

June 6, 2022

Dear Colleagues:

Craig C. Hill, Leighton K. Farrell Endowed Dean and Professor of New Testament in the Perkins School of Theology, has informed us of his intention to retire as Dean effective December 31, 2022. He will remain a member of the Perkins faculty until December 31, 2023. Please read more [here](#).

Dean Hill became the 11th Dean of Perkins School of Theology in July, 2016. During his decanal tenure, the Perkins School has made great strides and has done so in the face of considerable headwinds. The school's enrollment growth during his deanship, both in on-campus programs and through innovative off-campus partnerships, has improved Perkins' budget prospectus. His foresight to adopt workload processes and documentation has also served as a model across campus in our efforts to promote greater equity and transparency. And, his compassionate leadership during a time of great challenge within the United Methodist Church has served to reassure and affirm many community members who might have otherwise been disenfranchised.

I will begin meeting immediately with Perkins' faculty, Executive Board members, staff, and students to inform my decision on an Interim Dean, whom I hope to announce in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth G. Lobo, PhD  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Southern Methodist University  
<https://www.smu.edu/provost>