

Date

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CVTC Names Finalists in President Search

Public can meet the four candidates in virtual forums

Eau Claire, WI - The Chippewa Valley Technical College District Board has selected four finalists in its search for a new president, Board President Paul Bauer announced Tuesday, April 20.

The four candidates in alphabetical order are:

Sunem Beaton-Garcia, Ed.D., is north campus president and vice provost for academic services and interim south campus president and vice provost for academic resources at Broward College in Fort Lauderdale, FL. She previously served as interim central campus president and vice provost for teaching excellence and learning at Broward College. Dr. Beaton-Garcia earned a Doctor of Education in Instructional Technology and Distance Education from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, FL; a Master of Arts in Library and Information Science from the University of South Florida in Tampa, FL; and a Bachelor of Arts in Business and Marketing from University of Phoenix in Tempe, AZ.

Kathleen Linaker, Ph.D., is vice president of academics at Western Technical College in La Crosse, WI. She previously served as assistant vice president of academics at Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica, NY. Dr. Linaker earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Higher Education from Loyola University Chicago; a Doctor of Chiropractic from Northwestern Health Sciences University in Bloomington, MN; and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, CA.

Nicholas Ouellette, Ph.D., is superintendent/CEO of the School District of Hudson in Hudson, WI. He previously served as superintendent/CEO of Odebolt-Arthur and Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community Schools in Odebolt, IA. Dr. Ouellette earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from Iowa State University in Ames, IA; a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Aurora University in Aurora, IL; a Bachelor of Arts in Technology Education with a minor in General Industry from the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, IA; and a Certificate of Advanced Studies, Superintendent Endorsement from Iowa State University.

Kristen Raney, Ed.D., is vice president of academic affairs at Saint Paul College in Saint Paul, MN. She previously served as interim vice president of student affairs at Saint Paul College. Prior to joining Saint Paul College, Dr. Raney served in multiple roles at CVTC between 2003-2015, including dean of academic development and services. Dr. Raney earned a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Leadership from Edgewood College in Madison, WI; a Master of Science in Education from University of Wisconsin-Stout; and a Bachelor of Arts in English from St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, MN.

“We would personally like to thank the entire College community for your continued interest and support in the process to identify our next President,” Bauer said. “I would also like to thank each member of the Presidential Search Committee for their exceptional work and effort.”

Each candidate will participate in one-hour public forums the week of April 26. Forums will be made accessible to all faculty, administrators, staff, students, and the general public. No registration is needed.

There will be a brief introduction of each candidate, followed by a question-and-answer session. All who participate will be asked to complete a feedback form which will be collected via an online survey. Completed forms will be given to the District Board for its review. Surveys will close the day following each candidate’s forum at either 3:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m., according to the end time of the candidate’s forum.

Members of the public may email questions they would like to ask the final candidates to Lauren Sullivan, executive assistant to the president and board, lsullivan9@cvtc.edu, by 3 p.m. on Friday, April 23.

For more information on the presidential search, further information on the candidates, and to access the public forums, go to cvtc.edu/president.

The selected candidate will succeed CVTC President Bruce Barker, who announced his retirement, effective July 2021.

With over 115 programs offered both online and on-campus, Chippewa Valley Technical College delivers superior, progressive technical education which improves the lives of students, meets the workforce needs of the region, and strengthens the community. CVTC programs are designed with input of business and industry to prepare graduates for today’s jobs, with 95 percent employed within six months of graduation and associate degree graduates earning an average annual salary of \$47,452.

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Director of Human Resources
Chippewa Valley Technical College
620 W. Clairemont Ave. Eau Claire, WI 54701