



NEWS RELEASE

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EMCC President Joyce Hedlund to be Nominated as President of Washington County Community College

Search for new EMCC president to begin in early February

AUGUSTA, ME — MCCS President John Fitzsimmons today announced that he will nominate Dr. Joyce Hedlund, who has served as president of Eastern Maine Community College for the past 16 years, as the new president of Washington County Community College in Calais. The nomination will be made later this month to the MCCS Board of Trustees for their vote and approval.

Dr. Hedlund will succeed Dr. William Cassidy who retired from WCCC at the end of 2009. She is scheduled to assume her new position on July 1, 2010. Until then, Charles Collins, a long-time MCCS administrator, is serving as interim president at WCCC. A national search for a new president at EMCC will begin in early February in hopes of filling the position by the start of the 2010/11 academic year.

President Fitzsimmons praised Dr. Hedlund's remarkable contributions to EMCC and to the greater Bangor community: "Joyce Hedlund has been a leader in Maine higher education for over two decades. She has led EMCC through a period of extraordinary growth and change, and has done so with a deep commitment to providing Maine students with an extremely high quality and relevant education. I cannot emphasize how delighted I am to retain her within the System and that she will bring the same skills and commitment she has shown at EMCC to her tenure at WCCC."

In accepting the nomination, President Hedlund expressed excitement for her new position: "I'm looking forward to playing a part in the future of Washington County Community College. Just like EMCC, WCCC is integral to the community it serves and has a similar mission of providing career, technical, and transfer education. WCCC is in an interesting coastal location, on an international border. This opportunity is in an area of the state my husband and I have always hoped we might live. However, the decision to move on to this new challenge was very difficult. I have enjoyed being part of the tremendous development of EMCC in the company of so many wonderful people from the region we serve as well as from the college. The support of the Bangor region has been outstanding and critical to the success of this college. I have found the same level of support, interest, motivation, and dedication in the employees and surrounding community of Washington County Community College."

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Dr. Hedlund holds a doctorate and master's degrees from the University of Maine. A native of Fort Kent, she earned her bachelor's degree in education from Fort Kent State College (the University of Maine at Fort Kent). She began her career at EMCC in 1987 and became president of the institution in 1994.

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