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MSCC Promotes Three to Associate Vice President Positions

Mid-South Community College has promoted Roshell Ford Coleman, Pete Selden, and Dr. Topeka Small to associate vice president positions to meet growing needs for academic effectiveness and accountability.

“Our continuing growth and development as an institution dictate an evolving organizational model that ensures our ability to serve our students and community more effectively and efficiently,” said Dr. Glen Fenter, MSCC President. “We are extremely fortunate to have such dynamic talent within our MSCC family, and we expect Roshell, Pete, and Topeka to help us reach the next level in our instructional pursuits.”

Dr. Barbara Baxter, MSCC Executive Vice President, said the promoted employees have distinguished themselves in support of the College’s mission.

“Topeka, Pete, and Roshell have demonstrated a high degree of professionalism, dedication, and innovation,” she said. “They all bring unique strengths and experiences to



Topeka Small



Pete Selden



Roshell Ford Coleman

their respective positions, and we expect them to continue to excel at meeting student, community, and institutional needs.”

The associate VPs are reporting to Dr. Cliff Jones, Vice President for Learning and Instruction.

“We are fortunate to have the increased levels of expertise in general education, technical education, and assessment,” Dr. Jones said. “Based on what we have already seen them accomplish, we anticipate they will facilitate operational and strategic improvements that are vital to our continued academic success and progress.”

Coleman has administrative responsibility for Developmental Education, General Education, Business, Information Technology, Allied Health, Hospitality, and Digital Media, as well as for grant programs which support these academic programs.

“Ms. Coleman provides years of leadership in the education field,” Dr. Jones said. “She is extremely well organized and sets high expectations for herself and for her team members. We are fortunate to have her.”

“My life’s passion has always been to assist students in their educational pursuits, and I am excited about this new challenge,” Coleman said. “This new role will give me the opportunity to become fully immersed in traditional academics and will allow me to work with a broader range of students.”

Coleman came to MSCC from the Turrell School District where she served as an elementary teacher, Gifted and Talented facilitator, secondary guidance counselor, Career Orientation teacher, secondary principal, and School Improvement coordinator. She also served as an Adult Education instructor for MSCC in 1993-94.

Coleman earned masters and bachelor’s degrees in Educational Administration and Elementary Education at Arkansas State University.

Selden has administrative responsibility for the MSCC Technical Center, Business and Industry Services, Advanced Manufacturing, Aviation Maintenance, Diesel Technology, Machining, Non-Destructive Testing, Professional Pilot, Renewable Energy, and Welding as well as for grant programs which support these programs.

“Mr. Selden maintains extensive experience with technical education,” Dr. Jones said. “In addition, he has provided quality oversight of various grants. His knowledge and pragmatic approach to problem solving will help us tremendously.”

“I am extremely excited about the opportunity given to lead the area of Workforce Technology into another phase of its early life. I am sincerely appreciative of Dr. Fenter and the many others that influenced this decision.”

“I am looking forward to working with faculty as they strive for excellence in the classroom and with staff that work hard to ensure that the students are maximizing their opportunities here at MSCC.”

Selden came to MSCC in 2007 to work with the Career Pathways program. He has served in several different capacities, most of them related to technical education. He earned a master’s degree in Business Administration from Arkansas State University and a bachelor’s degree in Psychology and Communication from the University at Buffalo, the State University of New York. He started his higher education at Monroe Community College in Rochester, N.Y.

Selden spent a year in Suwon, South Korea, as an English teacher for the 21st Century Foreign Language Institute. He developed lesson plans and taught Conversational English for children and adults.

Dr. Small is continuing her administrative responsibilities for planning, institutional effectiveness including academic assessment, and accreditation. In addition she has assumed responsibility for the Productivity Program, for coordinating catalog and Employee Handbook revisions, and for coordinating HLC Data reports and designated reports to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education.

“Dr. Small, a long-time MSCC team member, is currently leading our accreditation efforts for the Higher Learning Commission,” Dr. Jones said. “She has displayed a willingness to serve in a variety of roles and will take on additional responsibilities both in assessment and academics.”

“I am extremely blessed to have been appointed for the position of associate vice president and to accept the responsibilities that MSCC has entrusted to me,” Dr. Small said. “I am boundlessly grateful for the investment that MSCC is making in my future. Though there will be many new challenges, I face them gladly for the benefit of the College and those whom we serve.”

Small first came to MSCC as an English instructor and taught full time for six years. She earned a National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development

Excellence Award in 2006. Small left MSCC in 2008 to pursue and earn a doctorate degree from the University of Memphis.

She returned to MSCC as Institutional Effectiveness Director and served in that capacity until being promoted.

A graduate of Forrest City High School, Williams taught junior and senior English at Earle High School in 2002-2003 and also served as an adjunct instructor at East Arkansas Community College. She became a full-time faculty member at MSCC in fall 2003.