



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 16, 2012

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MJC Presidential Finalists Selected

MODESTO, CA – The Modesto Junior College (MJC) Presidential Search Committee has selected four finalists to become the next MJC President.

The finalists (with most recent position held) are listed below:

- **Lisa A. Conyers, PhD**
(Vice President, Academic Affairs, Moreno Valley College – Moreno Valley, CA)
- **Jill Stearns, PhD (*Candidate*)**
(Vice President, Education Services, West Hills College Coalinga – Coalinga, CA)
- **May Kuangchi Chen, PhD**
(Vice President, Student Services, Berkeley City College – Berkeley, CA)
- **Linda Converse Berry, EdD**
(Vice-President of Instruction, Berkeley City College – Berkeley, CA)

The search committee was co-chaired by Rhonda Green, Auxiliary Services Manager (YCCD Leadership Team Advisory Council President) and Adrienne Peek, Professor of Literature and Language Arts (MJC Academic Senate President). Mr. Stan Arterberry with Ralph, Andersen and Associates conducted the search. Initial interviews were completed April 16, 2012, and the names of the four finalists have been forwarded to the YCCD Board of Trustees.

Open forums for the finalists are scheduled for April 17th and 18th, 2012 at the Yosemite Community College District Board Room, 2201 Blue Gum Ave., Modesto, CA. The forums for both days will be held at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Each finalist will be given an opportunity to discuss their preparation for the

position, their education and leadership philosophy, concluding with a time to respond to questions from the forum attendees. The forums will be open to the public.

Profiles:

Lisa A. Conyers, PhD

(Forum date/time: April 17th, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.)

Education:

- Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (Philosophy), University of California, Riverside – Riverside, CA (1989)
- M.A. in Spanish, New York University – New York, NY (1978)
- B.S. in Spanish, University of California, Riverside – Riverside, CA (1975)
- A.A. in Modern Languages, Mt. San Antonio College – Walnut, CA (1973)

Professional Experience:

- Chief Instructional Officer, Moreno Valley College – Moreno Valley, CA (1997-present)
- Vice President of Academic Affairs, Moreno Valley College – Moreno Valley, CA (2006-present)
- Dean of Instruction, Moreno Valley Campus – Moreno Valley, CA (1997-2006)

Jill Stearns, PhD (*Candidate*)

(Forum date/time: April 17th, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.)

Education:

- Ph.D in Community College Leadership, Walden University – (2013 *candidate*)
- M.S. in Instructional Technology, National University – San Diego, CA (2002)
- B.S. in Business Administration, California Polytechnic State University – San Luis Obispo, CA (1990)

Professional Experience:

- Vice President, Educational Services, West Hills College, Coalinga – Coalinga, CA (2006-present)
- Interim Associate Dean of Student Learning, West Hills Community College District – Coalinga, CA (2005-2006)
- District Director of Financial Aid, West Hills Community College District – Coalinga, CA (2004-2005)
- President and CEO, J. Stearns Inc. (DBA Coyote Chevron) – Avenal, CA (1999-2003)
- General Manager, Pecks – Avenal, CA (1987-1997)

May Kuangchi Chen, PhD

(Forum date/time: April 18th, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.)

Education:

- Ph.D. in Education, Iowa State University – Ames, IA (1982)
- M.S. in Counseling Psychology, Iowa State University – Ames, IA (1979)
- B.S. in Psychology, Chung-Yuan University – Chung Li, Taiwan (1975)

Professional Experience:

- Vice President, Student Services, Berkeley City College – Berkeley, CA (2009 – present)
- Vice President, Student Services, Cabrillo College – Santa Cruz, CA (2007 – 2009)
- Assistant Vice Chancellor, Strategic Enrollment, The Community College of Baltimore County – Rosedale, MD (2001-2007)
- Dean, Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management and Adjunct Faculty, Psychology, Los Angeles Trade-Technical College – Los Angeles, CA (1998-2001)
- Director, Research and Planning, Los Angeles Community College District – Los Angeles, CA (1992-1998)

Linda Converse Berry, EdD

(Forum date/time: April 18th, 1:00 -2:00 p.m.)

Education:

- Ed.D. in Education, Oregon State University – Corvallis, OR (2007)
- M.A. in English, Utah State University – Logan, UT (1974)
- B.A. in English & Philosophy, Utah State University – Logan, UT (1971)

Professional Experience:

- Vice President of Instruction, Berkeley City College – Berkeley, CA (Jan 2012-present)
- Vice President of Instruction, Merritt College – Oakland, CA (2000-2011)
- Division Dean, College of Alameda – Alameda, CA (1997-2000)
- Title III Project Director, College of Alameda – Alameda, CA (1994-1997)

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