



## Press Release

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YOSEMITE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
Modesto Junior College & Columbia College

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Ken White to Serve as MJC Acting President**

MODESTO, CA – Today, in a Special Meeting of the Yosemite Community College District Board of Trustees, it was announced that Dr. Ken White will begin serving as Modesto Junior College Acting President effective December 1. This announcement follows a resignation and mutually agreed upon buyout of the remainder of former MJC President Richard Rose's contract, which was also approved at this special meeting of the Board. Dr. White's Interim Presidential appointment will be presented to the Board at its December 9 Board meeting for formal approval.

Dr. White has been the Dean of Business, Behavioral and Social Sciences at Modesto Junior College since July 1, 2006. Prior to that he served the District as a Professor of History at MJC from 1996 to 2006, and as President of Columbia College from 1992-1996. He has over 30 years experience in community colleges and has been with the District since 1992. According to YCCD Chancellor Roe Darnell, "Dr. White will lead the college in that capacity for the remainder of the academic year. We have agreed that he will not be a candidate for the full time position."

In thinking about identifying an acting president, Chancellor Darnell explained he "felt it necessary to identify someone who is familiar with the opportunities and challenges faced by the college and who will address them in a collegial manner. Further, I wanted someone with both vast community college experience and substantial experience within Modesto Junior College."

White has worked in community colleges in three states and has served successfully as a full-time professor, an academic dean, a chief instructional officer, and a college president. Darnell stated "I determined that with Dr. White's outstanding record and with his breadth and depth of experience he would be able to begin immediately to address the important issues facing Modesto Junior College over the next several months."

Regarding the MJC permanent position, an MJC Presidential Search Committee has been working very hard and has made rapid progress. A job announcement has been finalized and the recruitment process has begun. According to Darnell, "broad based recruitment efforts are underway."