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of Manitoba | Office of the President

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TO: St John's College Fellows, Staff, and wider College community

FROM: Dr. Michael Benarroch, President and Vice-Chancellor

RE: Appointment of a Warden, St. John's College

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I am pleased to advise that on April 20, 2021 the University of Manitoba Board of Governors confirmed the appointment of Dr. Allison Abra as Warden and Vice-Chancellor of St. John's College for a five year term, effective July 26, 2021 to July 25, 2026.

Dr. Abra [BA/99], a fourth-generation Johnian, returns to Winnipeg, Manitoba and to St. John's College from the University of Southern Mississippi, where presently she is Associate Professor of History in the School of Humanities, the General Buford "Buff" Blount Professor in Military History, and a Fellow in the Dale Center for the Study of War and Society. She also is the Director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program at the University of Southern Mississippi and has been engaged in a number of projects to expand teaching, scholarship, and public programming around women, and gender, and sexuality.

Dr. Abra is a historian of modern Britain, with research interests focused on women and gender, popular culture, nationalism, and war and society in the period of the two world wars. She has published one book, *Dancing in the English Style: Consumption, Americanisation, and National Identity in Britain, 1918-50*, and is in the process of completing a second, on British espionage during World War II. Her work has been widely disseminated through a range of publications, conference presentations and outreach and has been supported by a series of endowments and grants. Dr. Abra has garnered awards both for her teaching and scholarship, including the Mississippi Humanities Council Teacher of the Year award, and has contributed significantly to graduate student supervision.

Please join me in extending a warm welcome to Dr. Abra on her appointment, and in welcoming her back to St. John's College. I look forward to working with Dr. Abra, and I know she can count on your support as she assumes this role.

cc. Dr. Allison Abra