



Maine Community College System

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPOINTS INTERIM PRESIDENT

AUGUSTA, ME—The Maine Community College System (MCCS) Board of Trustees today appointed Derek Langhauser to serve as Interim President of the MCCS, effective February 16, 2015. Langhauser serves as General Counsel of the MCCS and is a senior member of the System’s leadership team. He replaces Dr. John Fitzsimmons who announced earlier this month that he would be stepping down from the post.

“We are extremely fortunate to have someone of Derek’s knowledge, talent, and expertise guiding the System during this transition,” said Board Chair Robert Clark in announcing the appointment. “Derek is widely regarded for his experience, judgment, insight, and dedication to our colleges and the students we serve.”

As General Counsel, Langhauser has overseen student, employee, and corporate legal affairs, emergency management, statutory and regulatory compliance, and risk management. He has also overseen the development and implementation of MCCS policies, procedures, and legislation. In 2013, he served as the System’s Acting Director of Human Resources. The recipient of a number of national awards for his legal work in higher education, he has taught for over a decade for the Williams College Maritime Studies Program.

“I look forward to working with my talented colleagues at both the System and college level to continue to ensure that high quality, affordable education is available to the thousands of hard-working Maine students, families, and businesses we serve,” said Langhauser in accepting the position.

The Board anticipates launching a national search for a new MCCS president in March. In additional news, the full Board meeting originally scheduled for January 28 at Southern Maine Community College (SMCC) in South Portland will instead be held on Wednesday, February 25, at SMCC.

The Maine Community College System operates seven colleges and six off-campus centers serving over 18,000 students. Enrollment has increased nearly 80% over the past decade. More information about the MCCS is available at www.mccs.me.edu.

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