

October 1, 2021

Dear Glendale College Community,

On behalf of the members of the Glendale Community College District Board of Trustees, I express our sincere appreciation for the leadership and support Dr. Viar has provided to the Board and his service to our college and community. We accept and understand his decision to retire effective June 30, 2022 but do so with deep regrets.

When we hired Dr. Viar in May 2013, he committed to serve as superintendent/president for five years. Fortunately, that commitment has extended to nine years. From our recovery of the Big Recession fiscal crises and accreditation warnings through our responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, the steady, patient, student-focused, and collegial approach of Dr. Viar in decision-making has made a positive difference. The results of the annual College Views Faculty/Staff Survey addressing 12 areas of leadership have consistently been high and attest to how well he has served the college. Further, Dr. Viar and his wife Jane have been visible and active in the community and their service on several non-profit boards has been commendable.

The announcement by Dr. Viar provides sufficient time for the Board of Trustees to fulfill its most important role – hiring the chief executive officer. Board Policy 2431: Superintendent/President Selection sets forth the broad parameters of the selection process to be used. The policy calls for the process: 1) to be “fair, inclusive, participatory, and open...;” 2) for the Board to employ a search consultant to assist with the search; 3) to involve a search committee “broadly reflective of the District’s constituencies...,” including the ASGCC, Academic Senate, Guild, CSEA, Managers and Confidentials, and the Foundation; and 4) to include public forums. The Board will begin more detailed development of the process at its October 19, 2021 meeting.

GCC has a positive reputation throughout the state and is well-positioned to attract outstanding candidates for this position. I assure you the members of the Board of Trustees will work closely with the constituent leaders of the college and do all we can to attract and hire the best person to work collaboratively with all of us to keep GCC moving forward with distinction.

With respect,



Dr. Armine Hacopian  
President, Board of Trustees

Superintendent/President Dr. David Viar

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