

District Press Releases - 2007

12/14/07

Pleasanton Resident Elected Board President

(Pleasanton, CA) – Mr. Carlo Vecchiarelli has been named President of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees. He was unanimously elected to fill the post by his fellow board members.

Elected to the Board in 2004, Mr. Vecchiarelli represents district constituents in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol.

“I am honored to be elected to the position of Board president,” said Mr. Vecchiarelli. “I fully believe in the mission of community colleges and I know that we have two of the best in our district. Our faculty and staff go above and beyond to serve more than 22,000 students who come to us each year. Our students excel in the classroom and in extra-curricular activities. It is our job, as Trustees, to do everything we can to provide them the opportunities they deserve to succeed. We have a busy year ahead of us with state and federal funding issues and implementing our facilities bond. It’s an exciting time in our district and I look forward to working with my fellow board members as we lead this district on to even bigger and better accomplishments.”

Prior to his election to the Board, he served the District for 40 years as a faculty member, Director of Admissions, and Dean of the Math, Computer Science and Engineering division at Chabot College in Hayward.

He is a past director of the California Waterfowl Association and past treasurer of the Livermore/Pleasanton Umpires Association. He has also served on the Board of Regents for Bishop O’Dowd High School. In 2004, he was inducted into the Chabot College Sports Hall of Fame for meritorious service to student athletes.

Mr. Vecchiarelli earned his Master’s degree in biological sciences at the University of California, Berkeley.

The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District includes Chabot College in Hayward and Las Positas College in Livermore. The district offers higher education opportunities to the residents of Union City, Hayward, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Castro Valley, Pleasanton, Dublin, Sunol and Livermore.

12/12/07

Board Names New Chabot College President



(Hayward, CA) - At its meeting last night the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees voted unanimously to hire Dr. Celia Barberena as President of Chabot College, in Hayward, CA.

Dr. Barberena becomes the first female president of the 46-year-old community college in Hayward. For the past 11 years she has served as the Vice President for Student Services at Hartnell College in Salinas where she was responsible for all student services including admissions and financial aid. She was also responsible for facility development, helping to implement the facilities plan put into effect by the passage of a general obligation bond in 2001. “Dr. Barberena has a wealth of experience in the California Community College system. She is passionate about our mission and the students we serve. Her stellar career has led her to Chabot where she will bring strong leadership skills and a fresh perspective to all that we do. I truly believe she will become a shining star in our district and among her colleagues on a state and national level,” said Dr. Joel Kinnamon, District Chancellor.

While at Hartnell College, Dr. Barberena developed several multi-million dollar grants in partnership with area schools to create a “college going culture” at an early age and improve the academic preparation of under-represented students.

She also led a team in the creation of Hartnell’s non-credit high school equivalency program and provided leadership and advocacy on the expansion of bilingual instruction and services to reach a greater number of students in the district. She also chaired a group which established a Child Development Center at a remote campus site.

She has been active in her community, developing and strengthening college partnerships with high schools, governmental agencies and organizations, social service organizations and business and industry.

Prior to her service at Hartnell, she spent five years at Modesto Junior College where she served as the Dean of Special Programs, serving more than 2,000 students enrolled in basic skills, vocational and transfer programs. She also served as an adjunct faculty member teaching Spanish, and lecturing on social and economic conditions in Latin America.

Dr. Barberena received both her Ph.D. in Educational Administration and Supervision, and her Master of Arts degree in Spanish Literature, from Bowling Green State University, and her Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Sociology from Findlay College in Ohio.

Dr. Barberena is expected to begin her tenure at Chabot College on January 14, 2008 pending the final settlement of her employment contract.

Board Names Las Positas College President



(Livermore, CA) - The Board of Trustees of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District has voted unanimously to name Dr. DeRionne Pollard as the President of Las Positas College in Livermore, CA.

Dr. Pollard becomes the first African-American President of Las Positas College. She currently serves as the Vice President of Educational Affairs at the College of Lake County in Grayslake, Illinois. She has also served that college as Assistant Vice President, Educational Affairs, Faculty Coordinator for the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Acting Division Dean for Communication Arts, Humanities and Fine Arts, and as an Assistant Professor of English.

“Dr. Pollard has distinguished herself among her peers through her dedication to students and the mission of community colleges. She has a breadth of experience ranging from academic affairs to collective bargaining, including serving as a faculty member,” said Dr. Joel Kinnamon, District Chancellor. “Dr. Pollard is one of the most enthusiastic and savvy administrators I have ever met and I believe she will use her experience and enthusiasm as she leads Las Positas College.”

While at the College of Lake County, Dr. Pollard served as the chief academic officer of the College. She served as a co-leader of the College’s accreditation action team on institutional governance, and negotiated the first adjunct and full-time faculty bargaining agreements in the shortest period of time in the College’s history. She also developed and implemented a plan to assess student learning outcomes and provided oversight of construction and renovation projects for several College programs and services.

