

SCC Board Approves Contract with new President

(KTNC) -- The Southeast Community College Board has approved a contract to make Dr. Paul Illich the next president and CEO of the community college. Illich is current vice president of research, planning and information technology at McLennan Community College in Waco, Texas. S-C-C search committee chairman Dale Kruse says the three-year contract approved by the SCC Board will pay Illich an annual salary of \$225,000.

Illich was one of four finalists to be interviewed by the school. He'll replace Dr. Jack Huck, who is retiring as Southeast Community College President next June 30th. Huck has been with the school since 1975 and has been leader since 1994. The search committee visited the Waco campus of McLennan Community College last week, to meet with Illich and members of the college and community. Kruse says Illich has the background to lead SCC into the future, as community colleges are being viewed as a key element of training for tomorrow's jobs.

SCC initially offered Illich a salary of \$190,000, but increased the pay, based on tax system differences in Texas and a higher cost of living in Lincoln, rather than Waco. The search committee used a range of \$190,000 to \$240,000 to establish pay level comparable to other community college CEOs in Nebraska. Kruse says the next step is Illich coming to Nebraska, and transitioning to the job of SCC president.

SCC search committee members described Illich as "visionary", bringing the best out in others, and "a good fit" for Southeast Community College. Illich holds degrees from Blinn College in Texas and Texas State University. He earned his Masters and Doctoral degrees from Texas A&M.

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