MEMORANDUM

To: FIU Community

From: Kenneth G. Furton, Provost and Executive Vice President

Date: October 30, 2014

Re: Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum

I am pleased to announce that I have appointed Dr. Jordana Pomeroy as Director of the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum effective January 5, 2015. Dr. Pomeroy comes to FIU from Louisiana State University (LSU) in Baton Rouge where she has served as the Executive Director of the LSU Museum of Art since 2012 and where she is also an affiliate faculty in the Art History Department. Dr. Pomeroy has had a distinguished career in art museum leadership and earned a B.A. in History of Art from Bryn Mawr College and an M.A. and Ph.D., also in History of Art, from Columbia University.

As the Executive Director of LSU’s Museum of Art, Dr. Pomeroy doubled museum membership, overhauled the exhibition programming, wrote a new strategic plan, galvanized staff, and built active participation and support from the community. Prior to LSU, Dr. Pomeroy spent 16 years of her career at the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) in Washington, D.C.; from 2008-2012 as Chief Curator, and 1996-2008 as Curator of Painting & Sculpture before 1900. During her tenure at the NMWA Dr. Pomeroy organized many notable exhibitions including An Imperial Collection: Women Artists from the State Hermitage Museum (2003), Italian Women Artists from Renaissance to Baroque (2007), and Nordic Cool: Hot Women Designers (2004). A member of the inaugural class of the Center for Curatorial Leadership, she served as a trustee for the Association of Art Museum Curators (AAMG). She was a member of the 2014 AAMG Leadership Seminar at the Center for Nonprofit Management of the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University.

I would like to thank Dr. Carol Damian for her leadership as Director and Chief Curator of the Frost Art Museum over the past six years. Dr. Damian has been instrumental in moving forward the education mission of the museum by educating and enriching the FIU community as well as the external community through distinct exhibitions and signature programs such as the Steven & Dorothea Green’s Lecture Series and Breakfast in the Park during Art Basel. Her and her staff’s efforts have greatly enhanced scholarly research and interdisciplinary collaborations by offering the museum as a local and global center of knowledge and culture.

Under her watch, the Frost has curated dozens of ground breaking and celebrated exhibitions. Just over the last several years, the Frost, under Damian’s leadership, has welcomed the much-lauded Our America: The Latino Presence in American Art, an exhibit drawn entirely from the Smithsonian American Art Museum's permanent collection, and Capture the Moment: The Pulitzer Prize Photographs, a collaboration with the School of Journalism and Mass
Communication, which included photographs from every Pulitzer Prize photographer, from the year of the first prize, 1942, through the spring of 2014.

This year, and through early 2015, the Frost will feature three contemporary Chinese artists: Simon Ma, Wang Qingsong and Xu Bing.

Dr. Damian is the former chairperson of FIU’s Department of Art and Art History, and has long been a prominent figure in Miami’s arts community, as well as a nationally recognized art historian. She has contributed substantially to raising not only the Frost’s profile in the greater art community, but in fostering key collaborations with other Miami institutions.

Dr. Damian will return full-time to serve on the faculty of the Department of Art & Art History.

Dr. Pomeroy expects to build on the foundation created by Dr. Damian, saying she wants to continue to expand the museum’s mission and reach. Her book, *Intrepid Women: Victorian Artists Travel* (Ashgate, 2005), was critically well received. She has published widely on the subject of British patronage of the arts in the early 19th century and served as a Professorial Lecturer at Georgetown University in the area of museum studies from 2009-2011.

A native New Yorker, Dr. Pomeroy is married to business man, Edwin Penick. Daughter, Dina, is a junior at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA and son Jacob, a recent graduate from Yale University, is now a policy associate at the Century Foundation in New York.

As incoming director, Dr. Pomeroy will be in regular contact with the Frost Museum staff over the next two months.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Pomeroy into the FIU family and in thanking Dr. Damian for her consummate leadership.