

Taylor University

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### **Taylor Names Dr. Grace Ju Miller Dean of the School of Natural and Applied Sciences**

Taylor University

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# Taylor Names Dr. Grace Ju Miller Dean of the School of Natural and Applied Sciences

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Taylor University has named Dr. Grace Ju Miller as the new Dean of its School of Natural and Applied Sciences. She replaces Dr. Bill Toll, who is retiring at the conclusion of the 2018 spring semester.

Miller holds a PhD in Plant Physiology/Horticulture from Purdue University (1990), an MS in Plant Physiology/Agronomy from the University of California-Davis (1984), and a BA in Botany and Art from Duke University (1980). She currently serves as Professor of Biology and College of Arts and Sciences faculty chair at Indiana Wesleyan University (Marion, Indiana).

Prior to her service at Indiana Wesleyan, Miller was a tenured faculty member and chair of the Biology Department at Gordon College (Wenham, Massachusetts). She has also served with ECHO (Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization) as director of the seed bank and in Morocco, where she taught high school biology at an orphanage.

Additionally, Miller is an experienced grant writer and has served on National Science Foundation grant review panels. She is also an active member in the American Society of Plant Biology and was recently elected to serve on the Woman in Plant Biology Committee. Her latest publication studies the antibacterial effects of extracts of *Moringa oleifera* in *the Journal of Microbiology and Biology Education* 2017.

Miller will be on sabbatical during Spring 2018 at the Plant and Microbial Biology Academia Sinica,

Taipei, Taiwan, and will begin her responsibilities at Taylor on June 1.

"I am looking forward to joining the Taylor University community. I feel blessed to have an opportunity to serve at an excellent Christian liberal arts university with a solid historic mission and science programs with dedicated faculty, distinctive students, innovative programs and a focus on serving God," Miller said.

"Taylor has a state-of-the art facility in the Euler Science Complex, many successful undergraduate research programs, internships and service learning projects both in the United States and overseas," she added. "I am excited to join a community of learners who see that God's work is vibrant in the laboratory, clinics, classrooms as well as in preaching the gospel, feeding the hungry, and attaining safe drinking water. I am impressed with Taylor's commitment to see all these tasks as sacred. I believe that Taylor equips students with knowledge and tangible skills and instill in the students a desire for the kingdom."

"We are excited to welcome Dr. Grace Miller to the Taylor University community. She brings a breadth of knowledge and experience to this position and is uniquely qualified to lead our School of Natural and Applied Science into the coming years," said Dr. Jeff Moshier, Taylor's Provost. "When we embarked on a nationwide search for a new dean of our science division, we sought a scholar whose credentials were impeccable, pursuit of faith was recognized and respected, and a member of the academic community who could both lead our science program and challenge our students to excellence. Throughout her stellar career, Dr. Miller has more than demonstrated her fit for this position and we are looking forward to welcoming her onboard in the months to come."



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