



For Immediate Release
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FOUR FINALISTS NAMED FOR UTAH COMMISSIONER OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION

System of Technical Colleges Board of Trustees meeting set for October 15

What:

Following a national recruitment, application review and selection committee interviews, the Utah System of Technical Colleges today named four finalists for Utah Commissioner of Technical Education. The finalists will be interviewed by the full Board of Trustees on Monday, October 15, 2018 and a new commissioner is expected to be named that evening. The appointment by the Trustees is subject to approval from Governor Gary R. Herbert and confirmation by the Utah State Senate.

The four finalists who will be considered by the Trustees (see below for photo and brief biographical information on each candidate) are:

Rick Bouillon, Associate Vice President for Workforce & Economic Development at Salt Lake Community College

Russell Galt, Vice President of Administrative Services, Davis Technical College

Dan Peterson, Chief Executive Officer and President, Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology

Tami Pyfer, Education Advisor to Governor Gary R. Herbert

When/Where:

Utah System of Technical Colleges Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, October 15, 2018 from 1:00pm – 5:00pm
Little America Hotel
Salt Lake City, Utah

Background:

Created in the 2015 Legislative Session, the position of Commissioner of Technical Education serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Board of Trustees of the Utah System of Technical Colleges to, among other duties, “ensure that the policies and programs of the board are properly executed and provide state-level leadership in an activity affecting a technical college.”

Legislative Code relating to the Commissioner of Technical Education:

<https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title53B/Chapter2A/53B-2a-S102.html>

The successful candidate will replace Utah’s first Commissioner of Technical Education, Dave Woolstenhulme, who resigned in July to become Vice President of Regional Campuses at Utah State University.

Brief biographies of the candidates below conclude this announcement.

Rick Bouillon, Associate Vice President for Workforce & Economic Development at Salt Lake Community College



Rick Bouillon has worked in higher education for more than 30 years, serving for the last 20 at Salt Lake Community College (SLCC). His roles at SLCC have been focused on service to the local communities, providing comprehensive Career and Technical Education as Dean of the School of Technical Specialties, Career & Technical Education Director, and currently as Associate Vice President for Workforce & Economic Development.

The Division of Workforce & Economic Development was established in 2015 under his leadership, bringing together various programs and staff within the college and reorganized in order to create a singular point of contact for industry. The Division currently serves approximately 12,000 students in 35-plus programs. In collaboration with several educational, governmental and industry partners, Rick served as a leader for statewide pathways initiatives programs, including the Utah Aerospace Pathways Program, Utah Diesel Technician Pathways Program, and the Medical Innovations Pathways Program. Bringing together organizations and individuals to create solutions for a common goal is a fundamental purpose for his work.

The 121,000-square-foot Westpointe Workforce Training & Education Center was dedicated with a “Ribbon Joining” ceremony on September 19, 2018, signifying the collaboration of education, community, government, and industry. As the designated academic leader on the project, it proved to be the largest the collaboration in his career. The Center will serve the community for generations to come in meeting area workforce needs. Many, many professionals came together to make the project transition from a dream to a reality.

Professionally, Rick serves on the Board of Directors for the National Council for Workforce Education, Utah Refugees Board of Advisors, Economic Development Corporation of Utah Board of Advisors and has been asked to speak on related topics at numerous national meetings.

Personally, He is involved with fund raising for the Swing for Life Cancer Research organization with proceeds benefitting the Huntsman Cancer Foundation. Rick is married and has three boys.

Rick holds a Master of Science and Bachelor of Science, both from Eastern Illinois University.

Russell S. Galt, Vice President of Administrative Services at Davis Technical College



Russell Galt is the Vice President of Administrative Services and Chief Financial Officer of Davis Technical College (Davis Tech) in Kaysville, Utah. Davis Tech is the largest technical college in the Utah System of Technical Colleges. Galt has been an executive team member providing leadership and strategic direction for the college since 1995. He acts as the college's legislative liaison and oversees budgets and finance, human resources, information technology, and facilities.

Galt is passionate about career and technical education. He believes that education which provides the skills to find good employment changes lives and improves the standard of living for our community. He believes that solid educational pathways are the key to keeping Utah at the forefront of a dynamic economy.

Galt is an executive committee member of the Northern Utah Chamber Coalition. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the Davis Chamber of Commerce and serves as the Chair of the Chamber's Legislative Affairs Committee. His involvement in the Chamber keeps him connected to business and community leaders as well as state legislators.

Galt is actively involved in community service. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Bountiful, Utah. He has served as the Club President and also served on the Rotary state-wide District Foundation Committee. He currently serves as the Club Foundation Chair and is involved in raising funds for and organizing international service projects.

Galt earned a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Utah State University. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from Weber State University. He is licensed in the State of Utah as a Certified Public Accountant.

Dan Peterson, Chief Executive Officer and President, Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology



Dan Peterson has been active in higher education for more than 25 years serving as Chief Executive Officer and President of Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology, Chief Executive Officer and Chancellor at Daymar College, Group Vice President at Argosy University, Vice Chancellor at South University, Campus President at Argosy University, Director of Marketing, Assistant Dean and Executive Director at Utah State University, and Associate Campus Director and Director of Enrollment at the University of Phoenix.

Dan retired from the Utah Air National Guard and the United States Air Force in 2008 with 23 years of service and holds a Ph.D. from Utah State University with an emphasis in curriculum and instruction, an MBA from the University of Phoenix and a B.S. in Business Administration from Utah State University.

Tami Pyfer, Education Advisor to Governor Gary R. Herbert



Tami Pyfer is the Education Advisor to Governor Gary R. Herbert. Appointed in January of 2014, she advises the Governor on education policy and other public and higher education issues. She also assists the Governor as he leads his Education Excellence Commission.

Previous to her appointment as Education Advisor, Pyfer served on the Utah State Board of Education and worked as a clinical instructor at Utah State University in the Special Education and Rehabilitation Department.

Pyfer was instrumental in the creation of Talent Ready Utah, an organization in the Governor's Office of Economic Development, with the mission to improve coordination between education and industry, promote work-based learning opportunities, and respond to the state's growing need for a talented, skilled workforce.

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