejuvenate during the summer and that you return to the work of *cura apostolica* refreshed and inspired.

Warmly,



Chinyere Oparah  
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

**Office of the Provost**

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