



Columbia College Presidential Finalists Selected

August 24, 2006

MODESTO, CA – The Columbia College Presidential Search Committee has selected four finalists to become the next Columbia College President. Current President, Dr. Jim Riggs announced earlier this year that he will be stepping down as Columbia College's president in January 2007, and will assume a full-time faculty position in fall of that year. With a 24-year career in college administration, Dr. Riggs has been the school's top administrator since 1997.

The finalists to become Columbia College's new President are:

- **Dr. Debra S. Daniels**, Vice President for Academics and Student Services, Polk Community College, Winter Haven, Florida
- **Dr. Jan Muto**, Assistant to the Chancellor for Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Versailles, Kentucky
- **Dr. Kim Albert Myers**, Vice President of Human Resources and Employee Relations, San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton, California
- **Dr. Joan E. Smith**, Executive Vice President, Student Learning, Ventura College, Ventura, California

The search committee was chaired by Dr. Lynn Martin, Columbia College Counselor Coordinator. The President has been recruited for extensively and advertised nationally. Initial interviews were completed August 23, 2006 and the names of the four finalists have been forwarded to the Yosemite Community College District (YCCD) Chancellor and Board of Trustees.

Open forums for the finalists are scheduled for September 6-7 in the Dogwood Forum building at Columbia College. Each finalist will be given an opportunity to discuss their preparation for the position, their education and leadership philosophy, and will respond to questions from the forum

attendees. Attendees will be given the opportunity to complete a comment card that will be given to the Yosemite Community College District Board of Trustees. The forums will be open to the public.

The schedule for the candidate forums are as follows:

Forum Schedule: *(All Forums will be held at Columbia College, 11600 Columbia College Dr., Sonora in the Dogwood Forum Building. Schedule is subject to change.)*

Finalist	Wednesday September 6	Thursday September 7
Dr. Debra S. Daniels	---	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Dr. Jan Muto	4:30 – 5:30 pm	---
Dr. Kim Albert Myers	---	4:30 – 5:30 pm
Dr. Joan E. Smith	3:00 – 4:00 pm	---

Finalist Profiles:

Dr. Debra S. Daniels

Education:

- Ed.D. in Education – Community College Leadership and Assessment, University of Illinois
- Master of Vocational and Technical Education, University of Illinois
- M.S. in Educational Psychology, Cal State Hayward, Hayward, California (1977)
- B.S. in Allied Health Education, Ferris State University
- Associate in Applied Science, Delta College

Professional Experience:

- Vice President for Academics and Student Services, Polk Community College, Winter Haven, Florida (2003 – present)
- Vice President for Instruction, Kellogg Community College (2001-2003)
- Vice President for Academic and Student Services, Parkland College (2000-2001)
- Associate Campus Director for Instruction, New Mexico State University, Alamogordo, New Mexico (1998-2000)
- Interim Campus Director, New Mexico State University, Alamogordo, New Mexico (1999-2000)
- Director, Dental Assistant Program, Illinois Central College (1981-1997)

Dr. Jan Muto

Education:

- Ph.D. in Organizational Communication, University of Utah (1991)
- M.A. in Organizational Communication & Video Production, University of Delaware (1983)
- B.A. in Communication, University of Delaware (1978)

Professional Experience:

- Assistant to the Chancellor for Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Versailles, Kentucky (2004–present)
- Chief Academic Officer, Madisonville Community College, Kentucky Community and Technical College System (1999-2004)
- Associate Dean/Assistant Dean of Instruction, Northwest College (1996-1999)
- Assistant Professor, Department of Organizational Communication, Learning and Design, Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York (1988-1994)

Dr. Kim Albert Myers

Education:

- Ed.D. in Organization and Leadership, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, California (2005)
- M.S. in Human Resources, Golden Gate University, San Francisco, California (1990)
- B.A. in Psychology, University of California, Davis, California (1976)

Professional Experience:

- Vice President of Human Resources and Employee Relations, San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton, CA (2004 – present)
- Director of Human Resources, Avalon Health Care, Salt Lake City, Utah (Northern California based) (2001-2004)
- Regional Group Leader, The Permanente Medical Group, Oakland, California (1999-2001)
- Assistant Vice President of Human Resources, EDFUND (Subdivision of California Student Aid Commission), Rancho Cordova, California (1997-1999)
- Regional Human Resources Director and Senior Human Resources Consultant, Avalon Health Care, Salt Lake City, Utah (Northern California based) (1996-1997)
- Director of Human Resources & Training, Baxter Healthcare, West Sacramento, California (1990-1995)

Dr. Joan E. Smith

Education:

- Ed.D. in Higher Education, Nova (Southeastern) University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida (1988)
- M.S. in Vocational Rehabilitation, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, Wisconsin (1976)
- B.S. in Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, Wisconsin (1975)

Professional Experience:

- Executive Vice President, Student Learning, Ventura College, Ventura, California (2002 – present)
- Dean of Business, Industry, Technology and Off-Campus Programs, Ventura College, Ventura, California (2000-2002)
- Dean of Institutional and Student Services, Oxnard College, Oxnard, California (1997-2000)
- Project Director, Workplace Learning Resource Center, Center for International Trade Development and Contract Education, Oxnard College, Oxnard, California (1993-1997)
- Institutional Researcher, Title III, Matriculation, Oxnard College, Oxnard, California (1991-1992)
- Counselor/Instructor, Educational Assistance Center, Oxnard College, Oxnard, California (1980-1992)

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