

## **Notice of Intent to Hire, Reorganize, Promote or Reassign**

### **Division of Academic Affairs**

**Posting:     NOI\_20231101**

**Closes:     November 1, 2023**

*In consultation with the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate, this [Notice of Intent \(NOI\)](#) follows a recently established process for the consideration of appointing interim Admin IVs to regular appointments, which included a confidential stakeholder survey, a report by an ad hoc review committee, and recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate.*

The Division of Academic Affairs is recommending the appointment of Clare Van Ness as the Dean of Professional & Continuing Education. Van Ness has been serving as Interim Dean for PCE since 2018. She formerly served as Associate Dean and Program Director for PCE, as well as an adjunct lecturer in the Management department in the College of Business.

Van Ness' service to Chico State spans more than 25 years. As Interim Dean, Van Ness has focused on expanding access to Chico State for adult learners, particularly through flexible online programs designed for working adults, and ensuring that PCE programs meet the needs of learners of all ages in our region and across the state. Working with the colleges, Van Ness enabled the launch of a number of new self-support academic programs, including the Online MBA and Online BSBA degree completion program, a Regenerative Agriculture certification program, the Speech Language Pathology Assistant Pathway program, and a wide variety of teacher education programs. Van Ness works with community and workforce development partners to grow non-credit professional development programs. She is also the Principal Investigator for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Executive Leadership Institute, a 5-year, \$5,870,992 contract / partnership. Under Van Ness' leadership, self-support programs have returned more than \$12,000,000 in alternative resources to the campus.

Her work on behalf of adult learners expands beyond PCE programs. Van Ness was instrumental in the creation of the Summer Boost program that supports the Graduation 2025 initiative. She is actively involved in the Enrollment Continuum initiative, serving on the Enrollment Continuum's Strategic Program Investment and Recruitment and Admissions teams. She is part of the Building Rural Community Learning Systems and the California Adult Completion Program projects to expand access to adult degree completion, particularly among the many adults in the North State with some college but no degree.

In 2017 she was the President of the Association for Continuing Higher Education (ACHE) and is currently the Executive Vice President for ACHE. She received the Edward M. McAleer, Jr. Chancellor's Office Award for Excellence and Innovation in 2018.

Van Ness has an MS in Management from Indiana Wesleyan University (1991).

In consideration of the critical importance of this role and Van Ness' proven leadership skills, the intent is to transition her to the Dean of Professional & Continuing Education position with an anticipated start date of January 1, 2024.

Before moving forward with the direct appointment of this individual, we are seeking additional input from the campus community. While any relevant feedback is welcome, feedback specific to the following is encouraged:

1. Your experience and/or observation of this candidate's ability to build and maintain effective and collaborative relationships with campus stakeholders;
2. Your assessment of the candidate's contributions in the interim role, providing specific examples when possible; and,
3. Your assessment of the candidate's ability to develop and implement departmental strategic improvements.

We encourage you to submit your reflections on this candidate, based upon the three questions above, to [NoticeofIntent@csuchico.edu](mailto:NoticeofIntent@csuchico.edu) on or before **Wednesday, November 8, 2023**.

Chico State employees may request a copy of the position description by emailing [classification@csuchico.edu](mailto:classification@csuchico.edu).