

## **Press Release**

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT Modesto Junior College & Columbia College

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **YCCD Board Chair Announces Last Term**

MODESTO, CA – Yosemite Community College District (YCCD) Chair, Pat Dean, in a letter to staff today announced she would not be running for re-election in Trustee Area 1, which includes all of Tuolumne, approximately half of Calaveras and a small portion of Stanislaus Counties.

According to Dean, "It has been a privilege serving in this role for the past seven years and unexplainable the good feelings and satisfaction I have felt for our students success."

Dean began her tenure as YCCD Trustee in 2003. "When I began serving YCCD, we swept the roads of Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties telling the story of what our College's needed and the importance of passing a bond to continue the good work at Columbia College and Modesto Junior College."

The Measure E Bond was successfully passed in November 2004 and continues to change the face of both MJC and Columbia College campuses and will expand with satellite sites in YCCD's jurisdiction. Existing buildings have been remodeled, roads and parking lots completed, land acquisitions have been made for future growth, and new buildings started and many completed.

Dr. Joan Smith from Columbia College will serve as Interim Chancellor for the District beginning on August 1. "We have a wonderful staff dedicated to doing the best for our students," stated Dean.

She added that "Progress has been a joy and much more than I could have anticipated. We truly have a dedicated Board of seven who work diligently in trying times to provide our communities with endless educational opportunities with students always at the forefront for even the most complex and difficult decisions."

In closing, Dean states "I have really enjoyed being a Trustee; I will miss so many wonderful people who have genuinely supported me."

