Christina Brooks Whitman, '74, who served nearly five years as associate dean for academic affairs for the Law School, has been named the Francis A. Allen Collegiate Professor of Law.

The professorship carries special meaning for Whitman, who was a student and later joined the Law School faculty while Allen was a leading professor and mentor. Allen also served the Law School as dean.

Whitman also is a professor of women's studies in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. She was recommended for the Allen Professorship by Law School Dean Jeffrey S. Lehman, '81, and College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Dean Shirley Neuman.

Whitman earned her B.A. and M.A. at the University of Michigan before receiving her J.D. magna cum laude in 1974. After graduation, she clerked for Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr. on the U.S. Supreme Court. She joined the Law School faculty in 1976 as one of the first women in its teaching ranks. She was named a Professor of Women's Studies in 2000.

Whitman's scholarship has focused on constitutional torts and evaluating the successes and values that underly the legal liabilities imposed on officials acting within their official responsibility.