

**Robert Kyle Neely**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**

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**PRESENT POSITION:**

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (TWU)

Professor, Department of Biology (TWU)

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**EDUCATION:**

Ph.D., 1982. Iowa State University, Botany - Wetland Plant Ecology.

M.S., 1978 Baylor University, Biology (Limnology).

B.S., 1976 Southwest Baptist College, Biology

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**ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:**

**Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs**, Texas Woman's University, January 2011 – Present; in a university with >15,000 students, 58 undergraduate, 58 master's and 23 doctoral programs, identified in 2013 as the 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest-growing public doctoral university in the US by the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, responsibilities include oversight of all academic units and processes on three campuses (Denton, Houston and Dallas); additionally, the Division of Information Technology reports to the Provost. Key achievements have included: leading university-wide initiatives for TWU Visioning through 2018, strategic planning, program prioritization, and student success; guiding TWU's SACSCOC reaffirmation of accreditation process; creating an office for institutional improvement with a major focus on (a) systematizing reporting and data for decision making and (b) assessment of student learning; developing new financial models for research and program support that provide academic units both more flexibility and resources; creating an office of Teaching and Learning with Technology to advance instructional delivery in both face-to-face and online environments; integrating the responsibility for developing Academic Partnerships into the Provost's Office; leading the construction and opening of the Pioneer Center for Student Excellence and the Center for Faculty Excellence; co-authoring as Co-PI a successful NIH grant to develop the TWU research infrastructure; completing a major reorganization of the administrative structure of the Provost's Office; helping to facilitate a major reorganization of the technology division at TWU to achieve efficiencies and better service; revising key policies and processes (e.g., faculty workload, program fees, indirect cost returns, emeritus status, among many others); and helping to cultivate relationships with donors and state/community leaders.

Equally important has been my effort to create a more transparent and collaborative institutional culture at TWU, which was necessary because of the challenge of a culture of deep distrust that evidently developed prior to my arrival. In fact, this was an expectation of my hiring. Strategies have included launching a monthly *Academic Digest* for the university community, implementation of multiple formal forums, as well as social opportunities, for faculty and staff to meet with the Provost, holding regular information sharing sessions with the entire academic leadership (chairs, directors, deans and assoc. provosts), expanding the academic council, expanding collaboration with the Faculty Senate, inviting and hosting many national higher education experts on campus to broaden perspectives, using broad cross-cutting

committees with personnel across divisions to open the lines of communication for key processes and decisions, as well as other strategies.

**Interim Provost**, Eastern Michigan University, June–July, 2009 (pending arrival of new Provost in August, 2009).

**Associate Provost & Associate Vice President for Research (functioned as Acting Provost)**, August 2007–June 2008; guided Eastern Michigan University's Division of Academic Affairs while the Provost and Executive Vice President led the university from the president's office. Led the development of the academic portion of a case statement for the University's comprehensive campaign, worked with the Division of Business and Finance to rebase the Academic Affairs' budgets, and developed an electronic newsletter for the Division of Academic Affairs.

**Associate Provost & Associate Vice President for Research**, Eastern Michigan University, June 2005–December 2010. In a Division of approximately 680 tenure-track faculty, 98 full-time lecturers, and >500 part-time lecturers, 31 Departments, and five Colleges, my broad responsibilities included oversight of the Divisional Budget (approx. \$120M), academic program review, programmatic and institutional accreditation, internal and external research programs, and development of educational facilities. Direct reports include the Faculty Development Center, Library, Office of Academic Programming, Office of Institutional Research and Information Management, Academic Human Resources, Office of Research Development, and the Directors of Institutional Assessment and Academic Assessment. Key accomplishments included revision and implementation of a new program review process, facilitating EMU's competitiveness for federal research funding, providing the Divisional leadership for the planning and funding for \$137M in renovation to instructional buildings, coordinating significant Divisional budget reductions (approx. \$12M) during a time of financial constraint in the Michigan economy, and increasing awards and recognition of faculty.

