

May 20, 2025

## Dear OU Community,

I am excited to announce the appointment of Dr. Laku Chidambaram as the next Dean of the Michael F. Price College of Business, pending final approval of the OU Board of Regents. Dr. Chidambaram has served as Interim Dean of the college since July of 2024, and he will officially begin his permanent role on May 31, 2025.

Dr. Chidambaram has been a key figure in Price College for over two decades, and under his leadership as Interim Dean, the college's momentum has only accelerated.

This past fall, student enrollment in Price reached an all-time high – a 10% increase over the previous year and double the growth from just two years ago. The college's national reputation continues to rise, with our BBA program climbing 17 spots in the latest *U.S. News & World Report* rankings, placing it in the top 10% of business schools nationwide. Bloomberg Businessweek now ranks our MBA program No. 14 in the country, and our online and executive MBA programs continue to earn national recognition.

Dr. Chidambaram has made student success a priority. Over the past year, Price has launched several initiatives to support students at every stage of their journey, including First Year@Price, the Price Career Center, and the Office of Experiential Learning.

Philanthropic support has also grown during his tenure, with approximately \$25 million in gifts and pledges secured this fiscal year, including the recently established Leo Mingee and Lauren Von Mingee First-Generation Business Scholars Fund – the largest scholarship endowment at OU dedicated to supporting first-generation students.

Since joining the Price College faculty in 2001 in the Management Information Systems (MIS) Division, Dr. Chidambaram has held several key administrative positions in the college. Before being named Interim Dean, he served as Senior Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Engagement, overseeing the master's, executive, and undergraduate programs at Price College. He holds the Michael F. Price Chair in Business.

His research on computer-supported collaborative work has been published in the top MIS journals, and his current focus is on leveraging generative AI to improve individual and institutional outcomes.

He holds a Ph.D. from Indiana University, an MBA from the University of Georgia, and a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Loyola College.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Chidambaram on his permanent appointment as Dean.

Sincerely,

André-Denis G. Wright

Senior Vice President and Provost, Norman Campus