

BC3 selects new vice president following national search

Educational administrator at Ohio college becomes school's chief academic officer

July 11, 2017



(Butler, PA) Butler County Community College has hired Dr. Belinda M. Richardson, former Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs at Cuyahoga Community College's Metropolitan campus in Cleveland, as Vice President for Academic Affairs following a four-month national search.

Richardson began July 5 as BC3's chief academic officer. Her responsibilities include supervising BC3's academic programs and faculty; educational technology and distance education; assessment, research and planning; workforce development and selected grants.

In her 15 years at Cuyahoga Community College, Richardson also directed more than 90 employees in a basic skills and literacy program that prepared adults for general education development and English to speakers of other languages tests.

"We are so excited for Dr. Richardson to join the BC3 team," said Dr. Nick Neupauer, BC3 President. "She brings a great deal of experience and expertise. She was selected from a very deep applicant pool in a national search. I am confident Dr. Richardson will be a great addition to the college and the community as a whole."

Richardson succeeds Dr. Bruce Russell, who retired in June after serving as Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs since July 2015. She becomes one of three vice presidents at BC3, joining James Hrabosky, Vice President for Administration and Finance; and Dr. Case Willoughby, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; and will serve on the President's Cabinet.

"Butler County Community College has a solid reputation for its commitment to welcome, serve and support potential and enrolled students," Richardson said. "Our first encounters with them demonstrate that we are positioned to help in identifying both their interests and strengths prior to beginning the enrollment process. Through the fine work of the BC3 family, we collectively create an environment that encourages academic success for students and better prepares them for the workforce and community."

Richardson earned a doctorate degree in community college leadership from the National American University Roueche Graduate Center, Austin, Texas; a master's degree in family and consumer sciences from the University of Akron and a bachelor's degree in communication from Ohio University, Athens.

She began teaching general education development at the community college level in 1996. In 2010 she became Cuyahoga Community College's Director of Adult Basic and Literacy Education and in 2013, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs. Richardson also served as Interim Assistant Dean for The Learning Commons, Cuyahoga Community College's library, technology and media services center. She will also oversee BC3's Heaton Family Learning Commons, a \$5 million state-of-the-art facility that opened in August 2016.

Richardson will supervise the development, organization and assessment of student learning, BC3's academic programs and general education offerings, and also work with business, industry and public safety communities through customized training programs, professional continuing education and noncredit certificate programs.

“On the website, President Neupauer has a welcome message that states simply, ‘You are going to love BC3.’ That message is followed by many examples of why a student will love becoming a part of the Butler County Community College family,” Richardson said. “That message intrigued and inspired me. It ignited a fire in me and enhanced my desire to be among the many professionals creating that experience for students and the community.”

Richardson and her husband, Anthony, live in the Adams Ridge community, have four adult children and two grandchildren.

“I am looking forward to working with the dedicated, caring and committed faculty and staff at BC3,” she said. “The opportunities to work toward achieving and sustaining the mission and vision to serve as the community's college is exhilarating. I believe through our work we can continue to create opportunities that change lives for a better future.”