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Mount Carmel College of Nursing names new president

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Kathleen Williamson, dean of Mount Carmel College of Nursing, is now also its president.

Trustees promoted Williamson to the dual role this month. She had served as interim president since May, when Ann Marie Brooks announced her resignation to return to full-time consulting work.

Williamson joined the college to oversee academic programs for its nearly 1,000 students in January 2019. Previously she was professor and chairwoman at the nursing school of Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas, and held faculty posts at three universities in the decade before that.

She led the effort to win a \$2 million, four-year federal grant as part of Mount Carmel's effort to adapt to online learning in response to the coronavirus epidemic, according to a news release.

"Williamson's leadership, especially during this period of unprecedented change and uncertainty due to the Covid-19 pandemic, has been tremendous," Mount



MONTY SOUNGRADITH

Kathleen Williamson, president and dean, Mount Carmel College of Nursing.

Carmel said in the release.

The college has an unprecedented chance to expand: Mount Carmel Health System has demolished the inpatient buildings of the former Mount Carmel West hospital that once boxed in the educational building.

The nursing school already has moved into the former administration building, and the rest of the Franklinton campus is being redeveloped into mixed use and housing by Columbus developer Thrive Cos. Health system officials have said that any future college expansion can take place along the green fronting Town Street, but increased online enrollment also represents an opportunity.

Lorraine Lutton started in April as CEO of Mount Carmel Health.

Williamson, a registered nurse, has a master's degree in nursing education from Wilmington University and doctorate in urban affairs and public policy from University of Delaware.

Brooks was named interim president in summer 2017 in what was supposed to be a 12- to 18-month appointment, but she stayed three years after trustees named her to the permanent job. She owns a healthcare consulting firm in Washington, D.C.

"I am very proud of the work I've accomplished through collaboration with a top-notch team of administrators from the health system, the exemplary (college) board of trustees, and the faithful faculty including the Mount Carmel alumni, and most of all, our students," Brooks wrote in a farewell in the latest edition of the school's alumni magazine.

Christine Wynd served as president from 2015 to 2017 and now leads a department at a nursing college in Richmond, Virginia.

The college is the only nursing school within the health systems that make up Trinity Health, with hospitals in 22 states. Mount Carmel Health, the second-largest within Michigan-based Trinity, had an operating loss of \$5.8 million on \$1.87 billion revenue in the year ended June 30, 2019, according to Trinity's audit.