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## MC's Music Department chair Willoughby to retire

the department's assistant chair, he cherishes his retiring colleague.

"Angie's service and hospitality to us all as a family will unquestionably be missed," Williams said. "We all wish her well in enjoying a well-deserved retirement."

Wayne VanHorn, dean of the School of Christian Studies and the Arts, says working with Dr. Willoughby has been a delightful experience.

"She demonstrated professionalism, knowledge of her discipline, and a genuine concern for all of her faculty members," he said. "She brought patience, understanding, and equity to her role as Department of Music chair."

Chairing the department for the past eight years, Willoughby is also greatly admired as a mentor and role model to students.

Dr. Willoughby worked alongside distinguished MC faculty members who were her teachers on the Clinton campus. The list includes Patricia Walston, Jimmy Sclater and Janet Taylor. Richard Joiner chaired the department when she was hired.

"There is no way I could express the gratitude I have for my piano teacher, Ralph Taylor, who taught at MC for forty-three years," she said.

University officials say the Music Department will continue to excel under the leadership of Ben Williams.

An MC music professor since 2010, Williams "knows the history, strengths, and challenges of the department," Willoughby said. He teaches core music classes, so he is well-acquainted with every music student. "His perspective will serve the department well" in his new role. The University of Akron music graduate earned his doctorate at The Ohio State University.

Honored to serve as the new chair, Williams pledges to keep working to "enliven the artistic community of our campus."

In her retirement years, family will remain a big part of Dr. Willoughby's life. Her son, Charlie, is a musician. She loves spending time with her two grandchildren – Clementine and Juniper, ages four and two.



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