



## Press Release

No. 16-09

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
Modesto Junior College & Columbia College

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Date:** December 15, 2016

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### **YCCD Newly Elected Board Members Sworn into Office and Anne DeMartini and Darin Gharat Elected Board Chair and Vice Chair**

MODESTO, CA – Three newly elected members of the Yosemite Community College District (YCCD) Board of Trustees were sworn into office at its annual organizational meeting on December 14, 2016. Darin Gharat (Area 5), Leslie Beggs (Area 6), and Jon Rodriguez (Area 7) join incumbent Board members, Lynn Martin, PhD (Area 1), Don Viss (Area 2), Abe Rojas (Area 3) who was re-elected and reaffirmed his oath of office, and Anne DeMartini (Area 4).

Also at that meeting, the YCCD Board of Trustees elected Trustee Anne DeMartini of Patterson as the new YCCD Board Chair through November 2017. DeMartini has served on the YCCD Board since 2002 representing YCCD Trustee Area 4, which includes the western portion of Stanislaus County, a small eastern portion of Santa Clara County, and northwestern portion of Merced County. DeMartini succeeds outgoing Chair Abe Rojas of Turlock.

The Board also elected Darin Gharat of Modesto (representing YCCD Trustee Area 5, which includes a north-central portion of Stanislaus County and a south-central portion of San Joaquin County) to serve as Vice Chair. In other action, the following Trustee appointments were made: Abe Rojas to serve on the Association of Stanislaus County School Boards and as the voting representative to attend the Stanislaus County annual meeting, Dr. Lynn Martin to serve on the Columbia College Foundation Board, Don Viss to serve on the Modesto Junior College Foundation Board, and Anne DeMartini to serve on the Great Valley Museum Foundation Board.

The colleges of the Yosemite Community College District are governed by the seven-member board of trustees elected to represent the wide geographical and culturally diverse area encompassed by the District. The YCCD covers a 4,500 square mile area and serves a population of over 625,000, encompassing all of two counties (Stanislaus and Tuolumne) and parts of four others (Calaveras, Merced, San Joaquin, Santa Clara). Board meetings will continue to be held the second Wednesday of each

month, with open session generally beginning at 5:30pm. Meeting agendas can be found online at

[www.yosemite.edu](http://www.yosemite.edu).

**-YCCD-**

**Photos Attached**

NOTE: YCCD Board of Trustees (left to right): Darin Gharat (Area 5, Vice Chair), Leslie Beggs (Area 6), Anne DeMartini (Area 4, Board Chair), Jon Rodriguez (Area 7), Dr. Lynn Martin (Area 1), Don Viss (Area 2), and Abe Rojas (Area 3).