

1. Why are you seeking appointment to the Ohlone Board of Trustees?

I am seeking appointment to the Ohlone Board of Trustees for the following reasons.

- To serve the community and ensure the California Community College System's goal to remain affordable and accessible for everyone specifically applied to Ohlone College.
- Ohlone College is integral to the community. It is run very well and I would like to assist in keeping it at this high level.
- As a descendent of immigrants who valued education, I would like to protect recent immigrants' access to quality and affordable education.
- Ohlone College with its Gary Soren Smith Center for the Fine and Performing Arts has developed Ohlone College to be the educational and cultural center of the community. I would like to be part of the further development of both the educational and culture opportunities for the community.

2. What special skills do you bring to the job of Ohlone Trustee?

The special skills I believe I bring to the position of Ohlone Trustee are:

- Strategic Planning: Ohlone College's Board of Trustees has instituted a strategic plan. As a former CEO & President, I understand how to monitor without micromanaging the execution of a strategic plan.
- As a Board Member and past Chairman of the Development Committee of CCEB (Catholic Charities of the East Bay), I am experienced with fiscal aspects of non-profit organizations and fund raising.
- As the member of multiple technology organizations, I understand trends and needs. Also, there may be the potential for additional corporate exposure for Ohlone College from these contacts.
- As a technology executive, I was recognized for my team building and consensus skills. I believe these are qualities necessary for a good Trustee.

3. What do you believe the role of the trustee is? What areas would you emphasize as a Trustee?

- The role of a trustee is to be a cooperative member of a team tasked with the responsibility of overseeing Ohlone College. This entails hiring the best Administrator and monitoring that person's performance against goals outlined by the Board.
- Trustees are responsible for sustaining their college's mission to assure student learning and make a difference for their communities. To accomplish this they are responsible for anticipating and responding to new challenges related to environmental and architectural sustainability, leadership turnover, accountability, and changes occurring in the community.
- As a Trustee there is an underlying role to balance consensus while contributing personal opinions and experience to the discussion of issues.
- I would see the role of being an effective member of the Board to ensure that Ohlone College continues to provide high quality education and services.

4. As a trustee what do you hope to accomplish during this term? How can the board or college help you in achieving those goals?

- First, replace the difficult shoes to fill of former Trustee, Mr. Dan Archer.
- Second, possibly be appointed to the committee positions of Mr. Archer
  1. Board Educational Programs and Services Committee
  2. Representative of Ohlone College Foundation
- The Board can help me by individual meetings with each Trustee to give me their perspective about their role and the direction each would like to see for Ohlone College.
- The College can help me by giving me orientation tours or to shadow the President for a few hours.
- Also, I would like to attend workshops conducted by the Community College League of California for Community College Trustees.

5. What would be your three top priorities if elected to the Ohlone Board?

The top three priorities if appointed to the Ohlone College Board would be:

- To become a contributing member of the Board and assess the area I can most complement or supplement the current members.
- To increase corporate visibility for possible donations like the DNA unit that was given by industry.
- As a trustee to make all my decisions always mindful of my responsibilities to fulfill the board's code of ethics and uphold high standards of integrity.

6. Whom would you feel you are representing if you are appointed to the board of trustees?

I feel it is simplistic to represent a single group like voters, taxpayers or students. Just this short list overlooks a student who is 17 years old. It disregards the current second grader who will be a student in a decade. I would like to represent the College as it is today and in the future as part of the community. I would like to assist in Ohlone College continuing to deliver a high quality product to the community.

7. What do you see as the College's role in our community? What would you do as a trustee to further the role?

- I live less than a quarter mile from Ohlone College. It is a symbolic backyard for our family and many families in the community. Beyond, education it provides an environment for Fremont's Mission San Jose section. As a trustee, I would be conscious that we represent more than a college but a large complex and dynamic community.
- Ohlone College is not just an educational institution but the cultural and art focal point of Fremont. I would be willing to advocate to people and organizations the many cultural opportunities and events at Ohlone College.