**Associate Dean**, College of Arts and Sciences, Eastern Michigan University, August, 2003–June, 2005; provided leadership in budgeting, scheduling, facilities development, program review evaluation, and review of tenure, promotion, research fellowship and sabbatical applications in a College of 17 departments and approximately 380 tenure/tenure-track faculty. Key accomplishments: led a taskforce for promotion of interdisciplinary initiatives, developed and implemented database process for uniform monitoring of College and Departmental budgets, served on the University's Budget Reduction Steering Committee, chaired a University Cross-Cutting, Strategic Planning Committee regarding research, institutes and centers.

**Department Head**, Department of Biology, Eastern Michigan University, November 1998–June, 2003; oversaw all aspects of an academic department, consisting of 22 tenured/tenure track faculty, as many as 20 adjunct lecturers, 24 graduate assistants, and five professional/technical staff, and generating approximately 15,000 student credit hours per year. Key accomplishments included implementation of a revised Biology curriculum, successfully attracting a \$2.2M donation to the Biology, Psychology and Art Departments, revamping of the Biology Department budgeting process, development of a rolling, five-year plan for course offerings, reassignment of research space, and stimulation of research activity.

**Graduate Program Director**, Department of Biology, Eastern Michigan University, August 1993–November 1998; coordinated all aspects of graduate admission, graduate advising and graduate assistantship assignment in the department.

**District Director** - Northcentral Region (District 4) of *Beta Beta Beta* – The Honorary Biological Society, 1989–1994; oversaw a multi-state district of universities with *Beta Beta Beta* Chapters, was responsible for evaluating applications for new chapters, conducting site visits and organizing the annual district convention.

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### PROFESSORIAL EXPERIENCE:

Professor, Dept. of Biology, Texas Woman's University, January 2011 - present  
Professor, Dept. of Biology, Eastern Michigan University, August 1995 – December 2010  
Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Biology, Eastern Michigan University, August 1989 – August 1995  
Assist. Professor, Dept. of Biology, Eastern Michigan University, August 1984 – August 1989  
Visiting Assist. Professor, Dept. of Botany, Iowa State University, August 1982 – August 1984

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### HONORS:

- Student Life Advocate Award, Texas Woman's University Division of Student Life, 2012
- Certificate of Appreciation, Eastern Michigan University Faculty Senate, 2010
- Certificate of Resolution For Dedication and Commitment, Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents, 2010
- John A. Moffit Award for Outstanding Publication, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ann Arbor, MI (coauthored with J. Miller and J. Savino), 1993
- Michigan Teaching Excellence Award, conferred by State of Michigan, 1991
- Sigma Xi–The Honorary Scientific Society nomination & membership, Iowa State University, 1998
- Phi Kappa Phi nomination and membership, Iowa State University, 1980
- Academic Excellence Award, Iowa State University, 1998
- Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, Southwest Baptist College, 1975

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### PROFESSIONAL AND EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT:

American Association of State Colleges and Universities, Executive Leadership Academy, July, 2014 – June, 2015.  
Harvard Graduate School of Education, Institute for Management and Leadership in Education, Boston, MA, June 14–26, 2009.  
Eastern Michigan University, Executive Leadership Development Project. December 10-12, 2007.  
American Council on Education, Chairing the Academic Department, June 22–25, 1999.

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### PUBLICATIONS

Kuehn, K.A., S.N. Francoeur, R.H. Findlay, and **R.K. Neely**. 2014. Priming in the microbial landscape: periphytic algal stimulation of litter-associated microbial decomposers. *Ecology* 95(3): 249-762.