She has been active in her community, developing and strengthening college partnerships with high schools, governmental agencies and organizations, social service organizations and business and industry.

Dr. Pollard received her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies in Higher Education from Loyola University in Chicago, and both her Master of Arts and Bachelor of Arts degrees in English from Iowa State University.

Dr. Pollard is expected to begin as President of Las Positas College on February 25, 2008 pending final settlement of her employment contract.

[Back to top](#)

11/30/07

District Announces Chabot College Presidential Finalists

(Pleasanton, CA) - The Chancellor of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, on behalf of the Chabot College Presidential Search Committee, has announced the four finalists for President of Chabot College in Hayward.

These four individuals will appear at the Presidential Candidate Forums on December 5th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. in Room 600 and December 6th from 1:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. in Building 1900, Room 1906 on the Chabot College campus at 25555 Hesperian Boulevard in Hayward.

Wednesday, December 5th in Room 600

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Dr. Eric Gravenberg

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m., Dr. Elaine Leeder

Thursday, December 6th in Building 1900, Room 1906

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., Dr. Celia Barberena

2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m., Dr. Edwin Deas

The finalists are listed in alphabetical order:

Dr. Celia Barberena

Dr. Barberena currently serves as the Vice President for Student Services at Hartnell College in Salinas. Prior to this position she served as the Dean of Special Programs at Modesto Junior College. She has also taught Spanish at Sacramento City College and Critical Thinking and Study Skills at Bowling Green State University.

Dr. Barberena earned both her Ph.D. in Educational Administration and Supervision and her Master of Arts degree in Spanish Literature from Bowling Green State University, and her Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and Sociology from Findlay College in Ohio.

Dr. Edwin Deas

Dr. Deas currently serves as Vice President Administration and Bursar at Malaspina University-College in Nanaimo British Columbia, Canada. He previously served Malaspina as the Director/Associate Dean of Finance. He has also served as an Assistant Management Accountant for the Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service and the Lothian Health Board, both in the United Kingdom.

Dr. Deas earned his Ed.D. from the University of San Diego and his Master of Arts degree in Education from San Diego State University.

Dr. Eric Gravenberg

Dr. Gravenberg currently serves as the Vice President, Undergraduate Education and Student Academic Services at Alliant International University where he previously served as Vice President, Marketing and Enrollment Management. He has also served as Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at CSU

Sacramento, and as Vice President, National Center for Enrollment Management for USA Group/Noel-Levitz.

Dr. Gravenberg earned his Ph.D. in Educational Administration from Columbus University in New Orleans, and both his Master of Arts in Public Administration and his Bachelor of Arts in Black Studies from CSU Chico.

Dr. Elaine Leeder

Dr. Leeder currently serves as the Dean of the School of Social Sciences and a Professor of Sociology at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, California. She has also served as a Professor of Sociology and Social Work at Ithaca College in Ithaca, New York where she also served as Chair of her department and as the faculty trustee to the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Leeder earned her Ph.D. from Cornell University, her Masters in Social Work from Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University in New York, a Masters in Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley and her Bachelor of Arts degree from Northeastern University in Massachusetts.

10/3107

District Announces Las Positas College Presidential Finalists

(Pleasanton, CA) - The Chancellor of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, on behalf of the Las Positas College Presidential Search Committee has announced the four finalists for President of Las Positas College in Livermore. These four individuals will appear at the Presidential Candidate Forums on November 8th from 2:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. and November 9th from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Building 2400, Room 2401 on the Las Positas College campus at 3033 Collier Canyon Road in Livermore.

Thursday, November 8th

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.: Dr. Carlos Campo

3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.: Dr. Mark Zacovic

Friday, November 9th

9 a.m. – 10 a.m.: Dr. DeRionne Pollard

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.: Dr. Lori Gaskin

The finalists are listed in alphabetical order:

Dr. Carlos Campo

Dr. Campo currently serves as the interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, Chief Academic Officer and Provost at the College of Southern Nevada. He previously served that college as Dean of Arts and Letters and Director of Academic Partnerships. He began his career at the College of Southern Nevada as an English Professor. He has also taught English at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and chaired the theater department at Dove College.

Dr. Campo received his Ph.D. in English with a drama emphasis, his Master of Arts in English, and his Bachelor of Arts in Theater, all from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Dr. Lori Gaskin

Dr. Gaskin currently serves as the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Student Services at Lake Tahoe Community College. Prior to this position she served as the College's Dean of Instruction. She began her community college career as an adjunct faculty member and Division Chair at Barstow College.

