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Larry Rideaux Jr. appointed president of the MCC- Maple Woods campus in Kansas City North

Larry Rideaux Jr., Ed.D., has been named president of the Metropolitan Community College-Maple Woods campus in Kansas City's Northland. Rideaux, whose appointment was approved by the MCC Board of Trustees on April 23, will start his new position June 1.

He is coming to MCC from [Texas Southmost College](#) in Brownsville, Texas, where he is vice president of student services. The community college has about 8,600 credit-seeking students and sits just across the border from Matamoros, Mexico.

Before joining Texas Southmost in September 2018, Rideaux spent six years at the Tarrant County College District in Texas, where he served as vice president of student development; acting vice president for academic and student affairs; and interim dean of humanities. He worked in several roles from 1998-2012 at Lone Star College in Houston, including as associate vice chancellor for student success and dean of student development. He has also been an adjunct instructor, teaching student success courses at Tarrant County and education courses at Lone Star.



MCC Chancellor Kimberly Beatty said she was impressed with Rideaux's commitment to higher education and to students in particular. His experience with student success initiatives, team building, community engagement and K-12 school partnerships "align well with the next era of the MCC-Maple Woods campus," the chancellor said.

"Dr. Rideaux is the best fit for this role, especially given his diverse career path and his experience leading in campus and district roles at four-year, two-year, single-campus and multi-campus environments," Dr. Beatty added. "With a doctorate in community college leadership, Dr. Rideaux is a scholar of what we do — making students' dreams come true."

One thing that attracted him to MCC, Rideaux said, was the College's "strong student success agenda." Another was the chance to work with Chancellor Beatty: "She has a national reputation for doing really great work."

He said he's looking forward to leading faculty and staff at MCC-Maple Woods and helping more students succeed.

During his interview process (all done via videoconferencing because of the coronavirus pandemic), Rideaux said he heard repeatedly about shared governance at MCC — how information flows from the college district to the campuses and vice versa. There are established "avenues where everyone can share their concerns," he said. Something else he learned: that employees stay for "years and years," which he attributes to MCC's healthy institutional climate and culture.

In his current position at Texas Southmost, Rideaux is responsible for student recruitment, advising, student activities, financial aid, transfer, testing, accessibility resources, career services and recreational sports.

Rideaux holds a B.S. in psychology from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas; an M.A. in counseling from Prairie View A&M University; and an Ed.D. in educational administration from the University of Texas (Austin) Community College Leadership Program. He completed the Thomas Lakin Institute for Mentored Leadership and the American Association of Community Colleges' (AACC) Future Leaders Institute. He is also a graduate of the Leadership Fort Worth and Leadership North Houston programs.

Rideaux has been honored with several awards throughout his career, including induction into the Texas Hall of Honor for College Administrators and presentation of the Distinguished College Administrator Award, both from College Administrators for the Texas Region of Phi Theta Kappa academic honor society.

Tyjaun A. Lee, Ph.D., who has served as president of both MCC-Maple Woods and MCC-Penn Valley since 2018, will now return her attention full time to the Penn Valley campus in midtown Kansas City.

What to call us: Metropolitan Community College is one college with five campuses. When referring to an individual campus, we say Metropolitan Community College-Blue River, Metropolitan Community College-Maple Woods, etc., not “Blue River Community College” or “Maple Woods Community College.” On second reference: MCC-Blue River, MCC-Maple Woods, etc. Thanks for getting our name right!

A century of service: Metropolitan Community College is Kansas City’s oldest public institution of higher education; 2019-20 marks our 105th academic year. [We were founded in 1915](#) as the Kansas City Polytechnic Institute, changed our name to the Junior College of Kansas City in 1919, and became “Metropolitan” in 1964. Our campuses — MCC-Blue River, MCC-Business & Technology, MCC-Longview, MCC-Maple Woods and MCC-Penn Valley — and a robust online program educate about 30,000 students annually through credit and noncredit courses and business services.

Our mission: Preparing students, serving communities, creating opportunities.

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