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## **Dr. John S. Nixon Named Mt. SAC's 8<sup>th</sup> President**

*Interim CEO is now permanent head of state's largest  
single-campus community college district.*

WALNUT, Calif., Feb. 28, 2008—Mt. San Antonio College Interim President Dr. John S. Nixon was named the permanent President/CEO of California's largest single-campus community college district, effective immediately.

The Board of Trustees announced its unanimous selection last night in regular session, which concluded a nationwide search for the institution's eighth president. The Board noted that Nixon's candidacy received widespread support among the faculty, staff, student groups, as well as community leaders.

"We believe Dr. Nixon has the experience, vision, and leadership to advance Mt. SAC to the next level of excellence and distinction," said Board President Dr. Manuel Baca. "He's the right person for these challenging times when the institution must complete its campus master plan to accommodate future enrollment growth and expand academic and student support programs."

Located on an expansive 420-acre campus in Walnut, Mt. SAC serves more students than most colleges and universities in California. It is also the largest single-campus community college district in the state—serving some 65,000 students annually, the majority of whom live in the 17 cities and unincorporated areas within its vast geographic district.

In response to his selection and challenge, Nixon said, "I am deeply honored and humbled by the Board's vote of confidence in my qualifications and my vision to lead Mt. SAC to the next level of greatness. I am proud to lead an institution that is nationally known for its distinction academically, athletically and artistically.

"We have outstanding faculty at Mt. SAC, and our students bring added distinction to the College year after year with unparalleled honors and achievements in various disciplines. My role not only will be to build on this success, but also to effectively address the challenges associated with growth as well as future fiscal challenges stemming from the state's budget woes."

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## **NIXON NAMED MT. SAC PRESIDENT**

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Having served as Mt. SAC's Interim President/CEO since last July, Nixon started his tenure at the College in 2004 as Vice President of Instruction. He oversaw all instructional programs and services, including seven academic divisions with 2,270 full- and part-time faculty members.

As Interim President, Nixon has established relationships and broadened partnerships with local government, business, community, nonprofit and educational organizations and leaders.

A 30-year veteran in education, Nixon previously served as Vice President of Academic Affairs at Santa Ana College for 12 years, where he supervised nine academic divisions as well as counseling services and learning resources. He also served for a year as Santa Ana's Interim President in 1998 and as Associate Dean of Humanities and Assistant Dean of Continuing Education.

As a career educator, Nixon taught English and English as a Second Language at USC, and at UC Irvine, Santiago Canyon College, and Irvine Valley College. He also taught for the Huntington Beach Union High School District, at Ocean View High School, and at the University of Tunis as a Peace Corps volunteer.

Involved in community affairs, Nixon has served on the board of directors for the Orange County Community Health Care Clinics, the Orange County Chapter of the American Red Cross, and the Orange County Marine Institute. In addition, he has held statewide leadership roles, including co-chair of the System Advisory Committee on Curriculum, the statewide Basic Skills Advisory Committee, and as President of the California Community College Chief Instructional Officers Association.

Nixon holds bachelor and master degrees in English from UC Irvine, and a doctorate in English from USC. He has also co-authored two English textbooks.

Nixon and his wife, Mary, live in Irvine. They have two grown children, and their first grandchild is on the way.

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