



Top Three Candidates Announced for Ohlone College Presidency

Fremont, Calif., March 23 — Three candidates have been recommended to the [Ohlone Community College District Board of Trustees](#) by the College's presidential search committee for consideration to become the seventh President of Ohlone College.

"We are incredibly pleased with the high quality and caliber of our top three finalists," said Ohlone Community College District Board Chair Richard Watters. "The pool of candidates we had was impressive and the presidential search committee worked very hard in identifying the best candidates that would serve the district's needs."

The College's current President, Dr. Gari Browning, [announced in October 2019](#) that she would retire at the end of the 2019/20 academic year. Browning has been Ohlone College's president since 2008.

The Ohlone Community College Board of Trustees contracted with the [Association of Community College Trustees](#) (ACCT) to conduct a national search for qualified candidates beginning in November 2019. A search committee representing both the college and community interests was formed to recommend the most qualified candidates to the Ohlone Community College Board.

The three candidates are as follows:

- **Dr. Eric Bishop**
- **Dr. Tammeil Y. Gilkerson**
- **Dr. Matthew Kritscher**

Public forums to meet the candidates will be livestreamed via Zoom on April 2nd from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. where participants can provide additional input.

The forum schedule is as follows:

- **1:30-2:30 p.m.** – Dr. Eric Bishop <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/812091114>
- **2:45-3:45 p.m.** – Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson - <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/378930155>
- **4:00-5:00 p.m.** – Dr. Matthew Kritscher <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/617396324>

The Ohlone Community College District Board of Trustees will hold interviews with the three finalists on April 3rd.

NOTE: Presidential Candidate Bios are in the attached press release.

###



Eric Bishop, Ed.D.

Dr. Eric Bishop is associate superintendent of student services and legislative engagement for Chaffey College, in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. In his capacity Dr. Bishop oversees all of the student services for the college and works to create a space for access to higher education for the college's communities. He also facilitates the college's government relations, working with local, state and federal officials on behalf of the college. He has been at the college since 2007 and has served as Dean of the Fontana Campus, Interim Dean of Physical Education and Athletics, Director of Student Discipline and Grievance, and Vice President of Student Services. He has served as Title IX Compliance Officer, and as a tri-chair on the President's Equity Council for the college. His position oversees 15 student service areas, and serves as the college's governmental relations staff. Additionally, he serves on the state-wide Chief Student Services Officers Association Executive Board, representing the 12 colleges in

the Inland Empire.

Dr. Bishop has also served as associate dean of academic support and retention at the University of La Verne where he taught journalism and mass media studies full time for seven years. He currently serves as an adjunct faculty member for the University of La Verne, as well as in the doctoral program at San Diego State University. He also sits as the chair on the Bethany Theological Seminary Board of Trustees in Richmond, Indiana.

Dr. Bishop has a doctorate in organizational leadership (Ed.D.), master's in communications and bachelor's in journalism all from the University of La Verne. He lives in Pomona with his wife, Shanta, and his 9-year-old daughter, Emilee.



Tammeil Y. Gilkerson, Ed.D.

From her days as a student leader at UC Berkeley to her direct work advancing economic opportunity and empowerment for people of color, Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson has demonstrated a life-long commitment to social justice, equity, and inclusion. For nearly two decades she has actively served in roles engaged in meeting the educational needs of community college students. She continuously seeks new ways to both imagine and create learning environments and services that support student success.

Dr. Gilkerson is currently the president of Laney College in Oakland, CA. Prior to her current role, she served as vice president of academic and student affairs at Contra Costa College and the first diversity, inclusion and innovation officer

for the Contra Costa Community College District. Dr. Gilkerson also served as the vice president of academic affairs at San José City College and dean of counseling and matriculation at Evergreen Valley College. She began her community college career as a faculty member in psychology-counseling at Chabot College, serving as the coordinator for the TRIO Student Support Services program. In addition to her work in community colleges, Dr. Gilkerson also served as the Academy and Education Policy Director at The Greenlining Institute and in positions at UC Berkeley in the Office of Student Life and the Early Academic Outreach Program.

Dr. Gilkerson is a leader in a number of statewide efforts to find solutions that address students' basic needs, support undocumented and mixed-status students, and improve the quality and delivery of distance education. Through her participation on the Affordability, Food & Housing Access Taskforce, the Dreamer's Advisory Group, and the Distance Education & Educational Technology Advisory Committee she has developed high-level policy recommendations and practical strategies for front-line practitioners.

One of seven children, Dr. Gilkerson grew up in Hayward, CA. The first in her family to graduate from college, she holds a bachelor's degree in history, a master's degree in counseling with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy and pupil personnel services, and a doctorate in organizational leadership with an emphasis in higher education. Dr. Gilkerson lives with her family in Oakland, CA.



Matthew Kritscher, Ed.D.

Dr. Kritscher has dedicated his career to serving diverse communities in public higher education in California Community Colleges and Universities. As an educational leader for over two decades, including eleven years as dean and the last six years as a Vice President of Student Services at Chabot College, Dr. Kritscher is passionate about eliminating student equity gaps, and providing support for students who are farthest from opportunity. Dr. Kritscher holds a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership from San Francisco State University. He graduated from the first cohort of the university's inaugural doctoral program. He also holds masters and bachelor's degrees from California Polytechnic State University. Dr. Kritscher conducted dissertation research on "How peer mentors affect the persistence of community college students of color".

Dr. Kritscher served on the Governing Board for the Mid-Alameda County Consortium of Adult Education Programs, and is President Emeritus of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Administrators' Association. He is also a President Emeritus of the statewide California Community Colleges Student Success and Support Program Professionals Association. Dr. Kritscher has received numerous awards for his work with supporting student access, equity and success in public higher education including a Chancellor's Award, Unity Awards, Striving Black Brothers Coalition Touched by an Angel Award, and was recognized as an Educator of Excellence by the African American Regional Education Alliance.

Dr. Kritscher has served as the Principal Investigator on numerous federal, state, and private grants, directing integrated projects toward institutionalization for student equity and success.

Dr. Kritscher and his wife, Susan Truong, grew up and have worked in public higher education in the bay area for nearly twenty years. In partnership with non-profit organizations, they have mentored low-income, first generation foster youth to attend and complete college. They love gardening, outdoor activities and reside in Kensington, California.