



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **DR. LISA LARSON APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF EASTERN MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

AUGUSTA, ME – The Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System (MCCS) has appointed Dr. Lisa Larson, who currently serves as vice president for academic and student affairs at Minnesota’s Hennepin Technical College, as the next president of Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC) in Bangor. She will assume her new post this spring.

Dr. Larson brings over twenty years of community and technical college experience to EMCC. From 2013-2015, she served as interim president of North Hennepin Community College in Brooklyn Park, MN. Her experience also includes serving as dean of the Division of Construction, Manufacturing and Transportation at Hennepin Tech as well as dean of the Division of Business and Industry at Lake Superior College in Minnesota. She began her career in higher education as a faculty member in the Department of Communication at Hennepin Tech. She holds degrees from Northern State University (B.S.), Mankato State University (M.A.), and St. Mary’s University of Minnesota (Ed.D.)

In its search for the next president of EMCC, the MCCS Board of Trustees sought an individual with the ability, commitment and vision to continue the college’s significant progress in enhancing student success. “I am confident we have found that leader in Lisa Larson,” said Board Chair Robert Clark in announcing her appointment. “Her expertise in academic and student affairs, her classroom experience, and her deep knowledge of both technical and transfer education will help ensure that EMCC continues to meet the needs of its students and area employers.”

“I am extremely honored to have been selected to serve as president of Eastern Maine Community College,” said Dr. Larson about her appointment. “I look forward to working with the faculty, staff and students to make EMCC the best it can be. My family and I are excited to become involved in Bangor and the surrounding communities,”

Dr. Larson was selected from a field of 30 candidates following a national search. She will succeed Dr. Lawrence Barrett who left EMCC this past summer to become president of Florida Gateway College. Joseph Cassidy, the president of Washington County Community College in Calais, has served as interim president at EMCC during the 2015/16 academic year.

In making the announcement of Dr. Larson’s appointment, Trustee Clark thanked President Cassidy for his strong leadership of both EMCC and WCCC, the EMCC presidential search committee for its thorough and thoughtful approach to the hiring process, and members of the EMCC community who provided helpful feedback throughout the search.

Eastern Maine Community College provides technical, career, and transfer education to over 2,700 students each year. The college was recently named one of the fastest growing community colleges in the nation by [Community College Week](#). In 2014 it was one of 16 community colleges nationwide selected as a Leader College by Achieving the Dream, a national organization dedicated to helping more community college students stay in school and earn college certificates or degrees. Additional information about the college is available at [www.emcc.edu](http://www.emcc.edu).

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Dr. Lisa Larson