

Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker, Superintendent/President  
Siskiyou Joint Community College District and College of the Siskiyou

Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker has 30+ years of experience as a college administrator. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Sociology at the University of Vermont, his Master's degree in College Student Personnel Services from Western Illinois University, and completed his Doctoral degree in Educational Administration with an emphasis in Community College Leadership in 2004 from New Mexico State University.

He spent his early career serving public four-year universities and colleges in Vermont, Illinois, Maryland, California, and Oregon in progressively responsible positions in Student Services. In 1992, he moved from higher education to serve for six years as the Human Rights and Social Services Analyst for the city of Salem, Oregon. He returned to higher education in 1998, starting his community college career in New Mexico; he quickly moved from Student Services to Academic Affairs at the largest community college in the state, serving nearly 25,000 students each term. Dr. Schoonmaker rose to the level of Vice President in Oregon, serving two coastal community colleges (Southwestern Oregon and Clatsop) from 2005-2012.

In 2011 he was selected by the recently renamed College of the Ouachitas' Board of Trustees in Arkansas to serve as President to help brand the College's identity and reputation. During his tenure as President, the College was named by the Aspen Institute as a Top Ten Community College in the Nation for Excellence, and recognized by Achieving the Dream as a Leader College. Under his leadership, the College launched new programs, opened its first campus center off the main campus, acquired and renovated a 27,000 sq. ft. facility to house the College's new state-of-the-art Applied Science Technology programs, and established the largest 3D Print Farm in the World. In 2015, the College's four-year leadership effort to adopt a continuous quality improvement culture on campus was rewarded by receiving the Governor's Quality Award Commitment Level, based on Baldrige Quality Standards.

In 2016, he formed Cross County Leadership Solutions LLC as a consulting firm specializing in leadership coaching, strategic planning, systems thinking, and change management. CCLS clients included Achieving the Dream and the Arkansas Department of Higher Education where Dr. Schoonmaker worked with national education initiatives such as the Working Student Success Network and the Interstate Passport Initiative.

In 2017, Dr. Schoonmaker was pleased to find that the Siskiyou Joint Community College District was searching for their next Superintendent/President. Enamored with the Mt. Shasta area for 50 years since first visiting in his youth when his father was on sabbatical leave at UC-Berkeley, he was humbled and honored to be selected by the Board of Trustees as the 12<sup>th</sup> Superintendent/President for College of the Siskiyou.

Family is very important to Dr. Schoonmaker. He is married, father of three children, and also a grandpa. His eldest daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter live in Tacoma, Washington. His son works in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Schoonmaker, his wife, and youngest daughter Stephanie – a senior at Mt. Shasta High School – live in the Lake Shastina area.