Marquette University named Andrea Schneider the first director of its new Institute for Women's Leadership.

Schneider joined Marquette's faculty in 1996 and is a professor at the university's law school. She teaches alternative dispute resolution, as well as negotiation, ethics and international conflict resolution, according to a news release.

Schneider was selected to lead an institute focused on advancing women's leadership through research, programming and collaborative engagement. Marquette president Michael Lovell announced the creation of the institute during his annual presidential address in January.

Lovell said then that the Institute for Women's Leadership would focus on gender equality in education and the workplace.

"I am personally committed to raising the profile of female leaders on campus and ensuring we have the right support systems and leadership development opportunities available for emerging women leaders," Lovell said in the news release this week. "Now we have an institution-wide commitment in the new Institute for Women's Leadership."

The Thomas J. Rolfs Family Foundation provided a $5 million donation to fund the institute.

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