



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 20, 2023

Glendale College Foundation Executive Director to Retire

Foundation assets grew \$12M during Lisa Brooks 14-year tenure.

(Glendale, CA) – On Monday, July 31, 2023, Lisa Brooks will complete a distinguished and productive 14-year run as Executive Director of the Glendale College Foundation. Brooks' retirement ends a decades long international career that included stints as a researcher in Sydney, Australia; social worker in London, UK; and in Los Angeles where she served as program director for a women's organization, and fundraising director for a social services agency.

Brooks joined the Glendale College Foundation in 2009, to lead an already established charitable foundation that provides key support to Glendale Community College. Over the next decade and a half, she guided the Foundation into an even more robust organization. Brooks credits her strong working relationship with the Foundation Board and staff for many of their accomplishments during her tenure, which includes:

- Increasing the total Foundation assets from \$7M to more than \$19M.
- Distributing more than \$2.8M in scholarships to 7,000 GCC students.
- Developing a successful grant program for faculty and classified professionals to enhance the college experience for GCC students. The program has given out more than 200 grants totaling more than \$1.5M.
- Creation of The Legacy Society for those who pledge to leave \$25,000 or more to the Foundation in their estate plan. To date, there are 33 members representing more than \$3M.
- Building a data base of more than 250,000 GCC alumni increasing the average giving from \$316 to \$3,723.

"I have been fortunate to collaborate with many wonderful people around the world and in each situation, we were focused on improving people's lives," said Brooks. "I am so grateful that the Glendale community and our Glendale Community College alumni have been willing to invest in that margin of excellence for our students. It feels good leaving the Foundation in a strong position where it will continue to build a deep connection to the community with a commitment to always put student needs first."

"Lisa has the tenacity of a bulldog," said Rick Dinger, Glendale College Foundation President. "I've worked with her for nearly ten years and have witnessed her impressive skill set. She has the personality to make everyone feel good, yet Lisa's relentless drive keeps us focused on achieving the goals we've set. We will miss her leadership."

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Following her retirement, Brooks says she will continue living in Glendale where she currently serves as Glendale Kiwanis President; she plans to remain active in the community and maintain her other philanthropic efforts. In addition to enjoying the slower pace of retirement, Brooks plans to stay busy with her creative pursuits which include, playing the piano, writing, drawing, and painting. She also plans to expand her world travels and visit her family more frequently in Australia and Israel.

“Lisa’s vast experience, internationally and locally, has been an asset to the college; the numbers and relationships built speak for themselves,” said Dr. Ryan Corner, GCC Superintendent/President. *“Her lasting impact is immeasurable thanks to the programs and systems that she crafted which will benefit the college for many years ahead. And due to the Foundation’s success under her leadership, we attracted a very talented pool of candidates in our nationwide search for her replacement. I’m looking forward to sharing news of her successor in the coming days. In the meantime, to all those who have worked alongside Lisa and benefited from her accomplishments, I encourage you to reach out to thank her and wish her well.”*

To read more about Lisa Brooks and her experience with the Glendale College Foundation, [click here](#).

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About The Glendale College Foundation

Founded in 1983 by a group of dedicated community volunteers on behalf of Glendale Community College, the [Glendale College Foundation](#) is a charitable foundation that raises public awareness of the needs of the college; promotes the college to business and industry and the greater Glendale community; and raises funds for the college. The Foundation achieves its goals through various fundraising programs and special events. It has an endowment of over \$19 million, with more than 500 funds that support student scholarships, facilities, and programs. A distinguished and active 35-member Board of Directors provides steady guidance and support and formulates the policies, goals, and directions of the foundation.

About Glendale Community College

Glendale Community College has served the Glendale community and greater LA Metro region for 96 years. The dynamic institution offers college credit at the Verdugo Campus, continuing education at the Garfield Campus, and customized employment training at the Professional Development Center (PDC) located in Montrose. The college serves an ethnically diverse student body of more than 15 thousand students with a commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility. with one of the region’s top transfer rates to four-year universities. The GCC Promise Plus provides first-time, full-time students with two years free tuition making it a strategic choice for students focused on obtaining a valuable yet affordable four-year college degree. Learn more at glendale.edu.