- Kuehn, K.A., B.M. Ohsowski, S.N. Francoeur, and **R.K. Neely**. 2011. Contributions of fungi to carbon and nutrient cycling from standing-dead *Typha angustifolia* litter in a temperate freshwater marsh. *Limnology and Oceanography* 56:529-539.
- S.N. Francoeur, A.C. Johnson, K.A. Kuehn, and **R.K. Neely**. 2007. Evaluation of the efficacy of the photosystem II inhibitor DCMU in periphyton and its effects on non-target microorganisms and extracellular enzymatic reactions. *Journal of the North American Benthological Society* 26:633-641.
- Su, R., R.N. Lohner, Kuehn, K., R. Sinsabaugh, **R.K. Neely**. 2007. Microbial dynamics associated with decomposing *Typha angustifolia* litter in two contrasting Lake Erie coastal wetlands. *Aquatic Microbial Ecology* 46:295-307.
- Francoeur, S.N., M. Schaecher, **R. K. Neely**, and K.A. Kuehn. 2006. Periphytic photosynthetic stimulation of extracellular enzyme activity in microbial communities associated with decaying *Typha* litter. *Microbial Ecology* 52:662-669.
- Gillis, J.E., K. Kuehn, S.N. Francoeur, and **R.K. Neely**. 2006. Application of the <sup>3</sup>H-leucine incorporation technique for quantifying bacterial secondary production associated with decaying wetland plant litter. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* 72:5948-5956.
- Francoeur, S.N., R.G. Wetzel, and **R.K. Neely**. 2001. A new, spatially-explicit method for detecting extracellular protease activity in biofilms. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* 67:4329-4334.
- Martin, D.C. and **R. K. Neely**. 2001. Benthic macroinvertebrate response to sedimentation in a freshwater wetland. *Wetland Ecology and Management* 9:441-454.
- Schnitzer, S. and **R.K. Neely**. 2000. Criticism of the litterbag technique for the study of aquatic plant decay: suppression of epiphytic algal biomass. *Archiv für Hydrobiologie* 148:433-440.
- Dittmar, L.A. and **R.K. Neely**. 1999. Wetland seedbank response to sedimentation varying in loading rate and texture. *Wetlands*. 19:341-351.
- Vargo, S.M., **R.K. Neely** and S. Kirkwood. 1998. Emergent plant decomposition and sedimentation: response to sediments varying in texture, phosphorus content and frequency of deposition. *Experimental and Environmental Botany* 40: 43-58.
- Naveh-Benjamin, M., W.J. Mckeachie, Y. Lin and **R.K. Neely**. 1998. Assessing the flexibility of cognitive structures created in university courses. *Contemporary Educational Psychology*. 23: 209-232.
- Weihe, P.E. and **R.K. Neely**. 1997. The effects of shading on competition between purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria* L.) and broad-leaved cattail (*Typha latifolia* L.): A greenhouse study. *Aquatic Botany* 59:127-138.
- Neely, R.K.** and R.G. Wetzel. 1997. Autumnal production by bacteria and autotrophs attached to *Typha latifolia* L. detritus *Journal of Freshwater Ecology* 12:253-267.
- Donar, C.M., **R.K. Neely** and E.F. Stoermer. 1996. Diatom succession in an urban reservoir system. *Journal of Paleolimnology* 15:237-243.
- Neely, R.K.** and R.G. Wetzel. 1995. Simultaneous use of <sup>14</sup>C and <sup>3</sup>H to determine autotrophic production and bacterial protein production in periphyton. *Microbial Ecology* 30:1-11.
- Neely, R.K.** 1995. Instructor's manual for R.L. Smith's *Ecology and Field Biology*. Harper/Collins Publishers, New York. 157 pp.
- Neely, R.K.** 1994. Evidence for positive interactions between epiphytic algae and heterotrophic decomposers during the decomposition of *Typha latifolia*. *Archiv für Hydrobiologie* 129:443-457.
- Hohmann, J. and **R. K. Neely**. 1993. Decomposition of *Sparganium eurycarpum* litter under controlled pH and nitrogen regimes. *Aquatic Botany* 47:17-33.