Dr. Gaskin holds a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of Nevada, Reno. She earned both her Master of Arts and Bachelor of Arts in Geography from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Dr. DeRionne Pollard

Dr. Pollard currently serves as the Vice President of Educational Affairs at the College of Lake County in Illinois. She came to the College as an English professor and has served as Faculty Coordinator of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning; Acting Dean of the Communication Arts, Humanities, and Fine Arts Division; and Assistant Vice President for Educational Affairs.

Dr. Pollard earned her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies in Higher Education from Loyola University in Chicago, and both her Master of Arts and Bachelor of Arts in English from Iowa State University.

Dr. Mark Zacovic

Dr. Zacovic currently serves as the interim Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services for the Contra Costa Community College District. He has previously served as Superintendent/President of Mt. San Jacinto College; Vice Chancellor for the Rancho Santiago Community College District; Vice President of Business Services at Lake Tahoe Community College; and Director of Administrative Services at Santa Barbara City College where he also served as an adjunct faculty member in addition to his administrative duties.

Dr. Zacovic earned his Ph.D. from the University of Nevada, Reno in Educational Leadership with an emphasis in higher education, his Master of Business

Administration in Administrative Management from Whittier College, and his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

5/16/07

Board of Trustees Selects New Chancellor



Dr. Joel Kinnamon

(Pleasanton, CA) - The Board of Trustees of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District has named Dr. Joel L. Kinnamon to the position of chancellor. This announcement follows a six month national search in which Dr. Kinnamon was one of three finalists.

Dr. Kinnamon, 45, has been the district's vice chancellor of educational services and planning for the past five years. As chancellor he will fill the top vacancy in the district which operates Chabot College in Hayward and Las Positas College in Livermore. The two colleges together serve more than 21,000 students in the East Bay Area. He will become the fourth chancellor to lead the district and the youngest chancellor in the California Community College system.

“Dr. Kinnamon has demonstrated excellent leadership skills through all he has accomplished in our District. Throughout his tenure in the district he has developed a keen sense of the colleges and the directions in which they need to move. The Board feels strongly that he will continue to build on the district's reputation as a leader in higher education,” said Dr. Arnulfo Cedillo, board president.

Prior to serving as vice chancellor, Dr. Kinnamon served as provost (CEO) of the Southeast Campus of Tulsa Community College.

Dr. Kinnamon received his Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration from Nova Southeastern University; his Master of Business Administration from Oklahoma City University and his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Economics, Business/Marketing Concentration, from Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Kinnamon replaces Dr. Susan Cota who is retiring after six years as chancellor

and more than 30 years in higher education.
Dr. Kinnamon is expected to begin his position on July 1.

[Back to top](#)

5/11/07

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Receives Grant to Create New Workplace Learning Resource Center *Center will support Bay Area Employers*

(Pleasanton, CA) - The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District has received a grant from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to implement a new Workplace Learning Resource Center. The District will receive \$205,000 annually for five years to support Bay Area employers by providing occupational needs assessments and customized skills training.

Focusing on employees and the workplace, training will be available on many subjects including workplace English and basic literacy, teambuilding, sexual harassment, conflict resolution and supervisory training.

"Many of our clients come to us seeking these types of training programs," said Julia Dozier, director of contract education and economic development for the District.

"We are thrilled to be recognized by our state chancellor's office, but we're even more excited to have the opportunity to work in partnership with business and industry to help assist their employees and contribute to a strong, healthy workforce in the Bay Area."

The Center will serve a portion of the Bay Area comprised of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, Solano and Sonoma Counties. Additionally, the project will have a strong emphasis on technical assistance for community college economic development and contract education personnel. The grant is part of a statewide initiative to build long-term, sustained relationships between community colleges, labor and industry.

The District was awarded this competitive grant based on its solid reputation as a regional leader. With a decade of experience delivering training services to public and private organizations throughout the Bay Area, the District's Economic Development and Contract Education Department will manage the Center. The Department is an integral part of the District's economic and workforce development efforts emerging from its two colleges, Chabot College in Hayward and Las Positas College in Livermore.

The project also features partnerships with Napa Valley and Solano Colleges, the Bay Area Painting and Decorating Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee, the East Bay

Economic Development Alliance, the Tri-Valley One-Stop Career Center, the Alameda County Workforce Investment Board, the Workforce Development Board of Contra Costa County, the City of Dublin and several manufacturing employers. Center grants are a key component of the California Community Colleges' Economic and Workforce Development Program. The Economic and Workforce Development Program was established in 1991 and in 1996 economic development became one of the primary missions of the California Community Colleges. The purpose of the Program is to advance the state's economic growth and global competitiveness through education, training, and services that contribute to continuous workforce improvement, technology deployment and business development consistent with the state's regional economies.

For further information about the Center or to schedule customized training, please contact Julia Dozier at 925-485-5234 or at www.tdsolutions.org

4/20/07

District Announces Chancellor Finalists

(Pleasanton, CA) - The Board of Trustees of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District has announced the four finalists for the position of District Chancellor.

