New assistant dean

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Katy Luchini Colbry named assistant dean for Graduate Student Services at MSU Engineering

Katy Luchini Colbry has been selected as the assistant dean for Graduate Student Services in the MSU College of Engineering.

She has been involved for the past eight years in every major aspect of the graduate studies program in collaboration with Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Faculty Development Manooch Koochesfahani. In her new role, she will work on graduate student recruiting, mentoring, and fostering an environment to grow graduate student resources and fellowship opportunities, along with other day-to-day aspects of growing the graduate program of the college.

Luchini Colbry said preparing graduate students for successful careers in academia and industry is one of the core tasks of the college.

“Graduate students are essential to the success of our research and teaching programs, and this realignment will help the college better meet the needs of our graduate students,” she said. “I look forward to working with our faculty and staff, in collaboration with the MSU Graduate School, to ensure that our graduate students have the resources they need to excel.”

Luchini Colbry is an MSU graduate, with undergraduate degrees in political theory and computer science. A recipient of the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, she earned MSE and PhD degrees in computer science and engineering from the University of Michigan. She returned to MSU in 2008 and joined the College of Engineering graduate studies team two years later.

Nationally, she is the incoming chairperson of the Graduate Studies Division of the American Society for Engineering
Education, and director of the Engineering Futures Program of Tau Beta Pi, the Engineering Honor Society.

Engineering Dean Leo Kempel said her appointment is part of the realignment of the Dean’s Office as Koochesfahani steps down. His position was created in 2008, when the associate dean for Research and Graduate Studies position was split into associate dean for Research and associate dean for Graduate Studies and Faculty Development positions, in recognition of the growing time commitment needed.

With Luchini Colbry’s appointment, the associate dean role for research and graduate studies are again merged. John Verboncoeur will assume the role of associate dean for Research and Graduate Studies, effective Aug. 16, 2018. In this role, he will focus on strategic aspects of the graduate program including interfacing with the MSU Graduate School.

Related Website: Communications contact: Patricia Mroczek

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