



## PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

### COLUMBIA GORGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OREGON

The Board of Education of Columbia Gorge Community College (CGCC) invites nominations and applications for the position of President. CGCC seeks a President with a deep commitment to our strong values of student success, academic excellence, diversity, equity, and innovation.

#### Mission, Vision, and Values

**Mission Statement:** "Columbia Gorge Community College builds dreams and transforms lives by providing lifelong educational programs that strengthen our community."

**Vision:** "Become the first option of choice for education and training in the communities we serve."

#### Values:

- Respect for the individual
- Integrity
- Commitment to learning
- Community focus
- Excellence
- Service

#### About the College

Located on the Columbia River and in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, Columbia Gorge Community College (CGCC) is one of 17 community colleges in Oregon. CGCC's tax district comprises the majority of Wasco and Hood River counties, but the institution also serves residents in five other rural counties: Sherman, Wheeler and Gilliam in Oregon; and Klickitat and Skamania in Washington. The college serves a rural region of approximately 10,000 square miles with a population of just over 88,000. According to the Oregon Higher Education Community College Snapshot, in 2020/21 the college enrolled 2,231 total students, of whom nearly 35% identified as students of color.

The college has two locations, in Hood River and The Dalles, both within the stunning Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. The college mascot is "Brook Chinook," a Chinook salmon. The Chinook is important to the Native American tribes that live nearby, and played a large part in the history and settlement of the area. The college is federally designated as a Hispanic-serving institution (HSI).

The college serves many kinds of students, including English language learners, GED® seekers, recent high school graduates, or those seeking a new career. The college also provides individual classes for those who want to update their job skills, and short-term certificates (one year or less) that may boost career options. Finally, the college provides life-enriching community education classes that are enjoyed by students of all ages.

CGCC provides high-caliber instruction, small classes with personalized attention, and robust programs that lead not just to jobs, but to careers. The college aligns those programs with the standards of the State of Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), so that students may qualify for professional certifications, or transfer to four-year universities to complete their Bachelor's degrees.

### **Opportunities and Challenges**

- Serve as a passionate advocate of Columbia Gorge Community College, communicating the value of the college as a regional educational leader, strengthening alliances with local business and industry, school districts, universities, and elected officials, and facilitating engagement of its diverse communities.
- Enhance outreach to traditionally underserved populations in the college service area.
- Increase enrollment and retention by modernizing processes, showcasing CGCC's strengths, and offering innovative programs and support services to attract and retain students from both within and outside CGCC's service area.
- Respond nimbly to educational, cultural, workforce, and economic opportunities. Build, maintain, and grow regional public and private partnerships.
- Engage with local business and industry and K-12 partners to provide responsive and relevant career and technical offerings, including stackable credentials and apprenticeships to meet the needs of a changing workforce.
- Support CGCC's ongoing Guided Pathways work to increase student retention and student goal attainment.
- Provide ongoing leadership and advocacy for successful implementation of Anthology (ERP) software platform.
- Build strong relationships with employees and students, foster unity and collaboration, and assure retention of outstanding faculty and staff.
- Foster the College's mission, vision, and values among the Board and employees to increase shared governance and collaboration.
- Work with the CGCC Foundation to align efforts with the college strategic plan and build foundation capacity.
- Work with faculty, staff, and Board to create a financially resilient institution and a culture of fiscal responsibility. Address financial challenges and statewide funding system challenges through advocacy and collaboration with the Board of Education; the Oregon Community College Association; HECC; local, state, and federal government partners, and others.

### **Ideal Characteristics**

- A leader who is visible and accessible on The Dalles Campus and the Hood River Center, and throughout the communities CGCC serves; a leader who possesses exceptional communication skills and a collaborative mindset, and uses those skills to develop strong relationships, shared priorities, and a sense of community.
- A culturally responsive leader with an evidence-based commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and economic justice who demonstrates measurable institutional and community outcomes and can foster a sense of belonging for all.
- An ethical leader, with integrity and honesty, who demonstrates a track record of transparency and inclusiveness, who values people and empowers them to achieve college goals.

- A leader who understands the unique opportunities and challenges facing rural community colleges.
- A leader who is a strategic thinker and creative problem-solver; a results-oriented leader who recognizes and creates opportunities and leads college teams to act upon them. A track record of setting measurable goals, assessing progress, and using data to make informed decisions and benefit students.
- A leader who champions the use of technology to support student success, increase the effectiveness and efficiency of campus operations, and better meet community needs.
- A leader dedicated to culturally responsive excellence in teaching and learning.
- A leader who understands the value of college culture, enrollment management, and has experience with developing and sustaining high quality student life programs.
- A leader with demonstrated success working collaboratively with an elected board, advising trustees on key issues and collaborating with the board to realize a vision for the college's future.
- A fiscally astute leader with a track record of managing complex budgets and aligning them with institutional mission and priorities.
- An experienced leader in institutional advancement, who connects with the legislature and government as well as business and community members to generate support for student access and student success.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- Master's Required. An earned doctorate from a regionally accredited institution is highly preferred.
- 3 years of senior-level administrative experience. Administrative experience in higher education preferred.
- Community College experience preferred.
- Classroom teaching experience preferred.