



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **DR. SUSAN GUNN NAMED INTERIM DEAN OF DAVENPORT'S COLLEGE OF URBAN EDUCATION**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., April 10, 2015** –Davenport University is proud to announce the appointment of Dr. Susan Gunn as the Interim Dean of its College of Urban Education. Dr. Gunn was instrumental in the launch of the new college and its first Master's program cohort, which began classes in February. With Davenport since 2010, Dr. Gunn also serves as Chair of the Science Department in the College of Arts and Sciences. Recently she created a new program, Bachelor of Science in Biological Laboratory Science for the College of Arts and Sciences, which begins in fall 2015.

"We are very excited Dr. Gunn has agreed to take the reins and lead the College of Urban Education," said Dr. Linda Rinker, Executive Vice President for Academics and Provost of Davenport University. "She is a passionate and dedicated educator who strives to help students in urban environments understand that a good education is a pathway to becoming productive citizens and achieving life goals. Her experiences and expertise also make her an ideal candidate to continue the vital work of transforming the way teachers and leaders are prepared to effectively meet the needs of urban school districts in Michigan."

Dr. Gunn is a product of Detroit Public Schools (DPS) and secured her first teaching position at her alma mater, Cass Technical High School. Her mother was a school teacher in DPS and her father was a Civil Engineer for the City of Detroit. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Education and her Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology from the University of Michigan. She also completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at Howard Hughes Medical Institute, University of Michigan Medical School. Dr. Gunn often relates how her parents stressed the importance of education and how that has been a driving force in her career and fuels her fervor to educate others.

With extensive experience in program and curriculum development, faculty recruitment, mentoring and supervision, planning and evaluation, research, fiscal monitoring and budget management, Dr. Gunn was a natural choice to fill the role as Interim Dean. Among significant projects she has led at Davenport include curriculum updates and standardization, renovation of existing labs to improve air quality for students, construction of new science labs and the development of a STEM-based community outreach academic summer camp program.

### **About Davenport University**

Founded in 1866, Davenport is a private, non-profit university serving nearly 9,000 students at campuses across Michigan and online. With tuition among the lowest of all private universities in the state, Davenport provides high academic quality, small class sizes, conveniently located campuses, faculty with real-world experience and more than 50 dynamic undergraduate and graduate programs addressing in-demand careers in business, technology, health professions and urban education. More information is available at [www.davenport.edu](http://www.davenport.edu).

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