



## **For Immediate Release**

Contact: K.C. Howard, public affairs specialist, Public & College Relations @ 651-7535 or kc.howard@csn.edu

## **Interim President Michael Richards takes the reins as CSN's President.**

**LAS VEGAS, May 1, 2008** — The Board of Regents unanimously selected Dr. Michael D. Richards on Thursday as the President of the College of Southern Nevada.

Serving as the interim President of the College since August, Dr. Richards came to CSN in 2005 as the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Previously, he spent 23 years at Southern Utah University, most recently as provost. While at SUU, he also had the positions of vice president for planning and technology and vice president for university affairs.

He began his career in higher education as a faculty member in the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in the late 1970s.

Dr. Richards holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in English from universities in Utah and a Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Denver.

The Board of Regents' decision Thursday is effective immediately and Dr. Richards continues to support the College's mission to create an educated and diverse work force that meets the needs of Southern Nevada at the state's largest higher education institution.

"I am extremely grateful for this opportunity to continue to serve the College of Southern Nevada's faculty, staff and students. My family and I are honored by the support we have received from the CSN community. I look forward to returning the favor to ensure the College is responsive to the needs of Southern Nevadans and continues to pursue academic excellence and maintain student access amid an economic crisis," Dr. Richards said Thursday.

He accepted a four-year contract with an annual salary of \$210,000. The contract includes benefits and allowances consistent with other community college presidents in the Nevada System of Higher Education, including a \$12,000 annual housing allowance, an \$8,000 annual automobile allowance and use of a \$5,000 annual host account.

Dr. Richards was selected from a pool of five finalists following a national search by the ad hoc CSN President Search Committee that began in September. He received the full support of the advisory committee, consisting of faculty, staff and students, as well as community members.

### **About CSN:**

Founded in 1971 and educating about 80,000 students annually, the College of Southern Nevada ([www.csn.edu](http://www.csn.edu)) is the state's largest college. CSN is one of the country's most exciting and dynamic colleges with more than 200 degree and certificate options in more than 130 areas of study. Students create flexible, personalized schedules including day, evening and weekend classes taught on three main campuses, multiple academic and learning centers and satellite locations throughout Southern Nevada.

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