



What They Are Saying – Heather Lyke

Monday, March 20, 2017

Petersen Events Center • Pittsburgh, Pa.



“Heather Lyke's track record exemplifies her dedication to student-athletes. She has a passion for success in the classroom, on the playing field and in life after graduation. She is the perfect person to lead our Department of Athletics into a new era of excellence, and I am thrilled to welcome her and her family to Pitt.”

- **Patrick Gallagher, Chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh**

“There was incredibly high interest in the position from seated athletic directors and top deputies. But as we proceeded, Heather's breadth of experience, her achievements at EMU and her fit to the values of the University and our region made the committee's recommendation an easy choice.”

- **Dr. Randy Juhl, Interim University of Pittsburgh Athletic Director & Committee Chair**

“I was fortunate to be on the search committee and I had a chance to see firsthand how dynamic Heather is. She has a ton of passion and energy that I really like. I believe Heather has the ability to come in and lead this athletic department to new levels of excellence. She is a ‘coach’s AD’ who cares a great deal about student-athletes. This is a very exciting day for the University of Pittsburgh.”

- **Pat Narduzzi, Pitt Football Head Coach**

“Heather Lyke has a wealth of experience in college athletics as a student-athlete, administrator and AD. Her résumé speaks volumes. We are excited about the future of the Pitt Athletic Department under her guidance.”

- **Kevin Stallings, Pitt Men’s Basketball Head Coach**

“Today is an exciting day for the University of Pittsburgh. Heather Lyke has a great reputation built around creating terrific environments for student-athletes and staff to grow and develop. We look forward to continuing our goal of building a winning culture here under her leadership.”

- **Suzie McConnell-Serio, Pitt Women’s Basketball Head Coach**

“Chancellor Gallagher and the search committee did a terrific job targeting candidates prepared to lead the University of Pittsburgh. Heather Lyke's commitment to the student-athlete has been evident throughout her career, making her an ideal fit here at Pitt. We are excited about the direction of our department and look forward to continued growth.”

- **Dan Fisher, Pitt Women’s Volleyball Head Coach**

“I am so excited to have Heather be our new leader. She and I go back a long way to our days at Ohio State and always had a strong rapport when she was our Director of Compliance. Heather was always a good manager and strong leader in that area and has done a great job at Eastern Michigan as their AD. She has tremendous integrity, passion, and does things with conviction. She will do unprecedented things here at Pitt.”

- **Greg Miller, Pitt Women’s Soccer Head Coach**

“Today is a great day for the University of Pittsburgh, Pitt Athletics and our swimming & diving program. Heather Lyke has cultivated an atmosphere of success athletically and academically everywhere that she has been. Knowing that Heather is an administrator who has seen Ohio State and Eastern Michigan win team and individual swimming & diving conference championships in recent years, I’m very excited to work with her to achieve the goal of reaching similar heights with our program at Pitt in the near future.”

- **John Hargis, Pitt Swimming & Diving Head Coach**

“Being fortunate enough to be on the search committee for the new athletic director and having the opportunity to see some outstanding candidates up close gave me great optimism with the selection of Heather Lyke. Throughout the very thorough selection process, Heather’s name consistently rose to the top. I absolutely believe that we got it right with our new AD. Her vision, passion and stated commitment to Pitt is something that the entire athletic department is looking for. The foundation has been laid and I believe that she will deliver what this university is looking for.”

- Alonzo Webb, Pitt Track & Field Head Coach

"Heather Lyke's experience and track record as a student-athlete and administrator speak for themselves. She is a proven leader committed to enhancing the student-athlete experience and providing the resources to develop a winning culture. I look forward to watching the department blossom under her guidance."

- Holly Aprile, Pitt Softball Head Coach

“I couldn't be more excited about having Athletic Director Heather Lyke leading the University of Pittsburgh athletic department! First impressions matter and I couldn't have had a better one. The energy, excitement, knowledge and sense of pride that she showed are unique and inspire me for our new journey here at Pitt.”

- Alex Santos – Pitt Women's Tennis Head Coach

“I very much look forward to working with Heather. I believe she brings great leadership, a strong desire to be the best and a commitment to excellence. This is an exciting time for Pitt and I feel strongly that Chancellor Gallagher, Dr. Juhl and the committee found the right person to guide us into the future.”

- Joe Jordano – Pitt Baseball Head Coach

“I am excited to work with a strong, enthusiastic female who experienced the top levels of athletics, as well as demonstrated results at raising the level of her last program. She is energetic, competitive and personable. I like her philosophy and what she had to say in the head coaches' meeting. I look forward to what she will bring to the table.”

- Debbie Yohman – Pitt Gymnastics Head Coach

“The leadership growth Heather has demonstrated is representative of her commitment to be the best she can be for the people she serves. Her impact on administrators, coaches and student-athletes continues to be impressive. She will be outstanding at the University of Pittsburgh, working for an outstanding Chancellor.”

- Gene Smith, Vice President & Athletic Director of the Ohio State University

“During her short time at Eastern Michigan, she made tremendous strides with the upward direction of the athletic department. Because of what she's been able to accomplish as a result of her remarkable leadership skills, her ability galvanized the University, the alumni base and the community. I'm certainly sad to see her leave my alma mater. At the same time, I'm excited to see Pitt getting such a dynamic leader.”

- Charlie Batch, Former Pittsburgh Steelers and Eastern Michigan Quarterback