American Public University System provost appointed as new president

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CHARLES TOWN—American Public University System has appointed executive vice president and provost Dr. Karan Powell as its president effective July 1.

President Dr. Wallace E. Boston, will be stepping down from the position but will remain CEO of APUS parent company American Public Education Inc., as part of an anticipated organizational realignment, providing strategic and leadership support to APUS, Hondo College of Nursing, and other APEI ventures.

"I am excited about the opportunity to serve as the next president of APUS. Over the last 25 years, the university has provided quality, affordable online programs to adult learners. I'm fortunate to have served as part of its executive team during this time, most recently as provost. In my new role, I hope to continue to advance our core mission and further strengthen our academic reputation, the successful legacy of Dr. Wally Boston," Powell said.

In her current position, Powell has led university initiatives to ensure academic quality and online teaching effectiveness, student success, faculty advocacy and innovative online instructional strategies and technology, according to Brian Muys, associate vice president of public relations in a press release.

Powell has more than 30 years of experience in higher education, leadership development, organization performance enhancement and transformation in education, nonprofit, business and government organizations.

Prior to accepting her position as provost in 2011, Powell served as APUS’s interim chancellor in 2004, dean of the school of business, management and graduate studies in 2005 and academic dean from 2006-11.

Powell serves on multiple governing bodies, including as secretary of the Higher Education Resource Services board, Garrison Forest School board in Baltimore, board and secretary of the Association of Chief Academic Officers and as an advisor to John Gardner Gateways to Completion and APUS partner Fidelis Education.

According to the release, Powell holds a doctor of philosophy in education from George Mason University, with a specialization in organization development and learning. She also holds a bachelor of science in business education from Western Illinois University, a master of divinity from Loyola University and a certificate in advanced organization design from the University of Southern California.

Powell is also a graduate of the HERS Institute: Advancing Women in Higher Education Administration, the Harvard Institute for Educational Management, and the University of California Berkeley.
Executive Leadership Academy.
American Public University System located at 111 W. Congress St. in Charles Town. The university offers more than 90 online degree programs through American Public University and American Military University.

For more information visit www.apus.edu.

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