8. What is your understanding of the mission and purposes of the community colleges in California? What are the mission and purposes of our district? Do you have any suggestions about how Ohlone College can do better at achieving its mission and purpose?
- My understanding is it is to maintain an open and affordable system for all.
  - Primary missions of the Colleges are to offer academic and vocational education at the lower division level for both recent high school graduates and those returning to school. Another primary mission is to advance California's economic growth and global competitiveness through education, training, and services that contribute to continuous workforce improvement.
  - The mission of the district is within the framework of the community colleges of California mission and specifically: "Ohlone College offers instruction for basic skills, career entry, university transfer, economic development, and personal enrichment for all who can benefit from our instruction in an environment where student learning success is highly valued, supported and continually assessed."
  - It would be arrogant of me to believe I know more than the current Board of Trustees on improving Ohlone College to better its mission. If selected, I will work in a collaborative and constructive manner to improve Ohlone College.
9. Please discuss your understanding of the relationship between the trustees on the board and the administrators, faculty, staff, and students of the institution.
- The trustees select the President of the College. The President of the College runs the college within the frame work of the goals outlined by the Trustees. Trustees do not manage the President's staff or give them instructions. Trustees have a duty to interface and understand the opinions and views of the staff and students, but not to intervene in the function of the President. By serving as a trustee, the person must be very careful not to subvert the President's function. At the same time, the Trustee must be aware of the performance of the College and how to evaluate the President's performance.
10. What is your opinion of shared governance? What is the board's role in dealing with decisions made by college staff before being presented to the board for ratification?
- My opinion is that shared governance is an effective means of governing the California Community College system. Governance is shared by multiple groups each which are closest to its constituents.
  - The Board should avoid back dating ratification. Email and faxes allow for quick majority approval or unanimous written consent (UWC) to avoid a potential problem.

11. What is your understanding of the primary responsibilities of the board? What would be your responsibility to the board as a trustee?

- The primary responsibility of the Board is to work within the framework of the state's community college system and its laws while being responsible for governing Ohlone College.
- My responsibility to the Board would be to function within the laws of California and then support other Board members in the Ohlone College mission.

12. If a board member feels strongly about a matter, but his or her position is not supported by the board, how should this trustee conduct him or her self?

- First, if it is a legal issue it is the responsibility of the Board Member to advocate until a legal opinion is rendered.
- Second, assuming it is not a legal issue, the member should understand the opinions of the other Board members; spend a reasonable time stating his/her opinion then move on to other issues. Compromise, collaboration and concession are necessary to move organizations forward.

13. What is your connection to Ohlone College? Have you ever taken classes or attended events at or sponsored by the college?

- I have taken foreign language classes at Ohlone College. This was a once a week class with web based learning for remote students. The courses were taught by Ms. Marilena Tamburello, Educational Technologist Coordinator for Instructional Technology and Distance Learning.
- During the summer of 2002, I was a guest lecturer in a basic business course taught by part time instructor Mr. Glenn Forslin and Mr. Steven Wong, Dean of Business and Technology.
- I have attended multiple concerts, student plays, car shows and flea market sales.
- I have attended a Saturday ADD seminar on the campus, and been a proctor for one of the sessions.
- My son studied for his mortgage broker certificate at Ohlone College.
- My daughter competed in regional swimming events at Ohlone College's pool, and attended two summer school classes for undergraduate pre-requisites.
- Many of my morning walks and jogs have been through Ohlone College including quiet reflective moments at Mission Reservoir.

14. What do you see as the major issues facing the community college(s) in the next decade?

- The major issue facing community colleges in the next decade are.
  1. The low incoming freshmen acceptance percentages at UCs and the GPA standards being implemented by CSUs will put an increased student population on Community College campuses. This is a result of UCs and CSUs not increasing proportionately to the population growth. All this is occurring while the investment in capital and faculty has not been proportional to population increases for community colleges.
  2. The change in educational needs of community college students to matriculate through the UC and CSU systems. Laboratory equipment and facilities need investment at the community college level to keep up with the lower divisional experience of the UC and CSU courses.
  3. Industry is asking for specialized training in positions that historically have been on-the-job training programs. Community Colleges are being asked to pick up this vocational training. As an example, Mr. Patrick Henning, Director of California's Employment Development Department, stated the home pest control industry has requested vocational training at the community college level.
  4. The amount of talent invested due to remedial education needed by a greater proportion of entering students.

15. What is your general impression of Ohlone College?

My general impression of Ohlone College can be summarized by quoting Mr. Dan Archer, "...I believe that the college has never been in better shape. I feel very positive about the administration, staff and my fellow Board members." I would like to be part of such an impressive team to continue to grow Mr. Archer's legacy.