

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Pamlico Community College Announces Dr. Jim Ross as its 5<sup>th</sup> President**

GRANTSBORO – Bob Lyon, Chairman of the Pamlico Community College Board of Trustees, announced today that Dr. Jim Ross has accepted the offer to become the college’s fifth president, pending State Board approval. He will succeed Dr. Cleve H. Cox who served the college for six years.

Dr. Ross, who currently serves as the Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Development and Educational Foundation Executive Director for Piedmont Virginia Community College in Charlottesville, Virginia, was selected from a rich pool of candidates, following an extensive nationwide search led by a diverse Presidential Search Committee.

“The Board of Trustees and I are happy to have Dr. Ross as the next president of Pamlico Community College. We feel Dr. Ross will be a great addition to the PCC family, continuing the legacy of Dr. Cox and bringing new ideas to make our college even better,” says Bob Lyon, Chairman of the Pamlico Community College Board of Trustees.

Dr. Ross has served 15 years in executive leadership positions in higher education, in addition to eight years in non-profit executive-level positions. At Piedmont Virginia Community College, he increased overall fundraising by 40%, increased annual campaign revenues by 60%, and increased amount from grant awards by more than 100%. During his tenure in higher education, he has supervised, developed, and mentored 198 full-time employees at two colleges. Dr. Ross has also been a business owner and author of a nationally-praised book on leadership, selling 48,000 copies and appearing on national TV’s *NBC Today Show*.

“During my visit to Pamlico County, I felt an immediate connection to the college and the community. I am eager to work with the Board of Trustees, faculty, and staff to create and foster high-achieving teams who serve students and the community with excellence. I think Pamlico Community College is special in that it has the direct ability to change lives, and that is an institution to which I am proud and inspired to serve as president,” says Dr. Jim Ross, PCC president elect.

A colleague describes Dr. Ross as an individual who “display[s] outstanding communication skills, professionalism, creativity, collaboration, and a willingness to give others credit for successes rather than caring about getting credit himself.”

Dr. Ross earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Political Science and a Master of Education in Social Studies at Slippery Rock University and earned his Doctorate of Education in Organizational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University. His doctoral dissertation focused on state budget reductions in higher education, titled *Examination of the Impact of State Budget Reductions on Community Colleges and Entrepreneurial Leadership Utilized to Effectively Manage These Reeducations*.

Dr. Ross will assume his duties at Pamlico Community College July 25th, pending formal State Board approval at its June meeting.