



**DATE:** August 30, 2021  
**TO:** Crowder College  
**FROM:** Andy Wood, President, Board of Trustees  
**RE:** Presidential Search Announcement and Invitation to Attend Public Forums  
(Progress Report #1)

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that we have begun the search to identify the next president of Crowder College. The Board is committed to conducting an equitable, inclusive, and transparent national search that will attract a strong and diverse pool of candidates from throughout Missouri and the nation. The search will emphasize the mission of Crowder College to “...build a civil, serving, literate, learning community of responsible citizens.”

The Board has selected the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) to assist us with the presidential search process. ACCT’s assistance will include providing support with the development of the Presidential Profile, recruiting highly competitive candidates, and working extensively with the Board. ACCT has conducted over 750 community college searches and brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to our process. ACCT’s mission is to strengthen community college governance through education and advocacy. Dr. Williams “Bill” Holda will serve as our ACCT Search Consultant, and will assist the Board and College community throughout this important process. His bio is located at: [Bill Holda, Ed.D.](#)

### **Open Forums - Presidential Profile Development**

An important step in the presidential search process is the development of a Presidential Profile. On September 1, 2021 we will host a total of 3 Public Forums. The purpose of these sessions is to listen to your input, which will assist with the development of the Presidential Profile. The entire Crowder College community is invited and encouraged to participate in a wide-ranging discussion about the qualities, characteristics, and qualifications we are seeking in our next president, and the opportunities and challenges facing Crowder College in the years to come. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to ask questions about the presidential search process. The discussions will be facilitated by Bill Holda, Ed.D., ACCT Search Consultant.

**We want to invite and encourage everyone to attend one of the important 1-hour Open Forums:**

#### **Wednesday, September 1, 2021:**

**9:00 a.m.** Wright Conference Center, Rooms ABC  
**11:00 a.m.** Wright Conference Center, Rooms ABC  
**4:00 p.m.** Wright Conference Center, Rooms ABC

Please share with those who may have a concerted interest in Crowder College and wish to attend. No RSVP is needed.

In addition to the public forums, we have developed a short electronic survey that we hope you will complete. Your anonymous responses to the survey will also be used to inform the development of the draft Presidential Profile. The survey is available here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/crowder-college-presidential-search>

**Please submit your survey feedback by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 2, 2021.**

### **The Presidential Search Committee**

The Presidential Search Committee will review the confidential applications, interview semifinalist candidates, and identify the final candidates to be submitted to the full Board of Trustees for consideration. The Search Committee is comprised of the following members:

Andy Wood, President, Board of Trustees and Chair, Presidential Search Committee

Vickie Barnes, Treasurer, Board of Trustees Crowder College

Larry Vancuren, Member, Board of Trustees Crowder College

Ryan Combs, Biology Instructor at Crowder College

Chett Daniel, Director of Institutional Research and Innovations

Lauri Delano, Retired CFO of Liberty Utilities

Jamie Emery, Director of Maddox Hill Behavior Support Center at Crowder College

Kent Farnsworth, Former President of Crowder College

Karen Fink, Agriculture Division Administrative Assistant at Crowder College and Classified Staff

Presidential Search Chair

Jennifer Gilliam, Academic Affairs Administrative Assistant at Crowder College

Cassie Hale, Director of Human Resources at Crowder College

Lori Kelley, Assistant Director of Campus Life at Crowder College and Professional Staff

Presidential Search Chair

Deborah Muse, Communications Instructor at Crowder College and Faculty Association

Presidential Search Chair

Lisa O’hanahan, HEP, CAMP Director at Crowder College

Nicolas Oliveras, Security Analyst for Ralston – Purina and graduate of Crowder College

Amy Rand, NHS Business Teacher and former Vice President of Finance/CFO of Crowder College

Katie Strohl, Learning Opportunity Instructor/Coordinator at Crowder College

Lynne Tatum, Longtime Community College Instructor, Vice President for Student Services, curator fundraiser, president and board chair of McDonald County Historical Society

## **Final Candidates**

The Board will interview the final candidates and all final candidates will participate in open forums at Crowder College. We anticipate the open forums taking place in late November or early December 2021, and we will provide the dates, times, and location once they are confirmed. Everyone throughout the College and community will be invited to attend the open forums. Feedback forms will be provided to all attendees, and the completed forms will be collected at the end of each forum and given to the Board for review as part of their deliberation process.

## **Recruitment**

Our recruitment efforts will involve an open and thorough national search, seeking qualified candidates from all regions of the country. ACCT specializes in one-to-one recruitment of community college leaders. Additionally, to assist with this process, advertisements will be placed in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* and other major publications and websites.

## **Presidential Search Webpage**

The Crowder College website will include information on all aspects of the search, both for the College community and candidates. The presidential search webpage will be developed in the coming weeks and will include key information including the timeline, regular progress reports, information on how to apply, etc.

We will continue to keep you updated on this important process. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to our ACCT Search Consultants:

- Bill Holda, Ed.D., ACCT Search Consultant, [wmholda@gmail.com](mailto:wmholda@gmail.com), or (903) 987-3332 (mobile)
- Julie Golder, J.D., Vice President of Search Services, ACCT, [jgolder@acct.org](mailto:jgolder@acct.org), or (202) 775-4466 (office)