



DATE: May 1, 2020

TO: Victoria College

FROM: V. Bland Proctor, Chair, Victoria College Board of Trustees

RE: Announcement of Presidential Finalists

Victoria College's Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that we have selected four finalists for the presidency of Victoria College. I would personally like to thank the entire College community for your continued interest and support in the process to identify our next president. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank each member of the Presidential Search Committee for their exceptional work and effort.

The presidential finalists for Victoria College are listed below in alphabetical order.

Mickey D. Best, PhD, is Campus President of New Mexico State University-Grants, in Grants, New Mexico. He previously served as Vice President for Academic Affairs at South Arkansas Community College in El Dorado, Arkansas. Dr. Best earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Arts Administration from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas; a Master of Fine Arts in Theatre: Directing and Performance from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas; and a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma.

James R. Dire, PhD, is President and Chancellor of Methodist College in Peoria, Illinois. He previously served as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of Hawaii-Kauai Community College in Lihue, Hawaii. Dr. Dire earned a Doctor of Philosophy and a Master of Arts in Earth and Planetary Science at John Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland; a Master of Science in Physics and Electrical Engineering from the University of Central Florida in Orlando, Florida; a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and a Bachelor of Science in Physics and Mathematics at the University of Missouri in Kansas City, Missouri.

Robert J. Exley, PhD, is President of Snead State Community College in Boaz, Alabama. He previously served as President of Parkland College in Champaign, Illinois. Dr. Exley earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Administration from The University of Texas in Austin, Texas; a Master of Arts and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of Houston-Clear Lake in Houston, Texas; and an Associate of Arts from San Jacinto College in Pasadena, Texas.

Jennifer Kent, EdD, is Senior Vice President of Ranger College in Ranger, Texas, and serves as John E. Roueche Center for Community College Leadership Cohort Coordinator/Teaching Professor at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas. She previously served as Principal of Early High School in Early, Texas. Dr. Kent earned a



Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from Texas A&M University-Kingsville, in Kingsville, Texas; a Master of Education in Educational Administration from the University of North Texas, in Denton, Texas; and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas.

It is the intention of Victoria College's Board of Trustees to conduct on-campus interviews and host forums June 8-11. Each finalist will participate in an open forum. We invite and encourage everyone to attend the open forums whether they are virtual or in-person. Forums will be open to all administrators, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and the general public. All who attend will be asked to complete a feedback form, and the completed forms will be given to the Board of Trustees for review. Detailed information about the format, date, time, etc. will be forthcoming.

We are looking forward to a successful completion of the presidential search process. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to our ACCT Search Consultants:

- **Bill Holda, EdD**
ACCT Search Consultant
wmholda@gmail.com
(903) 987-3332 (mobile)
- **Julie Golder, JD**
Vice President of Search Services
jgolder@acct.org
(202) 384-5816 (mobile)