



ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACCJC President Stephanie Droker Resignation Announcement

Novato, CA – Yesterday, the Board of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) received, with sincere regret, the resignation of its president Dr. Stephanie Droker. Dr. Droker joined ACCJC in August 2016 as Vice President for Policy and Research and later moved to the role of Senior Vice President. In January 2020 after a lengthy executive search, she was selected to lead ACCJC as President/CEO.

Dr. Droker has provided organizational and regional leadership in the development and support of ACCJC's strategic priorities and accreditation initiatives. She has worked with agency staff, Commissioners, and institutional representatives from across ACCJC's membership, including private colleges and those in the Pacific region, to affect change and foster innovation in ACCJC operations, the accreditation process, and within member institutions. During her tenure, she led ACCJC's implementation of the staff liaison model, launched a new approach to the comprehensive review, and developed a transparent and inclusive Standards Review Process, all with the underlying goal of creating a more collaborative accreditation environment in support of member institutions. As the organization's President, Dr. Droker successfully led ACCJC through its transition to remote operations and advocated for emergency U.S. Department of Education policy flexibilities on behalf of ACCJC member institutions during the pandemic. The agency is particularly proud of the new *Policy on Social Justice* ratified under her leadership. She leaves a dynamic and strong team in place who remain dedicated to furthering the agency's strategic goals and supporting the work of the region's 19 elected Commissioners.

Dr. Droker is moving on to the role of interim deputy chancellor for the Peralta Community College District beginning on January 10, 2022. She looks forward to working under the leadership of interim Chancellor Dr. Jannett Jackson and partnering with the faculty, staff, students, and Board in advancing the District's mission and goals.

"Dr. Droker has been a strong leader, an anchor, committed to the continued development of a positive culture among ACCJC and its constituents. The Peralta Community College District is lucky to have someone of her caliber, a true collaborator, who understands the values shared by Peralta's different constituent groups", said Dr. Sonya Christian, ACCJC chair. "Dr. Droker developed and nurtured a talented team at ACCJC who will provide uninterrupted and stable operations as the agency undergoes this transition".

"I am saddened to learn of the resignation of President Droker, but am excited for this next step in her career and for her continued service to the region," said Dr. Lori Gaskin, ACCJC vice chair. "Dr. Droker is

an extraordinary leader who has worked diligently for the last several years to strengthen ACCJC operations, develop and implement innovative initiatives, advocate for students and community colleges, build diverse, enthusiastic, and well-trained accreditation teams of peer reviewers, and support the work of the 19 Commissioners so they can make informed and thoughtful decisions. Most significantly, President Droker's legacy of goodwill, collegiality, and leadership will be long-lasting within ACCJC".

President Droker's resignation will be effective January 7, 2022. The ACCJC Board of Directors will have more information to share about transition planning in the weeks to come.

For more information about ACCJC, visit www.accjc.org.

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The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) accredits 136 public and private two-year colleges in California, Hawai'i, the Territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

ACCJC supports its member institutions to advance educational quality and student learning and achievement. This collaboration fosters institutional excellence and continuous improvement through innovation, self-analysis, peer review, and application of standards. To learn more, visit www.accjc.org.