



DATE: September 24, 2024
TO: College of the Mainland
FROM: Mr. Donald G. Gartman, Chair, Board of Trustees, College of the Mainland
RE: President Search Announcement & Invitation to Attend Public Forums

On behalf of the College of the Mainland Board of Trustees, I am pleased to announce that we have begun the search to identify the next President of College of the Mainland. We are fully committed to conducting an equitable, inclusive, and transparent national search that will attract a strong and diverse pool of candidates from throughout Texas and the nation.

The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) has been selected to assist us with the Presidential search process. ACCT's assistance will include providing support with the development of the Presidential Profile, recruiting highly competitive candidates, and working extensively with the College and the Board of Trustees. ACCT has conducted over 750 community college searches and brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to our process. ACCT's mission is to strengthen community college governance through education and advocacy. Stephen Head, Ph.D., and Julie Golder, J.D., ACCT Vice President of Search Services will serve as our ACCT Search Consultants and will assist the College throughout this important process.

President Profile Development: Open Forums & Survey

An important step in the President search process is the development of a Presidential Profile. On **Tuesday, October 8**, we will host three (3) Public Forums to listen to your input, which will assist with the development of the Presidential Profile. The entire College community is invited and encouraged to participate in a discussion about the qualities, characteristics, and qualifications we are seeking in the next President of College of the Mainland, and the opportunities and challenges facing the College in the years to come. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to ask questions about the Presidential search process. The discussions will be facilitated by our ACCT Search Consultants: Stephen Head, Ph.D. and Julie Golder, J.D., ACCT Vice President of Search Services.

We invite everyone to attend the one-hour Public Forums on Tuesday, October 8:

- **9:00 a.m. College of the Mainland, Doyle Family Administration Boardroom**
- **2:00 p.m. College of the Mainland, Doyle Family Administration Boardroom**
- **6:00 p.m. College of the Mainland, Doyle Family Administration Boardroom**

Please share the forum information with those who have an interest in College of the Mainland and wish to attend. No RSVP is needed.

In addition to the Public Forum, we have developed a brief electronic survey that we hope you will complete if you are unable to attend one of the forums. The anonymous responses to the survey will also be used to inform the development of the draft Presidential Profile. The survey is available here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WTQR6RP>

Please submit your survey feedback no later than 9:00 AM (Central Time) on Wednesday, October 9th, 2024.

The Presidential Search Committee

The Presidential Search Committee will review the confidential applications, interview semifinalist candidates, and identify the final candidates to be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for consideration. The Search Committee is comprised of the following members:

Donald Gartman, Board Chair, College of the Mainland

Thomasine Allen, Community Member

Summer Chapman, Foundation President, College of the Mainland

April Ciccarello, Community Member

Tim Culp, Community Member

Bradley Denison, Professional Council President, College of the Mainland

Chris DeVries, Foundation Vice President, College of the Mainland

Kyle Dickson, Board Trustee, College of the Mainland

Candice Edmonston, Faculty Senate President, College of the Mainland

Abel Garza, Community Member

Sonia Kukuch, Classified Council President, College of the Mainland

Dr. Bill McGarvey, Board Trustee, College of the Mainland

Paige Parrish, Dean of Continuing Education, College of the Mainland

Reverend Chad Rankin, Community Member

Dr. David Wesse, Vice President for Fiscal Affairs, College of the Mainland

Final Candidates

All final candidates will participate in open forums at College of the Mainland and the finalists will interview with the Board of Trustees. We anticipate the open forums taking place in mid-March 2025 and we will provide the dates, times, and location once they are confirmed. All employees, students, and community members will be invited to attend the open forums and complete feedback forums which will be reviewed as part of the deliberation process.

Recruitment

Our recruitment efforts will involve an open and thorough national search, seeking qualified candidates from all regions of the country. ACCT specializes in one-to-one recruitment of community college leaders. Additionally, to assist with this process, advertisements will be placed in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* and other major publications and websites.

Presidential Search Webpage

The College of the Mainland website will include information on all aspects of the search. The Presidential search webpage will be developed in the coming weeks and will include key information including the timeline, Presidential Profile, and information on how to apply.

We will continue to keep you updated on this important process. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to our ACCT Search Consultants:

- Stephen Head, Ph.D., ACCT Search Consultant, at shead51@hotmail.com or (832) 754-5973 (mobile)
- Julie Golder, J.D., Vice President of Search Services, at jgolder@acct.org or (202) 384-5816 (mobile)