

Dr. Kenneth Lawson, President
Columbia Gorge Community College
400 East Scenic Drive The Dalles, OR 97058
(541) 506-6011
klawson@cgcc.edu

Education:

- Ph.D. Political Science, University of Washington, March, 2000
- MA Political Science, University of Utah, 1990
- BS Political Science, University of Utah, cum laude, 1988
 - Certificate of International Relations

Positions held: (Listed with selected, key duties and responsibilities)

Columbia Gorge Community College, President, August 2023–present

- Provide strategic leadership and vision for the College, ensuring alignment with the mission.
- Oversee all college operations, including budget management, student services, instructional programs, and community outreach across the service district.
- Foster strong partnerships with local industry, K-12 districts, and government agencies to support regional economic and workforce development.

Skagit Valley College, Vice President for Instruction, January 2013–August 2023

- Promoted the development of innovative and high-quality instructional programs meeting the educational needs of a diverse student population.
- Provided strategic leadership and vision in the planning, development, and evaluation of instructional programs and services.
- Built and maintained collaborative activities with K12, higher education, and public agencies.

Shoreline Community College

Dean, Divisions of Equity & Social Justice/Social Sciences and Library, Media, & eLearning, July 2010

- Oversee instructional programs and faculty in the fields of: Criminal Justice, Education, Library, Multicultural Studies, Social Sciences and World Languages
- Oversee instructional support in the area of eLearning and Media Services
- Campus-wide responsibility in the areas of: Budget, Diversity, Global Studies, Governance, Honors, Service-Learning, Student Retention, Technology Initiatives, and Transfer
- Responsible for Parent Child Center and Parent Education Programs

Dean, Division of Business, Intra-American Studies, and Social Sciences, 2008-10

- Oversee instructional programs and faculty in the fields of: Accounting, Business, Business Technology, Computer Information Systems, Criminal Justice, Education, Multicultural Studies, Parent Education, Social Sciences, Speech Language Pathology, and World Languages

- Campus-wide responsibility in the areas of: Diversity, Global Studies, Honors, Service-Learning and Transfer

Dean, Division of Intra-American Studies and Social Sciences, 2006-2008

- Oversee Instructional programs and faculty in the fields of: Criminal Justice, Education, Multicultural Studies, Parent Education, Social Sciences, Speech Language Pathology, and World Languages
- Elected by vote of IAS/SS faculty with over 75% vote-of-confidence

Program Chair, History, Economics, International Studies, Political Science and Geography, 2004-06

Professor, Political Science and International Studies, 2001-2011 (tenured 6/2004)

University of Utah, Department of Political Science, Visiting Assistant Professor, Political Science, 2000-2001

Selected Professional and Community Leadership:

- Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD), Executive Board, Vice-Chair, 2024–present
- National Council on Workforce Education, Board Member, 2024–present
- Aspen Presidential Fellow, Aspen Institute College Excellence Program, 2019–2020
- Skagit Innovation Partnership Zone for Value-Added Agriculture, Chair (2015–17), Member (2014–23)
- Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, Instruction Commission, Former Chair

References:

Kim Morgan, Board of Education Member Columbia Gorge Community College 400 East Scenic Drive, The Dalles, OR 97058 (541) 506-6011 kmorgan@cgcc.edu

Matthew Campbell, President Pierce College 9401 Farwest Drive SW, Lakewood, WA 98498 (253) 964-6500 mcampbell@pierce.ctc.edu

Warren Brown, Chief Executive Officer College Spark Washington 1904 Third Ave., Suite 501, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 282-1039 warren@collegespark.org

Thomas Keegan, President Emeritus Skagit Valley College 2405 East College Way, Mount Vernon, WA 98273 thomas.keegan@skagit.edu

Suzy Ames, President Peninsula College 1502 E. Lauridsen Blvd., Port Angeles, WA 98362 (360) 417-6201 sames@pencol.edu