

# SMWC names new vice president for advancement

TRIBUNE-STAR STAFF REPORT

Catherine Saunders has been promoted to vice president for advancement at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, effective Jan. 1, 2024.

Saunders has served as the associate vice president for advancement for more than five years, according to a news release from the college.

Saunders is a 1998 graduate of SMWC and has more than 25 years experience in higher education and not-for-profit leadership. She served as executive vice president of the Indiana State University Foundation before returning to SMWC.

Saunders was instrumental in the fundraising and renovations of Le Fer Hall community spaces and the Conservatory of Music's Harvey Auditorium, front steps and its new grant-funded ADA all-gen-



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der restroom, according to The Woods.

"In recent years there has been a true renaissance at The Woods. The energy is palpable, and it is thrilling to be a part of it. As the programs and student population continues to grow, I know the work our team is doing is important and we are contributing to something special that is happening out here at SMWC," said Saunders. "It is a blessing to connect our alumni to today's Woods through our efforts."

Karen Dyer is stepping down as executive vice president for advancement and strategic initiatives to take on a newly created role, director of strategic initiatives, at the Terre Haute Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Dyer has been at SMWC since 2012 and worked on campaigns such as expanding the Jeanne Knoerle Sports and Recreation Center, overseeing the annual Woods Fund and more. She will continue to work with the college as a consultant on various projects.