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May 14, 2015

LOS RIOS BOARD APPOINTS BUSH AS NEW PRESIDENT OF COSUMNES RIVER COLLEGE

EDITOR'S NOTE: To request a photo of Edward Bush, please email winklet@losrios.edu or bensonm@losrios.edu. (He will be available for phone interviews on Thursday, May 14, 2015, from 2-3 p.m., at 909-210-7167.)

SACRAMENTO – Edward Bush, a veteran Riverside County community college faculty member and administrator of nearly 17 years, is heading north to become the new president of Cosumnes River College, following the Los Rios District Board's action Wednesday night to appoint him to the post.

Bush, who is currently vice president, Student Services at Riverside Community College, is expected to join Cosumnes River College on July 1. The college is the third largest of the four Los Rios Colleges, with nearly 15,000 students studying on its main campus and at the Elk Grove Center, 575 faculty and staff and an annual operating budget of about \$37 million.

"We're excited about the passion and drive that Dr. Bush will be bringing to Cosumnes River College," said Los Rios Board President Dustin Johnson. "His commitment to student success, diversity and access will make him an excellent addition to the college and the Los Rios Colleges leadership team."

At Cosumnes River College, Bush will replace Deborah Travis, who retired last December. Since then, Whitney Yamamura, the college's vice president of Instruction, has served as interim president.

Bush said he was drawn to Cosumnes River College by the campus's physical beauty, the Los Rios District's reputation for excellence and the college's "diverse learning environment."

As a teenager growing up in Pomona, Calif., Bush dreamed of a career in politics and government. But that changed during his junior year at UC Riverside, he recalled in an interview, when the political science major met a student adviser "who really had an impact on me. I looked at his job and I thought, 'Wow! This is a pretty cool deal, working on a college campus, being around that type of learning – a stimulating environment – being able to help shape young minds.' I could see myself working at a college campus."

And that good feeling stuck. Today, Bush said, “I want people to know how passionate I am about student success. To me, working in education is more than just a profession. It’s a calling ... I find myself doing this work even when I am not *at* work. It’s how much I believe in it.”

In his current role at Riverside City College, Bush, 42, has served as president of the college’s Management Leadership Association, and has served as administrative co-chair of several committees, including the Student Success Committee, Strategic Planning Executive Council and the Emergency Preparedness Committee. He was also the chief facilitator in the development and implementation of the college’s Student Equity Plan. In addition to his administrative leadership at the college, he also serves on the board of several non-profit and community organizations in the Riverside community, and has taught at both University of the Redlands and Brandman University.

“What’s impressive about Dr. Bush is his reputation for collaboration – building bridges across campus and, especially, between instruction and student services,” said Los Rios Chancellor Brian King, “and for his unwavering commitment to equity and diversity. That’s a strong track record to lead Cosumnes River College, one of the nation’s most diverse community colleges.”

Before coming to Riverside Community College in 2007, Bush served as dean, Student Services, at Norco College, and assistant professor, coordinator of Student Activities at Moreno Valley College – both part of the Riverside Community College District.

Bush has a Ph.D. in Urban Educational Leadership from Claremont Graduate University, a master of arts in Public Administration from California State University, San Bernardino, and a bachelor of arts in Political Science from UC Riverside.

ABOUT COSUMNES RIVER COLLEGE

Since 1970, Cosumnes River College has provided outstanding academic and vocational training to the region. CRC’s main campus is located in south Sacramento County, with a new college outreach center in Elk Grove. The college enrolls a diverse community of 15,000 students and offers multicultural activities throughout the academic year. CRC is committed to fostering a learning community that celebrates diversity, nurtures personal growth and inspires academic and economic leadership. For more information, go to www.crc.losrios.edu.

ABOUT LOS RIOS

The Los Rios Community College District is one of the nation’s most respected learning institutions and the second-largest community college district in California, serving the greater Sacramento region. Los Rios includes: American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sacramento City colleges; six major education and outreach centers; and specialized workforce and economic development programs, for regional businesses, governments and organizations. Los Rios colleges offer AA/AS degrees, certificates and transfer-education opportunities in more than 70 career fields. The District’s 2,400 square-mile service area includes all of Sacramento County, most of El Dorado County and parts of Yolo, Placer and Solano counties. About 77,000 students are enrolled in the four Los Rios colleges. For more information, go to www.losrios.edu.