

Statements from Faculty Wishing to be on College President Screening Committee

Twenty-three faculty submitted their name between November 29 and December 1. Preference is given to tenured faculty which eliminated two names. The Executive Board chose three plus one alternate as their recommendation (Erica Menchaca, Joe Saldivar, and Ann Tatum with Matt Andrasian-Jones as alternate if one of the others cannot make the scheduled meetings). All tenured nominees were invited to submit a brief 250-word maximum statement if they wished to be considered and to let the Senate President know if they did not want to be considered further.

The instructions given to the nominees are as follows:

If you wish to be considered for appointment to the College President screening committee, please submit to me via email a brief (250-word max) statement of why you should be appointed to the College President screening committee. In your statement, please be sure to address:

- 1) Your relevant college/institutional experience that demonstrates your knowledge of college-wide operations and functions; and
- 2) Your vision of what the College President should be

Statements will be truncated at 250 words with the word count measured by Microsoft Word (Tools -> Word Count). Statements are due by Saturday, January 28, 2023 at 5 PM PST via email to me. I will then put the statements into a single document and post it to the Senate February 1 meeting page no later than Sunday afternoon.

Only those who submit written statements will be considered for appointment. However, if you no longer wish to be a candidate for the screening committee, please let me know, so it will be clear to me that you no longer want to be considered.

Erin Miller, Kailani Henry, Keri Kennedy, and Michael McNellis endorsed the E-Board recommendation and did not submit a statement. Below are the statements submitted.

Melissa Ysais

Academic Senate,

I would like to be considered as a representative of screening committee for the opened position of College President.

I have been a student and an employee within the Community College network since 1985. I have worked for a college run bookstore, as an adjunct instructor for over 10 colleges throughout Southern California and now as a Professor at Bakersfield College. Having worked within these diverse institutions, I have first-hand experience of varying college protocols and procedures.

To lead a diverse and multicultural institution like Bakersfield College requires a multi-faceted skill set to push academic success, innovation and community outreach. There are many areas of importance for this position:

- Have a working knowledge of classroom management techniques and teaching skills
- Be a reflection of the diverse community they work within
- Demonstrate effective and authentic communication
- Exhibit skills of when and how to delegate and collaborate
- Maintain visibility throughout the college and make meaningful contact with students, staff, faculty and the community at large
- Pursue means to create and sustain successful Academic, Career and Technical Educational programs
- Keep abreast of educational trends and utilize these progressions to aid in creating successful experiences for all students
- Champion equity across all aspects of the college including students, staff and faculty

I believe my expansive experience in the Community College arena would be an asset to the screening committee. Utilizing those skills will allow me to provide unique analysis for all candidates being considered for the position.

Melissa S. Ysais M.A.

Joe Saldivar

KCCD's and Bakersfield College's reputation for student recruitment, persistence, learning and success is unsurpassed across the state and the nation.

My strengths and experience at Bakersfield College extend beyond being a Full-Time Biology Instructor. My roles, service and interactions with BC include;

- Being a student
- Serving as Faculty Chair
- Committee work
- Outreach and recruitment
- Dual Enrollment
- Rural Initiatives
- Club Advisor
- Curriculum Development
- Transfer
- MESA
- Parent of two BC students
- Tax Payer

My broad experiences have granted me the opportunity to identify the strengths and weaknesses encountered by incoming students, academic bureaucracy, redundancy in procedures and other barriers that impact student learning and success.

The next President will continue to foster student learning through shared governance, camaraderie, trust and innovation.

I'm humbled and honored to be considered to serve on the BC President Screening Committee. We are BC!!!

Ann Tatum

In 17.5 years at BC, I have served as a representative for Academic Senate, College Council, and CCA. In these roles, I have had the opportunity to work closely with a variety of colleagues—management and classified included—on projects such as revising the campus mission statement, developing new administrative reorganization plans, gathering evidence for accreditation reports, etc. As a member of the faculty negotiation team, I work with management from the district and our sister colleges using Interest Based Bargaining to come to contractual agreements. As far as the next college president, obviously someone with experience in leading a community college (preferably in California, given the rapid pace of legislation) is a must. I would also be looking for evidence of a president who values faculty expertise and shared governance, who understands the role of the union and the purpose of the contract, and who sees all of these as vital to a healthy workplace and thus as necessary to student success. Clear, direct, honest communication should always be the president's goal, even when disagreements arise. With the pressures from the state level, they would demonstrate an understanding that quality—of instruction, services, initiatives, etc.—is more meaningful than quantity. Finally, the president will be taking on the job at a difficult time; the ideal candidate must have a strong sense of ethics and integrity so that the campus trusts their ability to make decisions fairly, respectfully, and considering the interests of the campus community.

Erica Menchaca

As the current Academic Senate Vice President and Articulation Officer since 2021, I communicate with the current interim College President and the Vice President of Instruction and their offices on a routine basis regarding college processes and culture. During my four-year tenure as Curriculum Co-Chair, I worked closely with all departments and deans through varying local and state procedures, policies, and regulations. As Program Mapper Curator, I supported the previous college president in establishing intersegmental pathways for our students. In each of these roles, I regularly engaged with multiple college-wide operations and functions such as accreditation, governance committees, guided pathways initiatives, credit for prior learning, and Title 5 compliance. As current ASCCC Latinx Caucus Co-Chair and Data and Research Committee member, I routinely collaborate with statewide leadership about faculty-administration processes and relations.

Being a Bakersfield native, growing up in Lamont and East Bakersfield, teaching in Arvin, Shafter, and Delano, I envision a college president who understands the cultures and values in

the central valley community in order to advocate for the unique needs of our students. This person must focus on serving our community by supporting students on their paths to career, transfer, and lifelong learning. A commitment to building and maintaining trust with the community, students, faculty, staff and administration is imperative. Experience should include shared governance participation, faculty work, and ethical navigation of California higher education laws, regulations and policies. Our next college president must be a strong leader who demonstrates integrity, values diversity, and places students first.

Matt Andrasian-Jones

I'm Matt Andrasian-Jones. Please consider me for membership on the BC President screening committee.

Qualifications:

- Served on at least 6 hiring committees for faculty, classified, management, and district office positions
- Academic Senate Member (7yrs).
 - Past Senator for the BC Library Department
 - Current member of Academic Senate Executive Board (4yrs)
 - Previous Co-Chair of Professional Development Committee
 - Current ISIT Co-Chair
 - Current Co-Chair and Co-Founder of the ADA & Accessibility Task Force
- BC Representative on District-Wide Accessibility Task Force
- Current Secretary of faculty union.
- Instructor in English and previously taught courses in the Education Department
- Previously, KCCD District Office Employee in IT Department (4yrs).

These experiences give me an expansive view of college-wide and district-wide operations and functions, which are relevant to understanding the requirements of a college president from multiple angles.

My vision of a college president is someone who would hold a position of authority with humility and would prioritize serving and supporting the needs of our local community (as defined by the community) over their own endeavors. This individual would be empathetic and inclusive to all members of said community. They would humanize the treatment of all employees. The president would commit to facilitating transparency between administration, faculty, and classified actions and decisions to assist tearing down walls that exist between these three constituent groups. This individual would understand the progressive use of technological and pedagogical practices within education; however, they would collaborate with and support faculty to symbiotically steer BC into the future.

End of written statements submitted