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ISU Special Announcement

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Dean selected to lead College of Technology

Indiana State University officials have named an exceptional educator, researcher and administrator to serve as dean of the College of Technology.

Neslihan "Nesli" Alp comes to Indiana State from the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, where she is associate dean of academic affairs and department head of engineering management and technology in the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

She has taught and held various administrative positions at UTC for the past 19 years.



"We are thrilled Nesli is joining the Indiana State community at this exciting time in the university's history. Out of a competitive pool of candidates, she has an impressive record of not only creating new programs but also providing the leadership for them to achieve excellence," said Mike Licari, provost and vice president of academic affairs at Indiana State. "She is well suited to grow our new engineering program - working with faculty and staff to recruit students, maintain quality and attain accreditation."

Alp will begin her duties at Indiana State on Aug. 1.

"It is truly an honor to be selected to be the next dean of Indiana State University's College of Technology. The college has already strong and well-established programs and resources. The addition of new engineering program, diversity of existing programs, applied engineering and technology focus, commitment of faculty and staff, engaged student body, and very supportive community have attracted me to this position," Alp said. "My 25 years of higher education experience, working in variety of administrative positions for the last 12 years, and developing and growing new programs will be very beneficial for the college. Our ultimate goal is to serve our students and prepare them for the real world. I am excited to work with all constituencies to move the college to the next level."

The College of Technology is nationally recognized for providing a state-of-the-art learning environment in a wide spectrum of applied engineering and technology fields. Its five departments serve almost 2,200 undergraduate students majoring in engineering and technology fields and more than 200 graduate students.

Faculty members across more than 20 undergraduate programs and six graduate programs have industry experience and emphasize developing students both professionally and academically. More than 30 specialized instructional laboratories offer students the opportunity to engage with work-based learning experiences in order to gain technical and professional competencies. An industrial advisory board comprised of managers, professionals and experts in the field helps to keep college administration and faculty apprised of current industry trends.

"The whole search committee was deeply impressed with her wide range of experience as a faculty member and administrator and with her familiarity with so many of the diverse programs housed in our College of Technology. She also earned very positive comments from faculty, students, staff and community members when she came to campus," said Chris Olsen, chair of the search committee and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "Personally, I think her vision for a rigorous, interdisciplinary curriculum is perfectly suited for the next two decades of higher education."

Alp received her Ph.D. in engineering management from the University of Missouri-Rolla (Missouri University of Science and Technology) in 1996. She earned a Master of Science in industrial engineering (1994) and a bachelor's in engineering management (1989) from Istanbul Technical University in Turkey.

Alp's teaching and research interests include process improvement, project management, decision-making, optimization, quality control, facilities planning, six-sigma, lean systems, operations management and distance education.

Alp initiated many new undergraduate and graduate programs in the areas of engineering, engineering management, construction management and computer science. She has established many two-plus-two programs with local and regional community colleges in order to develop a seamless pipeline for transfer students.

She led efforts to offer online courses and create a fully online master's program in engineering management at UTC, which was ranked No. 7 Best Online Engineering Management Graduate Program in the nation, according to the U.S. News and World Report. Alp has numerous publications in national and international conferences and journals and served as technical editor for many of them.

Alp is a program evaluator of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)-Engineering Accreditation Commission in Industrial Engineering. She is also a registered professional engineer in the state of Tennessee.

Alp has been married to Birol, who is also an engineer, for 25 years. They have two sons, Kaan, who is senior in high school and will start at Emory University in the fall, and Koray, who is a junior in high school.