Ronald L. Hendrick is now the Dean of the Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR). Dean Hendrick is a Spartan alumnus and is now at home with at his alma mater continuing to do great things for our sister institution, Michigan State University. Back in 2009, we were fortunate to bring Dr. Hendrick here to Ohio State as the Director of the School of Environment and Natural Resources.

A native of Michigan, he earned his bachelor’s degree with Honors in Forestry in 1986 and his doctorate in Forest Ecology in 1992, both from Michigan State University. He subsequently completed a one-year National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellowship with the Institute of Arctic Biology at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks from 1992-1993. His research has focused on forest ecosystem productivity and element cycling, especially below ground, and various aspects of ecosystem restoration and reclamation. His teaching experience includes leading a number of study abroad programs in the South Pacific, including New Zealand, Australia, Fiji and Antarctica. Dean Hendrick started his career at the University of Georgia where he served as a professor of forest ecology and associate Dean for academic affairs in the University of Georgia’s D.B. Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. He also served as a graduate program coordinator for UGA’s School of Forestry and was a founding co-director of the Consortium of Pine Productivity Studies.

Dr. Hendrick became Associate Dean and Director of the School of Environment and Natural Resources at Ohio State University on Nov. 1, 2009. Director Hendrick came at an important turning point for the School of Environment and Natural Resources. Under his leadership, he garnered success in bringing the School to the forefront of both the College and the University. The strength and reach of our academic and research programs significantly surged forward during his tenure as SENR Director. He was a driving force for change as we moved forward in the conversion from quarters to semesters at Ohio State and provided great leadership from his experience doing a similar conversion at the University of Georgia. The SENR curriculum evolved and the new Environment, Economy, Development and Sustainability (EEDS) major was also added to the curriculum. Dr. Hendrick stepped down as Director in 2013, when he was asked by the VP and Dean of CFAES to become the College’s Senior Associate Dean on June 1st of that year. In this role, Dr. Hendrick led the creation of a comprehensive master plan for college facilities that totaled $350 million and had encompassed more than 300 physical structures, two campuses and nearly a dozen outlying research and outreach stations. He also led successful fundraising efforts to raise and mobilize more than $20 million in capital funds to improve facilities, and an $80 million multi-stakeholder effort to re-envision the college’s animal populations. Thanks to the work of Dr. Hendrick and Dean McPheron, the infrastructure of buildings like Kottman Hall and other facilities were greatly enhanced.

As stated by CFAES Dean Bruce McPheron when he promoted Director Hendrick to CFAES Senior Associate Dean, “The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences is one of the most complex operations within Ohio State, and Ron Hendrick brings proven skills in strategic and operational leadership to help us achieve our potential.” “Our focus on student success -- both in resident instruction and in outreach education through OSU Extension -- and our internationally recognized research portfolio will benefit from Ron’s new role. He will ensure that we maximize the impact of our people, our infrastructure and our financial resources in achieving our mission,” McPheron said. When CFAES Dean Bruce McPheron was promoted to the post of Provost for The Ohio State University, Dr. Hendrick then served as interim Vice President for agricultural administration and interim Dean for the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Science at The Ohio State University until his departure to Michigan State University as their new Dean of the MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR).

Dean Ron Hendrick, thank you for your years of service to our School, our College and our University.