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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Date:** May 18, 2011

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## Columbia College Presidential Finalists Selected

SONORA, CA – The Columbia College Presidential Search Committee has selected three finalists to become the next Columbia College President.

The finalists (with most recent position held) are listed below:

- **Dr. Dennis B. Gervin**  
(Vice President of Student Learning, Columbia College - Sonora, CA)
- **Dr. Kenneth M. Meier**  
(Vice President, Student Learning/Economic Development, Butte College – Oroville, CA)
- **Dr. Kevin W. Trutna**  
(Vice President for Academic & Student Services, Yuba College – Marysville, CA)

The search committee was chaired by Raelene Juarez, Columbia College Professor. The position has been extensively recruited for and advertised nationally. Initial interviews were completed May 18, 2011, and the names of the three finalists have been forwarded to the YCCD Board of Trustees.

Open forums for the finalists are scheduled for May 25 in the Dogwood Forum at Columbia College. Three times have been set (9:00, 10:00, and 11:00 a.m.) for the 45-minute presentations. Each finalist will be given an opportunity to discuss their preparation for the position, their education and leadership philosophy, concluding with a time to 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 Board of Trustees. The forums will be open to the public.

## **Finalist Profiles:**

Dr. Dennis B. Gervin

### **Education:**

- Ph.D. in Biological Sciences, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- M.A. in Biological Sciences, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- B.A. in Microbiology, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA

### **Professional Experience:**

- Vice President of Student Learning, Columbia College, Sonora, CA (2005 – present)
- Interim Dean of Student Services, Columbia College, Sonora, CA (2007-2008)
- Interim Dean of Instruction: Arts and Sciences, Columbia College, Sonora, CA (2006-2007)
- Dean of Instructional Services, Modesto Junior College, Modesto, CA (2001-2005/Interim 2001-02)
- Interim Dean of Library and Learning Resources, Modesto Junior College, Modesto, CA (2003-2004)
- Dean of Science, Mathematics and Engineering, Modesto Junior College, Modesto, CA (1999-2002)
- Professor of Microbiology, General Biology, Industrial Laboratory Techniques, Modesto Junior College, Modesto, CA (1996-1999)

Dr. Kenneth M. Meier

### **Education:**

- Ph.D. in Higher Education Theory and History, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
- M.A. in European Intellectual History, University of California, Irvine, CA
- B.A. in History, University of California, Los Angeles, CA

### **Professional Experience:**

- Vice President, Student Learning/Economic Development, Butte College, Oroville, CA (2006 – present)
- Vice President, Student Learning, Bakersfield College, Bakersfield, CA (2001–2006)
- Interim Executive Dean, Instruction and Student Services, Yavapai College, Prescott, AZ (1995-1997)
- General Education/Student Outcomes Assessment Coordinator, Yavapai College, Prescott, AZ (1987-1995)
- Liberal Arts Division Chair, Yavapai College, Prescott, AZ (1982-1986)

Dr. Kevin W. Trutna

**Education:**

- Ed.D. in Adult and Higher Education, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT
- M.S. in Mathematics, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT
- B.S. in Mathematics, Loyola University, Chicago, IL

**Professional Experience:**

- Vice President for Academic & Student Services, Yuba College, Marysville, CA (2006 – present)
- Acting President, Yuba College, Marysville, CA (2009)
- Dean of Mathematics, Engineering, Science & Health Occupations, Yuba College, Marysville, CA (1999-2005)
- Interim Executive Dean for Clear Lake Campus, Yuba College, Marysville, CA (2002)
- Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Research, Planning & Grants, Arizona Western College, Yuma, AZ (1998-1999)
- Honors Program Director, Arizona Western College, Yuma, AZ (1995-1998)
- Professor of Mathematics, Arizona Western College, Yuma, AZ (1992-1998)

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