



NEWS

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NORTH
SEATTLE
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

SEATTLE
CENTRAL
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

SOUTH
SEATTLE
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

SEATTLE
VOCATIONAL
INSTITUTE

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Duwamish
Industrial
Educational
Center

NewHolly
Learning Center

Sandpoint
Training
Center

Seattle Maritime
Academy

Wood
Construction
Center

Washington District VI

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President is named for South Seattle Community College

SEATTLE – Dr. Jill Wakefield, an educator and administrator with more than 25 years of experience at South Seattle Community College, has been named president of the college.

The announcement was made by Seattle Community College District Chancellor Peter Ku at the Jan. 9 meeting of the District’s Board of Trustees. “Dr. Wakefield’s depth of experience with the college, with the Seattle District and with our state higher education system is an important asset,” Ku said. “Her dedication to South Seattle Community College is unmatched and she has a well-developed vision for the future of the college.”

Wakefield began her career at South Seattle Community College in 1976 as Veterans’ Program Coordinator, and then served as Research Coordinator and Director of Communications. In 1986, she was appointed Assistant to the President, where she initiated a marketing program that increased enrollment by 20% over five years, and helped obtain and direct several state and federal grants. Next, as Vice President for Educational Services, she developed the college’s investment in technology and its Career Link Program for high school students.

Since 1995, Wakefield has served as Vice President for Instruction. Her responsibilities include reorganizing and developing new instructional programs; leading the college-wide strategic planning process; and the recent accreditation review, in which the college received commendations in six major areas.

Wakefield has also taught as a part-time faculty member at Washington State University, Seattle University and Centralia College. Her research, presentations and publications have been focused on business and college partnerships that lead to more effective training and fund development. She was honored as Communicator of the Year by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations and was selected for the Institute for Executive Management at Harvard University and the Executive Leadership Institute sponsored by the League for Innovation.

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The new president is a community college graduate who received her associate's degree from Centralia College, her bachelor's in education from Central Washington University, master's degree in Public Administration/Public Policy from the University of Washington, and doctorate in educational leadership from Seattle University.

She was appointed interim president in July 2002, after the move of former president David Mitchell to Olympic College. Wakefield was selected following an internal, district-wide search, and was recommended by a committee of campus, community, and district representatives.

South Seattle Community College is a comprehensive college serving 14,600 students who enroll for academic courses preparing for transfer to a four-year college; certificates or degrees in more than 20 professional-technical programs; continuing education; basic education; and English as a Second Language.

The college, located on an 87-acre campus in West Seattle, includes an award-winning Culinary Arts program and a high-tech Library with a 100-computer Information Commons, and a six-acre arboretum adjacent to the site of the Seattle Chinese Garden. The college also operates the NewHolly Learning Center on Beacon Hill and the Duwamish Training Center, which is the largest apprentice-training site in the Northwest.

South is one of three Seattle Community Colleges. The Seattle Community College District is the largest two-year district in the state, serving 55,000 students at South Seattle, North Seattle and Seattle Central Community Colleges, the Seattle Vocational Institute, and five specialized training centers.

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