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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Crowder Presidential Candidate Public Forums Scheduled**

**NEOSHO, MO** - The three finalists for the position of President of Crowder College will be brought to campus for interviews, tours, meetings, and public forums during the first two weeks of February. The public is invited to attend the forums, at which the candidates will give brief overviews of their qualifications and ideas, and attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback to the Board of Trustees. The Board will take the feedback under consideration while they are making the final decision on offering the position.

The three finalists are Dr. Brent Bates of Sedalia, Mo.; Dr. Jim Cummins of Neosho; and Dr. Jennifer Methvin of Hope, Ark. The public forums will be held in the Wright Conference Center at Crowder as follows:

Dr. Jim Cummins, Friday, February 7, at 3 p.m.

Dr. Brent Bates, Monday, February 10, at 3 p.m.

Dr. Jennifer Methvin, Wednesday, February 12, at 3 p.m.

Dr. Bates currently serves as Vice President of Education and Student Support Services at State Fair Community College. He has 26 years at Missouri and Kansas community colleges, with the past 14 years in senior administrative roles. He holds a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction, with an emphasis in Community College Curriculum, from Kansas State University.

Dr. Cummins currently serves as Vice President of Finance at Crowder College. Prior to coming to Crowder College in January 2012, he served in various area school districts as Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Principal and teacher. He holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis from the University of Missouri.

Dr. Methvin currently serves as Vice Chancellor for Academics at the University of Arkansas-Community College at Hope. She was a division chair at the University of Arkansas-Community College at Batesville, and taught English in various universities. Her PhD in Community College leadership is from Walden University.

The Board hopes to offer the position to the winning candidate by March. The start date of the new president will depend on the schedule of the person selected for the position, but no later than July 1<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Kent Farnsworth, President Emeritus, will continue to serve as interim president until the new president is in place.



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