



Mary E. Retterer

Interim President

Cerro Coso Community College

Dr. Mary Retterer is the interim president of Cerro Coso Community College, located in Ridgecrest, California and part of the Kern Community College District.

Dr. Retterer's professional career includes experience in community college systems in California, Arizona, and Minnesota. She has led urban colleges, community and technical colleges, and colleges with satellite centers in rural areas. She also has experience with serving the educational needs of the military and working with David-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson.

As the Superintendent/President of Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District from June 2004 to June 2006, Dr. Retterer instituted the first New Faculty Learning Academy, Safe Halloween, and a streamlined strategic planning process. Prior to that, she was President of Pima Community College's East Campus in Tucson, Arizona, from August 1998 to June 2004. She started inter-collegiate athletics at the campus, oversaw growth of the Public Safety Institute, and brought the Veterinary Technician program to the campus. Enrollment grew over 30% during her tenure.

She began her administrative career in a variety of positions that were part of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System, including President of Ridgewater College in Willmar and Hutchinson. She also served as Interim Regional President of the Arrowhead Community College Region and Interim President Minneapolis Community College, as well as dean at Rainy River community College in International Falls.

Dr. Retterer has many years of teaching experience, including teaching business and accounting in the San Bernardino Community College district (1981-1993); the University of Texas at Austin in 1992; and California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, 1980-1981. She spent ten years in business and industry before coming to higher education.

Dr. Retterer earned an Associate of Arts Degree from Crafton Hills College, California; a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Administration, with a concentration in accounting, and a Master of Business Administration, with a concentration in accounting from the California State University, San Bernardino; and a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Administration, Community College Leadership Program, from The University of Texas at Austin. She is also a certified trainer for Development Dimensions International (DDI).

Dr. Retterer also enjoys golf, RV travel, creating jewelry with stones and beads, and spoiling her three grandsons.