- Neely, R. K. and J. A. Wiler. 1993. The effect of sediment loading on germination from the seed bank of three Michigan wetlands. *Michigan Botanist* 32:199-207.
- Ropek, R. and Neely, R.K. 1993. Mercury levels in Michigan river otters, *Lutra canadensis*. *Journal of Freshwater Ecology* 8:141-147.
- Miller, J. E., J. F. Savino and R. K. Neely. 1992. Competition for food between crayfish (*Orconectes virilis*) and the slimy sculpin (*Cottus cognatus*). *Journal of Freshwater Ecology* 7:127-136.
- Ford, M. and R. K. Neely. 1991. Patterns of wetland plants germinating in forested wetland soils. In: Proceedings of The 17th Annual Conference on Wetlands Restoration and Creation (F.J. Webb, Editor). pages 71 - 85. Institute of Florida Studies, Tampa.
- Neely, R. K. and J. L. Baker. 1989. Prairie Wetlands and Agricultural Runoff. In: *Northern Prairie Wetlands*, A. G. van der Valk (editor). pp. 92-132. Iowa State University Press, Ames.
- Neely, R. K. 1986. A Laboratory Manual for General Ecology. Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company. 89 pp.
- Neely, R.K., J.L. Baker, B. Batt, M. Gilbert, T. Hupf, J. Lebaugh, J. Richardson and A. van der Valk. 1986. Evaluation of the Adamus document. In: *Northern Prairie Regional Wetland Functions*, A. G. van der Valk (editor). pp. 366-378. National Wetlands Technical Council.
- Neely, R. K. and C. B. Davis. 1985. Nitrogen and phosphorus fertilization of *Sparganium eurycarpum* and *Typha glauca* stands. I. Emergent plant production. *Aquatic Botany* 22:347-361.
- Neely, R. K. and C. B. Davis. 1985. Nitrogen and phosphorus fertilization of *Sparganium eurycarpum* and *Typha glauca* stands. II. Emergent plant decomposition. *Aquatic Botany* 22:363-375.

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**DISCIPLINARY PRESENTATIONS:** (46 total – Complete titles and venues available on request)

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**EXTERNALLY- FUNDED GRANTS:**

- 2011 \$464,780 - Development of an Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at Texas Woman's University Health Sciences – Dallas Center, National Institutes of Health – Child Health and Human Development – CFDA# 93.865 (with E. Trudell-Jackson)
- 2003 \$274,959 - Investigation of Interactions between Autotrophs and Heterotrophs (Fungi and Bacteria) in Periphyton Attached to the Surface of Emergent Plant Detritus. National Science Foundation, Division of Environmental Biology - Ecological Studies -NSF # DEB-0315686 (with S. Francoeur and K. Kuehn).
- 2001 (\$106,788) - Sedimentation and Plant Decay in Coastal Wetlands. Michigan Sea Grant College Program - Project #: R/CW-15 (with R. Sinsabaugh).
- 1999 (\$295,000) - An Urban Water Resources Research Consortium at Eastern Michigan University, Michigan Research Excellence Fund, Eastern Michigan University (with M. Kasenow, P. Liggitt and Y. Xie).
- 1996 (\$586,565) - Renovation of Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecology Research Facility. National Science Foundation ARI program. NSF Project #: 9602813. (Co-PI with five EMU biology faculty).
- 1995 (\$70,117) - Enhancement of Undergraduate Education in Aquatic Ecology, National Science Foundation ILI program. NSF-ILI Project #: 9551150.

- 1993 (\$7,300) - Turbidity and oxygen in Paint Creek, Ypsilanti, MI. Washtenaw County Soil Conservation Service.
- 1990 (\$192,680) - Enhancement of undergraduate education in scanning electron microscopy at Eastern Michigan University. National Science Foundation ILI program (Co-PI with G. Walker).
- 1987 (\$10,000) - Acquisition of a used scanning electron microscope. National Science Foundation (Co-PI with three EMU faculty).
- 1985 (\$19,526) - Microcomputers for use in a model program for teaching environmental biology to prospective pre-college teachers. National Science Foundation CSIP program.
- 1980 (\$18,000) - Freshwater prairie pothole marshes as nutrient sinks under nutrient enrichment conditions. Office of Water Resources Technology. O.W.R.T. Project #A-080-IA (with C.B. Davis).

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**INTERNAL GRANTS** (1985–2005: \$56,905 – titles/projects available on request).

