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COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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For further information contact:
Ryan Brown
Phone: 408-531-6172 | Email: ryan.brown@sjeccd.edu

New President Named for San Jose City College

(San Jose, Calif.) —Following a nationwide search, Dr. Rowena M. Tomaneng has been selected as the next president of San José City College (SJCC).

A first-generation immigrant from the Philippines, Dr. Tomaneng has been an educator in the California Community College system for nearly 25 years, serving most recently as President of Berkeley City College (BCC), a position she has held since 2016.

"We are very pleased to have a candidate of Dr. Tomaneng's caliber to serve as the next president of San José City College," said Dr. Byron D. Clift Breland, chancellor of San José – Evergreen Community College District (SJECCD). "She brings a depth and breadth of experience that will help us continue our positive trajectory at SJCC."

At BCC, Dr. Tomaneng's leadership centers on social justice, student equity, and community engagement. Her professional accomplishments include the development of the Berkeley Promise, expansion of BCC's Undocumented Community Resource Center, and growth of Learning Communities that provide wrap-around student services and culturally responsive curriculum to African American, Latinx, and Asian Aamerican/Pacific Islander students who are first-generation and low-income college students.

Dr. Tomaneng fosters a collaborative approach among faculty, classified professionals, and administrators in enrollment management and major state initiatives including Guided Pathways, Student Equity and Achievement, and Strong Workforce. Statewide and nationally, Dr. Tomaneng serves on the boards of the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges, Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education, and the National Asian Pacific Islander Council. She is currently the co-Chair of California Campus Compact's Community Colleges for Democracy and a member of the American Association of Community Colleges Commission on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity.

Prior to her tenure as president at BCC, Dr. Tomaneng held multiple positions at De Anza College, including associate vice president of instruction, dean of language arts, director of the Institute of Community and Civic Engagement, and tenured faculty member.

She has earned an Ed.D in International/Multicultural Education with a concentration in Human Rights Education from the University of San Francisco; a master's degree in English from University of California, Santa Barbara; and a bachelor's degree in English from University of California, Irvine. Dr. Tomaneng began her post-secondary education in the California Community College system as a student at Cypress College.

"I'm very excited to be joining San José City College. SJCC is well-known throughout the state as one of the strongest and most innovative community colleges in California," Dr. Tomaneng said. "I look forward to working closely with my new colleagues among the administration, faculty, and classified professionals to continue to move the institution forward and find new and innovative ways to serve our students and our community."

"With SJCC preparing to celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2021, now is an opportune time to set a course for the next 100 years and Dr. Tomaneng has the skills and experience to do so in collaboration with the dedicated team of professionals at the college already," Chancellor Clift Breland said. "I also want to recognize and thank Mr. Roland Montemayor, who has advanced the institution and done a great job serving as acting president while we conducted this search." Prior to his appointment as SJECCD chancellor in 2018, Clift Breland himself served as president at SJCC beginning in 2013.

Pending Board approval, Dr. Tomaneng is scheduled to officially join the college on January 6, 2020.

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About San José – Evergreen Community College District

Located in vibrant downtown San José in the heart of Silicon Valley, San José – Evergreen Community College District (SJECCD) encompasses more than 300 square miles, including the majority of the City of San José and all of the City of Milpitas. The District includes the areas served by San José Unified School District, Milpitas Unified School District, and East Side Union High School District. SJECCD is comprised of: Evergreen Valley College, established in 1975; San José City College, the first community college in Santa Clara County, established in 1921; the Community College Center for Economic Mobility (formerly the Workforce Institute) established in 1988; and the San José – Evergreen Community College Extension at Milpitas, established in 2016. For more information, visit www.sjeccd.edu.