



**DATE:** November 22, 2016  
**TO:** College of the Mainland  
**FROM:** Mr. Wayne H. Miles, Chair, Board of Trustees, College of the Mainland and Ms. Rachel Delgado, Vice-Chair, Board of Trustees and Chair, Presidential Search Committee  
**SUBJECT:** Announcement of Presidential Finalists

The College of the Mainland Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that the Presidential Search Committee, which included representatives from both the College and members of the community, has selected four finalists for the presidency of College of the Mainland (COM). Your contributions at COM played a pivotal role in attracting highly competitive candidates from throughout the state, region and nation.

**College of the Mainland finalists are (in alphabetical order):**

**Michael Heindl, J.D., Ph.D.**, is the Executive Vice President of Administration and Finance at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, MS. Previously, he was the Vice President of the Jackson County Campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, MS. He earned an Associate of Arts in Music from Hinds Community College, MS; a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Mississippi College, MS; a Juris Doctor in Law from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Western Michigan University, MI; and a Doctor of Philosophy in Community College Leadership from Mississippi State University, MS.

**Utpal Goswami, Ph.D.**, is the President of the Maple Woods Campus of Metropolitan Community College, MO. Previously, he served as the Interim President/Superintendent of College of the Redwoods, CA. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Delhi, India; and a Master of Arts in Development Economics from Boston University, MA; a Master of Arts and a Doctor of Philosophy in Economics from Southern Methodist University, TX.

**Warren Nichols, Ed.D.**, is the Vice Chancellor for Tennessee's Community Colleges, TN. Previously, he was the President of Volunteer State Community College, TN. He earned an Associate in Applied Science in Law Enforcement from Tarrant County College, TX; a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington; and a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Administration from the University of Houston Graduate School, TX.

**Mark Smith, Ph.D.**, is the Vice President for Educational Services/Chief Academic Officer at Temple College, TX. Previously, he was the Interim Vice President of Educational Services/ Chief Academic Officer and the Associate Vice President for Distance Education at Temple College, TX. He earned an Associate of Science in Electronic Systems Technology and Instructor of Technology and Military Services from the Community College of the Air Force; an Associate of

Science in Technology Fort Steilacoom Community College (Pierce College), WA; a Bachelor of General Studies and a Master of Business Administration from William Carey College, (William Carey University), MS; and a Doctor of Philosophy in Education from Capella University, MN.

Each presidential finalist will participate in two open forums. **We invite and encourage everyone to attend the open forums.** These forums are open to faculty, administrators, staff, students and the general public. There will be a brief introduction of each candidate followed by a question and answer session. Feedback forms will be given to all who attend and the completed forms will be collected at the end of each forum and given to the Board of Trustees for review.

Complete bios and photos can be viewed at this link: <http://www.com.edu/presidential-search/finalists>

The schedule for the open forums is:

<b>Dr. Warren Nichols: Tuesday, November 29:</b>	<b>8:00 to 9:00 AM and 12:30 to 1:30 PM</b>
<b>Dr. Mark Smith: Thursday, December 1:</b>	<b>8:00 to 9:00 AM and 12:30 to 1:30 PM</b>
<b>Dr. Utpal Goswami: Friday, December 2:</b>	<b>8:00 to 9:00 AM and 11:00 to 12:00 PM</b>
<b>Dr. Michael Heindl: Tuesday, December 6:</b>	<b>8:00 to 9:00 AM and 12:30 to 1:30 PM</b>

**Location: The meeting room at 1501 Amburn Road, Appomattox #4, Texas City.**

We would also like to take this opportunity to extend appreciation and gratitude to every member of the Presidential Search Committee for their dedication, commitment, and hard work on behalf of COM.

We are looking forward to a successful completion of the presidential search process.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to our ACCT Search Consultants:

- Narcisa Polonio, Ed.D., Executive Vice President for Education, Research and Board Leadership Services, [narcisa\\_polonio@acct.org](mailto:narcisa_polonio@acct.org), 202-276-1983 (mobile)
- Taimarie Adams, J.D., Coordinator of Board and Search Services, [tadams@acct.org](mailto:tadams@acct.org), 202-775-7493 (office) or 646-402-3973 (mobile)
- Julie Golder, J.D, Board Services Coordinator, [jgolder@acct.org](mailto:jgolder@acct.org), 202-384-5816 (mobile)