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News from Merced College

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MERCED COLLEGE WELCOMES TWO NEW STUDENT SERVICES DEANS

Two long-time educators with significant community college experience have joined Merced College's Student Services Division as deans.

Dr. Angela Tos is the College's new Dean of Student Services. Dr. Tos recently served as the Dean of Student Services for College of the Sequoias where she had administrative oversight of Counseling, Admissions and Records, Assessment, Articulation, Student Affairs and Activities, the Student Success and Support Program, and the Welcome Center.

Dr. Michael McCandles is the College's new Dean of Student Equity. Dr. McCandles, an alumnus of Merced College, has worked as an English faculty member and as an Interim Dean of English, Child Development, and Basic Skills.

"I am thrilled to welcome Dr. Tos and Dr. McCandles to our Student Services Team," said Chris Vitelli, Vice President of Student Services. "I'm confident that they will make immediate contributions to enhancing the educational experience of our students, while promoting all aspects of student success."

Dr. Tos has 17 years of experience in counseling at the university, community college, and high school levels. She earned her bachelor's degree in Communication and her master's degree in Educational Counseling from Fresno Pacific University. She completed a doctorate of education in Organizational Leadership with a focus in transformational change from Brandman University.

“Every decision I make will be to further benefit our students,” she said. “I have a passion for the whole area of Student Services, and I’m excited to be here.”

Originally from Nevada City, Dr. Tos and her husband Ryan have two children, Zachery, 11, and Ainsley, 8.

Born and raised in Turlock, Dr. McCandless has a special affinity for Merced College as a former student and instructor in the English Department. After completing his undergraduate coursework at Merced College, he transferred to UC Santa Barbara where he completed his bachelor’s degree in English Literature. He earned his master’s degree in Literature at CSU Stanislaus where he also completed his doctoral studies.

In his current role, Dr. McCandles plans to support students and their success by eliminating barriers hindering access and success at Merced College.

“I feel that it is absolutely necessary to be proactive in the area of student equity,” Dr. McCandles said. “My role is to assess and improve our efforts at reducing the hardships and barriers that many of our students face as they navigate through college. Their success is ultimately what will guide my decisions.”

Dr. McCandles and his wife Allyson have two daughters Gabrielle, 6, and one-year old Isabelle.

MC Deans August 2015

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