These four individuals will appear at the Chancellor Candidate Forums on May 8th from 12 – 4 p.m. at Chabot College and on May 9th from 12 – 4 p.m. at Las Positas College.

Tuesday, May 8th, Chabot College, Little Theater

12 p.m. – Dr. Jesus “Jess” Carreon

1 p.m. – Dr. Raul Rodriguez

2 p.m. – Dr. Frances White

3 p.m. – Dr. Joel Kinnamon

Wednesday, May 9th, Las Positas College, Room 801

12 p.m. – Dr. Jesus “Jess” Carreon

1 p.m. – Dr. Raul Rodriguez

2 p.m. – Dr. Frances White

3 p.m. – Dr. Joel Kinnamon

The finalists are listed in alphabetical order:

Dr. Jesus “Jess” Carreon

Dr. Carreon most recently served as the interim President of San Jose City College and is currently on assignment in the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District. He has previously served as Chancellor of the Dallas County Community College District, President of Portland Community College, Superintendent/President of the Rio Hondo Community College District in Whittier, CA, President of Ventura College, Assistant/Superintendent/Vice President of Instruction at El Camino College in Torrance, CA, and in two assistant dean positions at San Bernardino Valley College.

Dr. Carreon received his Ed.D. in Legal Issues in Higher Education from the University of Southern California; his Master of Science in Management from the University of California, Irvine; his Bachelor of Arts in History from San Diego State University and his Associate in Arts in History from Grossmont College.

Dr. Joel Kinnamon

Dr. Kinnamon currently serves as the Vice Chancellor, Educational Services and Planning for the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District. During his tenure he also served as interim Chancellor from March to July, 2005. He has previously served as Provost (CEO) of the Southeast Campus of Tulsa Community College, Academic Dean, Department Chair for Business & Chair of Budget, Professor of Management, Director for Budget Systems and Management Services, and Administrative Services Project Manager, at Oklahoma City Community College. Dr. Kinnamon received his Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration from Nova Southeastern University; his Master of Business Administration from Oklahoma City University and his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Economics, Business/Marketing Concentration, from Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Raul Rodriguez

Dr. Rodriguez currently serves as the Superintendent/President of San Joaquin Delta College, San Joaquin Delta Community College District. He has previously served as President of Los Medanos College in the Contra Costa Community College District, interim President and Vice President of Instruction at San Jose City College, Dean of Instruction, Acting Director of Student Development, Director of Institutional Research and Psychology Instructor at Cabrillo College, and as a Psychology Instructor at Cabrillo College and the University of California, Santa Cruz. Dr. Rodriguez received his Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of California, Santa Cruz, his Master of Arts in School and Applied Psychology from Fairfield University, and his Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies from Bowling Green State University. He also holds a Certificate from the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard University.

Dr. Frances White

Dr. White currently serves as the Superintendent/President of College of Marin, Marin Community College District. She has previously served as President of Skyline College in the San Mateo Community College District, Executive Vice Chancellor at the City College of San Francisco, Interim Chancellor of the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District, Dean of Social Sciences/Physical Education at Evergreen Valley College and Assistant Dean of Communications, Arts and Physical Education at Laney College in the Peralta Community College District. She has also held several community college faculty positions in Psychology, Basic English, ESL, Basic Math.

Dr. White received her Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of California, Berkeley; her Master of Science in Counseling, Psychology and her Bachelor of Science in Psychology from California State University, Hayward; and her Associate in Arts in General Education from Merritt College.

4/17/07

Dr. Robert Carlson, Chabot College President/Virginia Tech Alum Shares Feelings about Yesterday's Tragic Incident

“As an alum of Virginia Tech, I am deeply saddened by the tragedy that occurred yesterday. Blacksburg is a small, warm community in which nearly a fourth of its residents are students or staff of the University. The community gives the University tremendous support which is felt by every student, staff and faculty member. My time spent at the University and in Blacksburg will always remain a very special memory. I credit the University for much of my success. In an indirect way, my time at Virginia Tech has also touched Chabot College as I applied the knowledge and experience gained there in my current position as President.

It is scary that a senseless incident such as this can happen any time, any where. It is difficult to make sense of such a brutal act of violence, especially when it happens in such a peaceful place like Blacksburg or at an institution like Virginia Tech which is dedicated to teaching, learning, and understanding the world around us. Many questions will go unanswered and wounds, both physical and emotional, will be raw for many years to come. Based on my experience at Virginia Tech, I know that the community, alumni, and the University will come together in mutual support and faith and thereby gain the strength to move forward. Yet there will always remain a place in our hearts for those who were lost and the scars left behind.

On behalf of Chabot College, and the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, I extend our condolences and support to all involved in this unimaginable tragedy.”

Dr. Robert Carlson
President, Chabot College
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 1976