Provost Terry Ballman

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As WKU prepares to kick off the fall semester a new Provost is at the helm.

Amy Bingham introduces us to the university’s top academic administrator in this week’s View from the Hill.

“We’re here to serve students and have an impact on their lives.”

Dr. Terry Ballman is already embracing her new role as WKU’s provost.

 “My philosophy about leadership is that the best ideas emerge from a team of people.”

The California native plans to draw on her experience as a professor to help shape WKU’s Academic future.

 “There are some times when I may convene a meeting or have some type of presentation and I feel like I’m in teaching mode.”

Ballman and her husband , who have two grown sons, came here from California State University at San Bernardino.

She was contacted about the Provost opening at WKU and was thrilled to come for an interview.

 “They asked some tough questions I should tell you, sometimes three or four part questions, good questions and I thought we had good conversation.”

A meeting with President Caboni made her want the job even more.

 “How could you not be energized and enthusiastic after speaking with him about WKU.”

As for the university’s recent budget woes, Ballman is confident WKU can push forward.

 “WKU is not alone. Many universities have been faced with fiscal challenges. The leadership of President Caboni and the good people here give me hope that this could really help us be even stronger.”

She’s also excited about the strategic plan being unveiled.

 “this will end up being the vision and mission of the university. “

And Dr. Ballman is just happy to be here to help make it all happen.

 “I still am very excited. I feel very fortunate to be here.”

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

Dr. Ballman is a first generation college student who got her bachelors and masters degrees from California State University at Long Beach and her PhD from the University of Texas in Austin.

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