



APTOS
WATSONVILLE

Marketing and Communications
6500 Soquel Drive
Aptos, CA 95003
O: 831.479.6100
F: 831.479.6100
www.cabrillo.edu

Contact: Kristin Fabos, Director of Marketing and Communications
T: 831-479-6158
krfabos [at] cabrillo.edu

November 27, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Community Forums for Cabrillo College Superintendent/ President Finalist
Candidates Scheduled for November 29, Aptos Campus and Live-Streamed for
Viewing at Cabrillo's Watsonville Center**

*Forums Held at Cabrillo's Samper Music Recital Hall and Streamed Live for Viewing at Cabrillo
Watsonville Center, Solari Green Technology Building, Room D101*

APTOS, CA – At the conclusion of a rigorous, national search process, the Cabrillo College Superintendent/President Search Committee will present four finalist candidates to the campus and local community in campus-wide and community forums on Wednesday, November 29 from 2:00 - 5:45 p.m. at the Samper Music Recital Hall, Cabrillo Aptos Campus, 6500 Soquel Drive, Aptos. Finalist Susan Lamb has withdrawn from the process as she has since accepted the position of President at Diablo Valley College.

The Candidate Forums will also be live-streamed for viewing at Cabrillo's Solari Green Technology Center in Watsonville, Room D101. Candidate information and the link for live-streaming the forums will be available on Cabrillo's website homepage or from <http://go.cabrillo.edu/presidential-forum>. Members of the community are welcome to attend both the in-person and live-streamed forums and admission is free. Parking in Lot L (adjacent to the Samper Recital Hall) will also be at no charge.

The forum schedule for each candidate is as follows (in chronological order):

- **2:00 – 2:45 p.m. - Kimberlee Messina, currently Interim Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Planning at San Mateo Community College District, San Mateo, CA**
Kimberlee is a passionate supporter of student success and equity and a committed educator who has served the California Community Colleges for more than 26 years. Kimberlee's career path includes service as a "freeway flyer" adjunct faculty, a tenured Spanish instructor, a two-term academic senate president, and an instructional dean of STEM at Santa Rosa Junior College. She served as the Vice President of Instruction and Institutional Research and Interim President at Foothill College from 2011-2016 before joining San Mateo County Community College District where she is currently the Interim Vice Chancellor of Educational

Services and Planning. Kimberlee holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology, a master's degree in Spanish from California State University, Sacramento and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from University of California, Davis. An accomplished public speaker, she has presented to the Statewide Academic Senate and the Association of California Community College Administrators. She has served on a number of accreditation site teams and currently serves as a member of the technical assistance committee for the statewide Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative, a member of the Board of the Association for California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) and Co-Chair of the Management Development Committee.

- **3:00 – 3:45 p.m. - Matthew Wetstein, currently Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Instruction & Planning at San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton, CA** - Matthew is currently the Assistant Superintendent and Vice President of Instruction and Planning at San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton, California, where, to date, he has participated in research funding and institutional grants totaling \$8 Million. Prior to that, he served as Interim Dean of the San Joaquin Delta College Agriculture, Science and Math Division, and before that, was the Dean of Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness for five years. He has served as the President of the Research and Planning Group of the California Community Colleges from 2014-2016. His research on the effects of the economic recession on California Community College Students has won national and state awards. Matthew began his academic career as a Political Science Instructor, with more than a dozen years of postsecondary teaching experience at colleges and universities in California and Indiana. Matthew received a Ph.D. in Political Science and an M.A. in Political Science from Northern Illinois University, and he holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of St. Francis, in Joliet, Illinois.
- **4:00 – 4:45 p.m. - Georgia Lorenz, currently Vice President of Academic Affairs, Santa Monica College, Santa Monica, CA** - Georgia Lorenz is the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Santa Monica College (SMC), where she has direct responsibility for providing leadership and administrative oversight to the college's instructional programs, including curriculum, 23 academic departments, satellite campuses, learning resources, distance education, continuing education and health sciences. She has worked in Academic Affairs at Santa Monica College (SMC) for more than twelve years. Prior to her role as Vice President for Academic Affairs, she was the Dean of Instructional Services, and before that, served as Associate Dean of Instructional Services and as Director of Instructional Services. Prior to SMC, Lorenz was the Associate Director of the University of Southern California Center for Urban Education. Before that, she worked in student affairs at USC and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, managing and providing leadership support in both student affairs and residential life. She has also served as an adjunct professor in USC's Rossier School of Education doctoral program.

Georgia earned a PhD in Educational Policy, Planning and Administration at USC. She holds a Master of Science in Education and Social Policy from Northwestern University and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Stanford University.

- **5:00 – 5:45 p.m. - Melinda Nish, currently Executive Advisor to the President/Acting Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs at the College of the Marshall Islands, Majuro, Marshall Islands** – From 2011 – 2016, Melinda was the Superintendent and President of Southwestern Community College District, a district that serves more than 20,000 students at its primary campus in Chula Vista, CA and at its four education centers located throughout the district. Prior to Southwestern Community College, Melinda was the Vice President of Instruction at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, where, before becoming Vice President, she was the Dean of the Business and Computing Division. Melinda began her career in higher education as an Associate Professor and Instructor at universities including the American College of Switzerland in Leysin, Switzerland, Webster University in Geneva, Switzerland, and Westminster University in Salt Lake City, Utah. She also was an Associate Professor at Salt Lake Community College. In addition to her academic career, Melinda’s experience includes business management positions at Vacation Properties, Ltd. and Beach House Villas, Ltd. Melinda received her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Change from Fielding Graduate University in Santa Barbara, CA, her Masters in Arts in Economics from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Utah.

Each forum is 45 minutes long, with a 15-minute break in between. Candidates will be given the same two questions and will begin speaking for approximately 10 minutes while members of the audience complete index cards with questions of their own. Audience questions selected for presentation will then be read to the candidate for an impromptu Q&A, with the last five minutes reserved for a closing statement by each candidate. Final, individual interviews of each candidate will be conducted by Cabrillo Community College District Board of Trustees in a closed session on Thursday, November 30.

The Board of Trustees is expected to make a decision on the final candidate in December and the new Superintendent/President of Cabrillo College will begin in his or her role based upon availability and the need to relocate.

About Cabrillo College

Cabrillo College is a leading California community college serving Santa Cruz County with locations in Aptos, Scotts Valley and Watsonville. It is ranked #1 in transfers to UC Santa Cruz. Founded in 1959, the college offers over 100 academic and career technical education programs that serve multiple educational goals such as A.A. and A.S. degrees, certificates of achievement, skills certificates, transfer to 4-year institutions or for lifelong learning and personal enrichment. Cabrillo College is a dynamic, diverse and responsive educational community that is dedicated to helping all students achieve their academic, career, and personal development goals.