To: University of Vermont Community

From: Tom Sullivan, President
David V. Rosowsky, Provost and Senior Vice President

Re: Appointment of Dr. Linda S. Schadler,
Dean of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Linda Schadler as Dean of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences. Dr. Schadler is currently the Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education and the Russell Sage Professor in Materials Science and Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI).

Dr. Schadler graduated from Cornell University in 1985 with a B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering and received a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering in 1990 from the University of Pennsylvania. She is an associate editor for the Journal of Materials Research, as well as a Fellow of both the Materials Research Society and ASM International. Dr. Schadler is a former member of ASM International’s Board of Trustees and the National Materials Advisory Board.

Dr. Schadler is one of the world’s leading researchers in the field of polymer nanocomposites with a focus on the nanodielectric, mechanical, and optical properties. Her work has impacted both fundamental understanding of polymer nanocomposite behavior and applications. She co-authored more than 160 refereed journal publications, 10 book chapters, she holds 12 patents, and has been invited to speak about her research around the world. She has supervised 33 Ph.D. students, 13 M.S. students and more than 50 undergraduate students in her laboratory.

Dr. Schadler has received more than $13M in research funding as PI or Co-PI and also has been an active participant in two large Centers: the Nanoscale Science and Engineering Center (NSEC) for the Directed Assembly of Nanostructures, and an Engineering Research Center (ERC): Smart Lighting, both funded by National Science Foundation. She was the Director of Education and Outreach for the NSEC and implemented a summer research program with specific partnerships with HBCU and women’s colleges to provide a year-round research experience for those students.

As Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education, Dr. Schadler created the Teaching and Learning Collaboratory and Beta Classroom, an experimental space for testing new classroom technologies, as well as a rotating faculty board that shares best practices and awards pedagogy seed grants. She worked with the Faculty Senate to develop a new Core Curriculum for Rensselaer and has been an integral part of Rensselaer’s new initiative, the Arch at Rensselaer. Prior to her current position, Dr. Schadler was the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs in the School of Engineering and led several strategic initiatives. She had oversight for the Manufacturing Innovation Learning...
Laboratory (MILL) and the Multidisciplinary Design Laboratory (MDL). Several of the strategic initiatives she developed in the School of Engineering at RPI have been implemented Institute-wide, including a new approach to first and second year advising (Advising Hubs).

Dr. Schadler is married to Dr. Thomas Feist, also a Materials Scientist; they have two children, ages 22 and 20. Linda and Tom are looking forward to joining the UVM community this summer.

We wish to thank the faculty, staff, students and others who served on the Search Committee, ably chaired by Dean of the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, Nancy Mathews and Dean of the College of Education and Social Services, Scott Thomas.

We look forward to working with Dr. Schadler as a member of the University’s academic leadership team. She will be joining the UVM community in mid-July. Please join us in welcoming her to the University of Vermont.