

Martin Miguel Ahumada serving as Dine College's interim president

Written by By Bernie Dotson Sun Correspondent
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Search continues for full-time replacement

TSAILE , ARIZ. – The Dine' College Board of Regents appointed Dr. Martin Miguel Ahumada as its interim president as of Jan. 15. A national search for a permanent president remains ongoing, officials said.

Ahumada replaces Dr. Maggie George, who served as president since 2011.

“In a recent Board of Regents meeting, the board voted to end, in amicable terms, its contractual relationship with Dr. George,” Lori Tapahonso, senior public and community relations officer at Dine' College, said. “With the full support and strong stewardship of its new Board of Regents, Dine' College is committed to serving as an exemplary institution of higher learning, which can help forge a brighter future for the Navajo Nation.”

Tapahonso said Ahumada was initially hired by Dine' College in January 2015 as the Vice President of Academic Affairs. He earned his bachelor's degree in Spanish Literature and Political Science from Carleton College in Minnesota.

Additionally, Ahumada earned a master's degree in higher education administration and a doctorate in higher education finance from the University of Arizona.

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He has served in senior administrative positions in the field of higher education at the national, state and institutional levels and as a faculty member in higher education leadership at both the University of Arizona and Harvard University.

Dine' College draws students from around greater McKinley County and throughout the Navajo Nation. The college holds memberships in the Rocky Mountain, Arizona, New Mexico and American Associations of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers and the Association of American Junior and Community Colleges.

The college was founded in 1968 and is the first tribally-controlled college in the United States.

The school's mission is to advance quality post-secondary student learning and development to ensure the well-being of the Dine' people.

The college's main campuses are located in Tsaile, and Shiprock, with an additional six campus centers across the Navajo Nation.

***By Bernie Dotson
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