

Alfred University names Moszer new VP for business and finance

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Dr. Irene M. Moszer of Portland, OR, will be the next vice president for Business and Finance for Alfred University, President Charles M. Edmondson announced today. "I am pleased to announce that Irene Moszer will succeed Joyce Rausch as our vice president for Business and Finance," Edmondson said. "Dr. Moszer brings to Alfred University an extensive background in higher education administration and teaching, as well as experience in the private sector as chief executive officer of a start-up company and as executive for a regulated electric utility. Her diverse experience will be very beneficial to the University." Moszer said she was attracted to Alfred University by the "wonderful academic reputation" of the institution, and the fact that it has such a long and rich history, dating back to its founding as a select school in 1836. She was also intrigued by the challenges AU faces as a private institution that receives state support for its School of Art & Design and some of its engineering programs. "I see so much promise at Alfred University that nearly everything about it attracts me," said Moszer, who said she looks forward to being associated with and involved in the University. One of her primary responsibilities as the University's chief financial officer will be to "make sure the financial infrastructure is in place to make sure the academic and student life programs can continue to grow and thrive," said Moszer. She noted that the years between 2000 and 2004, when the country experienced a recession, were "very hard on academic institutions and corporations." All states, not just New York, reduced the amount of support they provided directly to colleges and universities, as well as to students. "The recession took a toll" on higher education. "We need to deal with the remnants" of the reduced support, "understand them and go on," said Moszer. "It's going to take hard work and some analysis as we position ourselves to go forward in the future." Her first priorities when she arrives in Alfred are to "get to know my colleagues, to understand the opportunities and challenges that we face, and to immerse myself in the culture and programs of the University so that I can contribute to its future." Most recently, Moszer was vice president of Finance and Administration and chief financial officer for Pacific University in Forest Grove, OR, for four years. She has also served as vice president of Administration and Finance, treasurer and chief financial officer at Marietta College in Marietta, OH. She was chief executive officer of General Resource Management, Inc., Richmond, VA, from 1994-1997, and prior to that spent 16 years in various administrative capacities with Virginia Power Company, including 10 years as a vice president. While working for Virginia Power, she was founding chair of the board of directors of the Energy Insurance Mutual, Ltd, and also served as a member of the board of the Nuclear Mutual Ltd. Insurance Company. From 1971-1978, she was an associate professor of economics and coordinator of Graduate Studies in Economics at Virginia State University in Petersburg, VA. She has recently served as a member of the City of Tigard, OR, budget advisory committee. While living in Virginia, she was appointed by the governor to serve on the Governor's Advisory Board on Worker's Compensation, the Virginia World Trade Commission and the Governor's Economic Advisory Board. Moszer has been involved with a number of civic and charitable organizations, including the Rotary Club, the American Heart Association, Junior Achievement, the American Red Cross, and the United Way. She has presented invited lectures and papers at professional meetings, both for higher education and regulated electric utilities, and is the author of articles in several research publications. Moszer received her B.S. degree in business from Drexel University in Philadelphia, and earned an M.A. in economics from Penn State, and a Ph.D. in economics from Bryn Mawr College. Moszer and her husband, Max, will be moving to the Alfred area in the near future. She will succeed Joyce Rausch, who will be retiring after a 20-year career with AU. Rausch has been vice president for Business and Finance since 2001, and served as interim VP for two years before that. Prior to becoming vice president, Rausch had been an associate vice president, director of Human Resources, and special assistant to the president. Before becoming an administrator, Rausch was first an instructor and then an assistant professor of mathematics at AU, and had taught in public school systems in Ohio and New York.