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MCC announces education veteran as interim president

Maricopa County Community College District Interim Chancellor Dr. Steven Gonzales has named Mesa Community College Executive Vice President Dr. Lori Berquam as MCC's interim president.

She began serving in the new role Feb. 1.

MCC serves a large population of students from Tempe, Chandler and other area communities.

Prior to making the decision, officials said, Gonzales visited MCC to meet with a range of stakeholders and leaders from the college's shared governance structure.

"Dr. Berquam's extensive leadership experience coupled with the support she has earned from college leadership, students and employees for advancing key initiatives, namely student success, makes her a strong and very logical choice as MCC's interim president," said Gonzales.

"She will provide strong leadership and ensure that key priorities continue to thrive at MCC."



Berquam has more than 30 years of leadership experience in higher education.

She is actively engaged in advancing MCC institutional priorities including guided pathways; shared governance; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and strategic planning.

Dr. Richard Haney, who served as MCC president since July 2018, submitted his resignation earlier this month.

"While Dr. Haney was not with our system long, his impact was significant. We will miss his leadership, passion to serve our students and his friendship," said Gonzales.

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