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**UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT/FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES (>\$12.4M)**

- 2015 - \$10M – member of team to finalize a donation from Woodcock-Munoz Foundation to create the Woodcock Institute for the Advancement of Neurocognitive Research and Applied Practice
- 2013 - \$1M – donation from the Doswell Foundation trust to augment existing funding for endowed faculty chairs in Nursing at Texas Woman's University.
- 2010 – as the Associate Vice President for Research, instrumental in obtaining a \$1M donation to EMU from a private donor in support of student and faculty research.
- 2007/2008 & 2009/2010 – co-chair of EMU's Undergraduate Research Symposium Advancement Committee (>\$100K each year).
- 2007 - \$2,200,000 – initiated a successful effort to obtain funding to establish the Jean Nobel Parson's Center for the Study of Art and Science at EMU, funded from the Parsons' trust.
- 2002 - \$28,000 – Donation from the Detroit Edison Foundation to support infrastructure develops to improve education for K-16 students in collaboration with the EMU Biology Department.

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**SERVICE**

*To Texas Woman's University*

- Member, TWU Cabinet, current
- Chair, TWU Academic Council, current
- Member, TWU Strategic Retention Council, current
- Chair, Task Force for Academic Component Administrator Evaluation & Compensation, current
- Co-Chair, TWU Space Committee, current
- Member, TWU Strategic Planning Design Team, current
- Chair, Task Force on Faculty Salary Equity, 2014
- Chair, TWU Steering Committee for Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaffirmation of accreditation, 2011–2013

*To Eastern Michigan University (2010 – 2004)*

- Chairperson, Educational Environment and Facilities Committee, 2007–2011

Member, IT Steering Committee, 2008–2011  
Member, University Budget Council, 2009–2011  
Member, Strategic Planning Committee, 2004–2005  
Divisional Coordinator and Supervisor, Science Complex and Pray Harrold Classroom Building  
Construction/renovation (two capital projects of \$90M and \$42M), 2008–2011  
Member, Search Committee, Executive Director, Financial Planning & Budget, 2010  
Co-chair, Advancement Committee for the Undergraduate Research Symposium, 2008-2010  
Administrative Representative, EMU Presidential Search, 2007-2008  
Chair, EMU Academic Affairs Administrative Realignment Taskforce, 2005-2006  
Member, EMU Visioning Task Force, 2005-2006  
Member, EMU Facilities Planning Committee, 2005-2010  
Chair, Academic Affairs Facilities Committee, 2003–2005  
Member, Advancement Committee – EMU Undergraduate Symposium, 2003–2005  
Member, EMU Academic Affairs Technology Advisory Committee, 2003-2005  
Member, EMU Continuous Improvement Committee, 2002–2005

*To External Constituencies*

Member – United Way of Denton County, Board of Directors, 2015 – present  
Member, American Association of State Colleges and University, Publication Advisory  
Committee, 2012–present  
Member – Board of Directors, Dallas Chamber of Commerce, 2011-present  
Member, Texas General Academic Formula Advisory Committee, Texas Coordinating Board of  
Higher Education, 2011– 2014  
Board Member - Ypsilanti Depot Town Development Authority, 2007–2009.  
Member – Ypsilanti Forum Club (honorary organization promoting university-community  
relations), 2008–2010.  
Commissioner – Water Conservation Advisory Commission, Ypsilanti Township, MI, 2003–  
2006.  
Board Member - Huron River Watershed Council, Washtenaw County, MI, 1995–2005.  
Sponsor, Summer middle-school research program in aquatic ecology – interface with various  
Michigan Intermediate School Districts, 1995–1998.  
Editor - Northeast Region Newsletter of the Society of Wetland Scientists, 1986-1991  
Workshop Chairman, Symposium on Northern Prairie Wetlands, Water Quality Panel, Northern  
Prairie Research Center, Jamestown, ND, 1985  
NSF Review Panels – NSF ILI and CSIP programs, 1986 & 1988  
Reviewer: *Archiv für Hydrobiologie, Canadian Journal of Botany, Ecohydrology &  
Hydrobiology, Ecology, Ecological Engineering, Great Plains Research, Journal of the  
Torrey Botanical Club, Limnology and Oceanography, Michigan Botanist, Oecologia,  
Vegetatio, Wetland Ecology and Management, Wetlands.*