



Solano Community College Finalists for Superintendent-President



Dr. Lawrence Buckley

Lawrence Buckley serves as the President of Cañada College in Redwood City, California, in the heart of the Silicon Valley. He has had a career dedicated to teaching and learning meant to improve the lives of students through scholarship and self-realization.

Dr. Buckley's academic experience drew him to the discipline of History where he was attracted to exploring the diversity of society and his own place within it. He taught History at the university and community college level for 16 years focused on providing students with the opportunity to examine civilization, people, and the environment in ways that challenged their preconceptions.

Fifteen years ago he shifted his commitment to higher education from the classroom to administration. In this role, he found the opportunity to serve college communities in a different manner, focused on supporting faculty and staff in their efforts to advance student success. He brings to his role as the Chief Executive Officer of Cañada College, a rich experience in team leadership, strategic planning, community engagement, and institutional accreditation.

He has proven executive administrative leadership experience with oversight of dynamic and wide ranging academic and career technical education programs. He has served on the State Chancellor's Legislative Task Force; the Association of California Community College Administrator's Management Development Commission; as a member of the American Institute for Foreign Study's International Advisory Board; as an officer of the Round House Intertribal Council; and with a variety of civic and academic organizations.



Dr. Deborah Budd

Dr. Deborah Budd is recognized for her passion for educational excellence, leveraging collaborative partnerships, and opening channels of communication to ensure equitable student success. Her educational career spans 28 years in both community college and K-12 teaching and administration. She is currently serving as the President of Berkeley City College. Previously, Dr. Budd was Vice Chancellor for the Peralta Community College District; Vice President of Educational Resources and Instruction for Foothill College; and Dean at Chabot College.

As an experienced educational leader, she combines innovation, research, and effective management with genuine respect for faculty and classified professionals to address the opportunity gap in higher education by providing seamless pathways to career and transfer. She has served as a guest lecturer and mentor for the Educational Leadership Doctoral Program at San Francisco State University. Her research on *Institutional Effectiveness and the Relationship to African American and Latino Transfer Rates* highlights her extensive knowledge and practice on the integration of planning and budgeting, accreditation, and student success programs. Dr. Budd has overseen the construction of numerous new educational facilities to support enrollment growth and student success.

During her tenure, Berkeley City College has experienced significant enrollment growth; revised its education master plan; involved all constituent groups in the development of the equity plan; purchased new property to expand the college services; opened a Dreamers center for undocumented students; and increased outreach through community partnerships and fundraising efforts. In addition to these accomplishments, Dr. Budd serves on the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Peralta Foundation Board, and works closely with the Mayor of Berkeley on the Vision 20-20 project.

Dr. Budd holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Economics and Physical Education from University of California at Santa Barbara, her Master's in Education from Stanford University and her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from San Francisco State University.



Dr. Celia Esposito-Noy

Celia Esposito-Noy currently serves as vice chancellor for educational services and student success for the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, the same district where she began her career in higher education twenty-six years ago. Prior to serving as vice chancellor, Celia served for ten years as vice president for student services and enrollment management at Cosumnes River College in Sacramento. During that time, she also served as interim president.

Celia began her higher education career as classified staff at Chabot College supervising tutoring services. Following graduate school, she served as a dean at a liberal arts college before returning to work in the community college system as adjunct faculty, director, and as an associate vice president at American River College.

Celia has served as president and past president for the CCCCSSAA (Chief Student Services Administrators) and is currently a member of the CCAA Board (Athletic Association). Much of her professional work has focused on developing strategies and interventions for successfully serving students enrolled in basic skills classes, students suffering from trauma, and those with mental health challenges. She has presented at state and national conferences on strategies for advancing student success. Her dissertation examined the use of social modeling in a basic skills math class as a means for informing successful student behavior.

Celia earned her BA degree from San Francisco State University, her MA degree from Stanford University, and her Ed.D. from Mills College. She has lived in Solano County since 1998 and currently resides in Fairfield.



Dr. Omid Pourzanjani

Omid Pourzanjani (pronounced "O'mead Pour-zan-johnny") is currently the Vice President of Instruction and Student Learning (CIO & CSSO) at Golden West College, responsible for all academic affairs functions plus many student services functions including Enrollment Services, Counseling, Financial Aid, Assessment, EOPS, and CalWorks.

Dr. Pourzanjani started his 31 years of higher education career as a technical staff at CSU, Long Beach and quickly moved into management positions and eventually into teaching undergraduate and graduate courses. For the past 21 years, he has been at Golden West College as a full-time faculty member, department chair, dean, and vice president. He also spent a year at the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office as a visiting dean working on the Doing What Matters for Jobs and Economy framework.

He has served on many organizational boards including the Association of California Community Colleges Administrators (ACCCA), California Community Colleges Association of Occupational Educators (CCCAOE), and Career and Technical Education for Orange County (CTEoc). His desire to promote, inspire, and develop our future leaders in California Community Colleges is exemplified in his work to help establish the Leadership Academy Program for CCCAOE, the Leadership Pipeline Program for Coast Community College District, and the Great Deans Program for ACCCA.

Dr. Pourzanjani is an innovative, student-focused, and a visionary leader that brings about change through inspiration, collaboration, and teamwork. He also has over a decade of leadership experience in the high-tech industry and has launched two startup companies.

He received his AA degree from Santa Monica College; BS and MS degrees in Computer Science and Engineering from CSU, Long Beach; and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from UCLA. He is married to his high school sweetheart, Patty, and together they have a son named Kai, and a daughter, Kelcie, who is studying at UC Davis.