

Press Release

WOSU PUBLIC MEDIA APPOINTS KAREN OLSTAD AS CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER (COO)

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COLUMBUS, OHIO, JUNE 9, 2009 —WOSU Public Media has appointed Karen Olstad as Chief Operating Officer. Olstad, who is currently the Vice President of Operations and Chief Financial Officer at Alaska Public Telecommunications in Anchorage, Alaska, will join the WOSU team in August.

As Chief Operating Officer, Olstad will report directly to the General Manager and work with leadership to ensure the operational and strategic success of WOSU Public Media. She will oversee daily operations of the organization and supervise senior leadership responsible for communications, content, broadcast programming, engineering, and operations. She will also attend to systems, work culture enhancement, internal communications, and consensus building, among other duties.

“This newly created position at WOSU will help us better centralize and coordinate our efforts across all our media,” said WOSU General Manager Tom Rieland. “I’m extremely excited to have someone of Karen’s experience and reputation join us.”

In addition to her position at Alaska Public Telecommunications, Olstad also worked 20 years for Washington State University’s joint NPR/PBS licensee, rising to the position of Associate General Manager and Chief Financial Officer, also serving two years as Acting General Manager. Over the years, she has served on numerous committees and as chair of the Public Broadcasting Management Association (PBMA). Olstad has a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Washington State University.

“WOSU Public Media is a treasured community resource with a long history of providing vital programming and services to the community,” said Karen Olstad. “WOSU is well positioned to be very successful during these times of tremendous change affecting all media. I am thrilled about this opportunity to work with the talented and dedicated staff as we continue WOSU’s legacy of creating and distributing media that serves the public.”

WOSU Public Media is community-supported, nonprofit, noncommercial public radio and television stations licensed to The Ohio State University. For more information, visit www.wosu.org.

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