



March 4, 2020

To all members of the Bryant University community,

On behalf of the Bryant University Board of Trustees, it is our great pleasure to announce that after an extensive national search we have appointed distinguished economist and economic development expert Dr. Ross Gittell, Chancellor of the Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH) since 2012, as the university's next president. Dr. Gittell has earned unanimous support from the Bryant Trustees and in July 2020 will succeed Ron Machtley, who has served as Bryant's President since 1996.

We are thrilled to find a leader like Ross Gittell, who embodies the character and future vision for Bryant University. Dr. Gittell's outstanding academic credentials and experience as the CEO of seven community colleges within a complex organizational setting make him a perfect fit to succeed the legendary Ron Machtley as Bryant's next president. As President, Dr. Gittell will build on Bryant's upward trajectory while setting the course for the university's next chapter.

Dr. Gittell is highly regarded in economic and policy circles for his economic analysis and forecasting. With an extensive background in university teaching, strategic planning, and management, Gittell's focus has been on applying economic, organizational, and management theory to regional, state, and community economic development issues. Gittell has frequently served as an expert resource for government, non-profit, and business leaders in New Hampshire and nationally on topics including economic policy, workforce development, job creation strategies, community development, and the business climate.

Dr. Gittell holds a Ph.D. in Public Policy from Harvard University, Dively Fellow; a Master's in Business Administration from the University of California, Berkeley, Beta Gamma Sigma; and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Chicago, Phi Beta Kappa. Prior to his appointment as CCSNH Chancellor, he was the James R. Carter Professor in the Department of Management at the Whittemore School of Business and Economics at the University of New Hampshire.

His teaching career spans 20 years and includes, in addition to the Whittemore School, teaching at the Graduate School of Management and Urban Policy at the New School for Social Research in Manhattan, and the Graduate School of Education, Economics Department and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Dr. Gittell is active on numerous boards and commissions, in the New England region and nationally, and is extensively published. Beyond the academic arena, his background includes senior economic consulting for corporate and public sector clients.

Bryant's presidential search was conducted in partnership with preeminent global executive search firm Spencer Stuart. We are grateful to our team at Spencer Stuart, and especially to the members of Bryant's Presidential Search Committee who shared their time and valuable perspectives with us over the course of this successful search process.

Please join us in thanking our Presidential Search Committee members, Bryant University faculty Diya Das, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Management; Kirsten Hokeness, Ph.D., Professor of Biology; and Christopher Roethlein, Ph.D., Professor of Management; in addition to members of Bryant's Board of Trustees, Tim Barton '88; Bob Calabro '88; Lisa Churchville '09H; Joe Paparelli '17; Ed Santos '81, P'18; Peg Van Bree, MHA, Dr.PH; David Weinstein; and Rita Williams-Bogar '76. Tim Paige, Bryant University Vice President for Human Resources, served as ex-officio member of the search committee.

We know Bryant faculty, staff, and students will be eager to join us in welcoming Dr. Gittell and his accomplished wife, Jody Hoffer Gittell, Ph.D., to the Bryant community.

Dr. Hoffer Gittell serves as Professor of Management at Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management, and as Executive Director of the Relational Coordination Research Collaborative and Chief Scientific Officer of Relational Coordination Analytics, Inc. She taught for six years at the Harvard Business School before joining the faculty of Brandeis University in 2001. Among her many distinguished awards and publications, she is the author of *The Southwest Airlines Way: Using the Power of Relationships to Achieve High Performance* (McGraw-Hill), and *High Performance Healthcare: Using the Power of Relationships to Achieve Quality, Efficiency and Resilience* (McGraw-Hill). Dr. Hoffer Gittell holds a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management, a Master of Arts from the New School for Social Research, and a Bachelor's degree from Reed College.

The Gittells have two daughters, Rose Hoffer Gittell and Grace Hoffer Gittell. Rose continues the family teaching legacy and is currently a high school psychology and math teacher in Richmond, CA. Grace is a college senior enrolled at Colorado College in Colorado Springs.

As more details regarding the transition for Bryant's next president become available, the campus community will be kept informed.

Sincerely,

William J. Conaty '67 and Dr. Patricia O'Brien P'15
Co-Chairs, Presidential Search Committee

