

Dr. Calaway Is JCCC's Fifth President



President

Cover: Dr. Terry Calaway, JCCC's new president, and his wife, Marlene Calaway, take a moment for formal portrait in the president's office.



Dr. Terry Calaway has a simple but direct philosophy: The community college is the heart of the community and the

engine of workforce development. His energy is contagious, and his mission is proactive.

"I think you'll find that my style is to be well prepared. I don't encounter a lot of surprises in a situation," Calaway said. "My job is to create a best future for the college."

On June 18, Calaway became JCCC's fifth president since the college opened its doors in 1969. He succeeds Dr. Robert Harris (1968), Dr. John Cleek (1975), Dr. Charles Carlsen (1981) and interim president Dr. Larry Tyree (July 5, 2006).

Most recently Calaway served at Central Arizona College, Coolidge, as vice-president, academic and student services (March 1999-2003) and then president and chief executive officer (January 2003-June 2007). Calaway says he was attracted to JCCC because it is a League for Innovation in the Community College school and because of the "stellar reputation of its faculty and staff."

As a graduate of Cuyahoga Community College,

Cleveland, Calaway personally attests to the positive role that a community college played in his education.

"I was focused on playing baseball in high school and entered college at age 17. I probably would not have succeeded at a large university," Calaway said. "I had an English teacher, Dr. Harvey Kassebaum, who taught me the dynamics of learning-centered education when he said to me, 'I am willing to work just as hard as you are.'"

Calaway went on to receive a bachelor's degree in physical education and recreation at Kent State University, Ohio; a master's degree in public administration from Cleveland State University; and a doctorate of education focusing on community college leadership at the University of Texas at Austin, where he has served as a visiting scholar.

Thirty years after earning his associate of arts degree, Calaway is still a champion of community

colleges. While he observes JCCC doing many things well with good teachers, student services, workforce development and cultural arts, he says the college can't rest on past laurels.

"It's important not to get caught up in our own press releases," Calaway said. "We need to work harder at getting better every day."

In order to improve, the new president emphasizes JCCC's continuation of the Academic Quality Improvement Program for accreditation.

Calaway views the role of president as one of advocate – at the community, state and national levels.

"Education is a business of relationships," Calaway said. "It is important for the college to recognize that we are bigger than just our campus. We need to make sure we monitor the pulse of the community. It wouldn't hurt to have more community involvement in JCCC's strategic planning process with members of program advisory committees, the county commission and city chambers."

At Central Arizona College, Calaway provided leadership for grants from the Homeland Security, Education and Labor departments and NASA. Calaway, whose area of expertise is college and corporate partnerships, foresees that he and Dr. Sally Winship, vice president, Continuing Education and Community Services, will make "good partners."

Calaway also has served as assistant vice president, workforce and economic development; dean/district director, division of continuing and professional education; academic division head, mathematics and technologies; assistant dean, division of continuing education; and campus director, credit and noncredit instruction, at Cuyahoga Community College from 1977 to 1989 and from 1993 to 1999. He was assistant dean, college of continuing studies, at Kent State University from 1993-1995.

His honors include being named a finalist for CEO of the Year by the Association of Community College Trustees, 2005; the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction, Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society for two-year colleges, 2005; the Executive Leadership Award, United Way of Pinal County, 2004; and Distinguished Graduate, the University of Texas at Austin Community College Leadership Program and College of Education, 2004.

While not negating JCCC's problems of the last year dealing with the resignation of Carlsen after charges of sexual harassment, he refers to it as "part of institutional history."



"Dr. Tyree did a tremendous job handling that situation during the last year, and we owe him a debt of gratitude," Calaway said. "But the college has a lot of work to do, and I don't believe in spending time on things that are not productive; that is not my style."

As a believer in lifelong learning, Calaway enjoys teaching in order to keep current in his field of community college leadership and likes to read – mostly books on history and leadership. For fun, he plays golf, cooks and travels with his wife Marlene, to whom he has been married 28 years as of October.

Marlene Calaway resigned her position as executive assistant to the senior vice president of ASML, worldwide provider of advanced technology systems for the semiconductor industry, to join her husband. In Arizona, she volunteered at Casa Grande Public Library and Casa Grande Regional Medical Center. She is a voracious reader and plans to explore options to work and volunteer in her new location. 🙌

Dr. Terry Calaway answers questions during an interview.