Kenney "Tom" Star is a national figure. He has been a federal judge and U.S. senator, and became famous for his controversial investigation of members of the FBI while serving as special prosecutor to investigate the suicide death of Deputy White House counsel Vincent Foster and the Whitewater real estate investments of Bill Clinton, he ended up looking into an altogether different case—President Clinton with Monica Lewinsky. Clinton was ultimately impeached for lying under oath, which led to something of a darling figure among conservatives.

For nearly 20 years, Star has maintained an office at George Mason University, an institution that has become a hotbed for conservative donors and scholars. In fact, one of the main reasons Star chose to resign his position as chancellor is that he had been worried substantial donations from Richard Mellon Scaife, known as a fierce Clinton critic, would have come to life several years later after the Lewinsky scandal erupted. In 2004 he became dean of the Pepperdine Law School, an institution that has been a favorite of conservative donors. While at Pepperdine, he received substantial donations from Richard Mellon Scaife and other conservative donors.

In his current position at SIUE, he has established in strengthening the institution's finances and turned around its budget deficit. His leadership has resulted in a significant increase in enrollment, and he has improved the institution's academic programs. He has also been successful in securing grants and private donations, and has established a number of endowed scholarships and faculty positions.

However, according to SIUE President Marita Gronnvoll, Star's decision to resign his position as chancellor of SIUE is understandable given the political climate and the challenges faced by universities today.

The move to SIUE is a significant step in the institution's upward trajectory, and Star's leadership will be vital in guiding the university toward its future goals. Under his leadership, SIUE has shown a commitment to academic excellence, community engagement, and innovation, and Star's experience and expertise will be invaluable in helping the university achieve its objectives.

The SIUE community is grateful for Star's contributions to the institution and wishes him well in his new role.

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Dr. Aldemaro Romero Jr.

Letters from Academia

The SIUE community is grateful for Dr. Aldemaro Romero Jr., who has been named interim dean of the School of Business, effective immediately. Romero is the current dean of the College of Business at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the role.

Romero has held various leadership positions at SIUE, including as the dean of the College of Business. He has also served as the interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education and Human Services.

As interim dean, Romero will work closely with the faculty, staff, and students of the College of Business to ensure the continued success of the institution. He is committed to fostering a culture of innovation and excellence, and will be a strong leader in guiding the College of Business through its next phase of development.

The SIUE community is grateful for Romero's leadership and looks forward to his contributions to the College of Business and the university as a whole.