

May 22, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

It is with deepest regret that I write to say that I have declined the opportunity to serve as Dartmouth's next Dean of the Faculty. I will also step down from my current position as Associate Dean to return to the faculty in Native American Studies as of July 1 this year.

As many of you know, the news of my appointment, at least in some circles, remains a source of concern and contention. Whether warranted or not, this matter has been and will likely continue to be a significant distraction for me professionally and a source of considerable pain and frustration for me personally. It also has the great potential to be damaging to the college in the long term, given the higher visibility and engagement with external audiences that come with the dean's position. Under these circumstances, I do not believe I can serve effectively as your Dean. I notified President Hanlon of my decision this past weekend.

I recognize and deeply appreciate the support, encouragement and trust that so many of you have expressed over these past several weeks. To those colleagues who stepped forward publicly to voice their support for my appointment and for me personally, I will remain forever and profoundly grateful.

Very truly yours,

N. Bruce Duthu