

Columbia College Presidential Search – Forum Schedule

Forums will be held via ZOOM – Thursday, December 9, 2021 and Friday, December 10, 2021

The following provides candidate Information, schedule and Zoom link to each Forum:

Schedule for Thursday, December 9, 2021:



Brian Sanders, Ed.D.

Forum date/time: Thursday, December 9 – 9:00 am to 9:45 am

Forum Zoom Link: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/91608677279>

Dr. Sanders is currently the Vice President of Instruction at Columbia College, where he has also served as Interim Vice President of College and Administrative Services. His previous work experience includes serving as Dean of Science, Mathematics and Engineering, and Professor of Mathematics both at Modesto Junior College, and Adjunct Instructor of Mathematics at Modesto Junior College, Skyline and the College of Notre Dame.

Dr. Sanders holds an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of California, Davis, a Master of Arts in Mathematics from the University of Oregon, and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematical Sciences from University of California, Santa Barbara.



Nicole Albo-Lopez, Ed.D.

Forum date/time: Thursday, December 9 - 11:00 am – 11:45 am

Forum Zoom Link: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/93435114384>

Dr. Albo-Lopez is currently the Interim Vice President of Student Services, Economic & Workforce Development at Los Angeles Community College District. Her prior work experience at Los Angeles Community College District includes serving as Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dean of Student Equity and Academic Affairs, and Dean of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development. She also has served as Interim Dean of Instruction, Associate Dean of Instruction & Institutional Integrity, Faculty Chair of the Clinical Dental Assisting Program and also Program Director of the Clinical Dental Assisting Program, all at Rio Salado College.

Dr. Albo-Lopez holds an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University, a Masters in Health Professions Education (MHPE) from Midwestern University, and a Certificate in Dental Assisting from Spokane Community College.



Val Martinez Garcia, M.S.

Forum date/time: Thursday, December 9 – 2:00 pm to 2:45 pm

Forum Zoom Link: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/91910117513>

Mr. Garcia is currently the Vice President of Student Services at West Hills College Lemoore. His previous work experience includes serving as Vice President of Student Services and Dean of Academic Affairs, both at Porterville College, Associate Dean of Instruction at Taft College, Director of the Kern County Campus at University of La Verne, and Director, GEAR UP at CSU, Bakersfield.

Mr. Garcia is working towards an Ed.D. in Organization Leadership from the University of La Verne. He holds a Master of Science in School Counseling from the University of La Verne, a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from the University of La Verne, and an Associate of Arts in Sociology from Bakersfield College.

Sociology from Bakersfield College.

Schedule for Friday, December 10, 2021:



Joseph Piazza, Ed.D.

Forum date/time: Friday, December 10 – 9:00 am to 9:45 am

Forum Zoom Link: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/98736353191>

Dr. Piazza is currently the State Supervisor of Career and Technical Education at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. His previous work experience includes serving as Superintendent Principal at Courtyard Private School, Director of Child Welfare and Attendance at Yuba City Unified School District, at Folsom Cordova Unified School District he served as Coordinator of English Learner Services, Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance, and School Principal. Additionally, he was Managing Partner of ESP Consulting/Three Qualities Consulting.

Dr. Piazza holds an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of California, Davis, a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Claremont Graduate University, and a Bachelor of Science in Combined Sciences from Santa Clara University.



Lena Tran, Ed.D.

Forum date/time: Friday, December 10 – 2:00 pm to 2:45 pm

Forum Zoom Link: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/94716378348>

Dr. Tran is currently serving as Vice President of Strategic Partnerships and Workforce Innovation at San Jose City College. Her prior work experience includes serving as Dean of Business and Workforce Development and Interim Dean of Social Science, Humanities, Arts, and Physical Education both at Evergreen Valley College. At the University of California Silicon Valley Extension, she was Director of three departments, Business and Management, Education, and Applied & Natural Sciences. She served as Employment Development Coach at San Jose One-stop/Institution for Business Performance, Co-Founder and Sales & Marketing Director for Viethome Magazine, Business Development Manager for Collabrys, and Business Development Manager at Realtech Systems.

Dr. Tran holds an Ed.D. in Organizational and Leadership Development from the University of San Francisco, a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) in Entrepreneurship and Marketing from Seton Hall University, and a Bachelor of Science in International Business and Marketing from Montclair State University.