Brian King a finalist for chancellor position

Los Rios district expects to make final decision in early November

By KIMBERLY WHITE

APTOP—Brian King, who’s been at the helm of Cabrillo College since 2004, is a finalist for the chancellor position at the second largest community college district in the state, college officials announced Thursday.

Sanie Williams, a spokeswoman for the Los Rios Community College District, would not disclose how many finalists have been selected, but said a final decision will be made in early November. The anticipated start date is in January.

King was unavailable for comment Thursday, but in an email he sent to staff and faculty to let them know about the development, he said his selection as a finalist is a "wonderful reflection on the great work we are doing together at Cabrillo."

In late 2009, King was one of two finalists for the chancellor's position at Foothill-De Anza Community College District. He later dropped out of the running.

Alan Smith, president of the governing board, noted King has notified of Cabrillo twice as long as the average college president, and that moving to a higher-level position "is not uncommon in California or anywhere else, either."

Cabrillo has had three presidents, including King, in the 18 years Smith has served on the board, he said, adding "everybody wishes him the best."

Cabrillo has a main campus in Aptos and satellite campuses in Watsonville and Scotts Valley, with a full enrollment of just over 10,000 students. In comparison, the Los Rios district contains four community colleges — American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sierra Nevada City colleges — with an enrollment of more than 90,000 students, according to the district's website.

The Los Rios Board of Trustees has been conducting a national search since the previous chancellor, Bruce Harris, retired in August after 35 years. Last month, Harris was named the 18th chancellor of the state's community-college system. He starts next month, with an annual salary of $330,500.

Williams said the new chancellor's salary at Los Rios will be negotiated.

King's salary in 2010-12 was $252,591. With five recently negotiated furlough days factored in, that figure dropped to $233,880 for 2012-13, according to the college.

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