

Tammy R. Robinson, Ed. D.

February 27, 2024

Dear Presidential Search Committee:

I am honored to apply for the position of President at Roxbury Community College. My extensive experience in community college leadership, commitment to student success, and passion for educational transformation align perfectly with the mission and values of Roxbury Community College. My background and experience make this opportunity an excellent way for me to continue to expand my goal to put “students first” and transform their lives through education. I have over 25 years of community college experience as an executive level administrator, as a tenured faculty member and as a student who graduated from the community college system. I received my doctorate in Education with an emphasis in Community College Administration from the University of Southern California. I obtained my Master of Arts degree in English from California State University, Dominguez Hills. I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles. I am also a graduate of a community college with an Associate of Arts degree from Cerritos College in Social Science. I understand the difficulties that our community college students face. I am a leader who welcomes ideas with a focus on the mission and the strategic direction of Roxbury Community College.

With over 25 years of experience in community college administration, I have dedicated my career to putting "students first" and transforming lives through education. As the current President of Mesa Community College, I have fostered a culture of shared governance, innovation, and community engagement, leading to significant advancements in student access, program development, and workforce partnerships. The expansion of Arizona in the technology space is also something that is extremely exciting. The issue for so many employers is clear. Are there enough skilled workers? During my tenure, Mesa Community College has also started two bachelor's degree programs: Data Analytic/Computer Programming and Early Childhood Education/Dual Language. Both programs have exceeded the goal for the number of students who are involved. It has been very successful and has created a level of access to education that so many have not had in the past. So, my role is to ensure that the college is offering the programs and services that our community needs to continue to advance. Growing these partnerships is an extremely wonderful and accessible opportunity that is important as the role of community colleges is expanding and desperately needed. In addition to working with city officials, partners and state level officials, it is part of the mission, vision and values for our students to be able to participate in the community's growth and development.

In addition, I previously served as the Vice President, Instruction at Cañada College located in Redwood City, California. The college is part of the San Mateo County Community College District which is 25 miles outside of San Francisco. Five Instructional Division Deans reported to the Office of Instruction. In this position, I oversaw all instructional programs, scheduling, catalog production, accreditation, grants, and Athletics. I also worked closely with the capital improvement projects, such as a new gymnasium which was a \$120 million project. In my first year, I worked to acquire five separate grants to advance the college. I co-authored a grant to assist with the Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated population's return to college. In addition, I co-authored a grant to increase

the efficacy of faculty teaching online. In addition, I wrote two statewide grants to assist in increasing our workforce development programs. These grants totaled over \$4 million dollars. It is important to continue to look for additional partnerships to showcase our college. I have an extensive workforce development background. Under my leadership, programs and partnerships have been developed that could fast-track students to employment opportunities. These programs consisted of a water program and a partnership with the California Water Board. This course was at no-cost to students. In addition, all books, supplies, and certification examinations were part of the program. The team also created optician and full stack developer programs. These program participants begin employment while they are enrolled or shortly after completion. In addition, these jobs garner wages that range from \$25 per hour to \$65 per hour. It is these types of courses and programs that we must bring to our institutions because so many are being displaced. Many companies rely upon their community college to assist in getting people back to work or helping them to upskill. Offering more innovative and technological skills training that are in high demand is an ever-changing need. The urgency of upskilling for our workforce needs remains a challenge. Further, it is also an opportunity for community colleges to address the crisis and the need to upgrade the skill sets of even those who have graduated with four-year degrees. What our businesses need from our students is constantly changing, so the community college continues to be the institution that can deliver low-cost training, education, and the foundational skills necessary to succeed. It is through our lens of equity and providing opportunity for all that we all must be champions for our students. I truly believe in the transformative possibilities that are accessible through the community college system. Managing a robust learning environment is vital as we continue to expand our reach at the college-level and develop a strong ecosystem. Businesses and colleges must work together to remain current and relevant. I worked to build partnerships with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Target, Semiconductor partners, GOOGLE, Meta, Apple, and non-profit organizations.

Previously, I served as the Interim Vice President of Academic Services, Chief Instructional Officer and Athletic Director at Lassen Community College in Susanville, California. Lassen Community College is a small and rural college. During my tenure at the college, I was instrumental in securing \$1 million dollars in grants for the college's Career Technical Educational Programs during my first year. The grant funds helped programs update most of the equipment in the CTE programs. I also oversaw the Inmate Education Program where the college served 44 prisons throughout California. I collaborated with the Workforce Investments Boards, Community-Based Organizations, and various businesses in the area. I was a very active member of the North Far North Consortium. I represented the college at the local, state, and regional level. I hired and evaluated all faculty and instructional classified staff. Along with that, it was my role to prepare/process the schedule of classes and maintain all curriculum for the catalog. I served as the Athletic Director and was directly responsible for ten sports and nine coaches. I maintained the college's role in the California Community Colleges Athletic Association (CCCAA) for the Golden Valley Conference. I was also the Accreditation Liaison Officer for the ACCJC 2014 Site Visit. Lassen College passed accreditation with the highest standards. I monitored, wrote, evaluated, and secured numerous grants on all levels from local, state, and federal. I worked to achieve accreditation for the Licensed Vocational Nursing Program. I collaborated with various certification boards including California Board of Nursing and the California Public Health Association to secure Certified Nursing Assistants Programs for Lassen Community College. I also served on the Executive Cabinet and worked with the campus and community constituency to advance programs.

In another role at Skyline College, part of the San Mateo County Community College District, I served as the Dean of Global Learning Programs and Services and Social Science/Creative Arts. The Study Abroad and the International Student Program were re-imagined under my tenure and the programs continue to grow. Study Abroad developed district-wide standards. We expanded our student travel programs to include Global Internships and a passport office for the community. These programs were pivotal to the growth and development of our students who never thought traveling internationally was something they could participate in. The program aimed to build greater equity with studying abroad. In addition, I was involved in Capital Improvement Projects. I have experience working with architects, builders, and facilities to be sure the projects are successful and remain on budget. I worked on the Accreditation Oversight Committee, Deans/VPs, and Instructional Leadership Operating Team. Serving on these committees and others allows for greater campus collaboration. The process of participatory governance is so important as we are all moving forward in new environments. Shared and participatory governance gives voice to campus constituencies. Listening to the constituencies allows all of us to examine issues from our relative perspectives. Listening and trusting each other is important; however, it is imperative that we truly are accountable to each other and listen to each other as we move forward.

I am particularly drawn to Roxbury Community College's commitment to empowering students, fostering inclusion, and driving community impact. My leadership philosophy is deeply rooted in these values, and I have a proven track record of developing programs and initiatives that enhance student experience, promote organizational excellence, and advance equity.

At Roxbury Community College, I envision a future where we continue to expand our reach, embrace innovation and elevate the student and employee experience. I am very eager to collaborate with faculty, students, staff, and our community partners to actualize our college vision to ensure that Roxbury Community College remains an accessible place of opportunity and excellence in higher education.

Thank you for this opportunity to introduce myself. I look forward to meeting the search committee and participating in the continued growth and advancement of the Roxbury Community College campus and community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tammy Robinson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tammy Robinson, Ed.D.