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**CONTACT** Lisa Rose, District/Board of Trustees Coordinator / Rose_Lisa@smc.edu **/** 310-434-4402

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# Dr. Luis Barrera Castañón Provisionally Appointed to SMC Board of Trustees

***Fills Seat left Vacant by Election of Trustee Barry Snell to Santa Monica City Council, Provisional Appointment Becomes Effective At End of 30-Day Period, Barring Special Election***

**SANTA MONICA, CA**—At its regular monthly meeting on February 4, 2025, the **Santa Monica College (SMC) Board of Trustees** provisionally appointed **Dr. Luis Barrera Castañón** to the Board, via a majority vote. Following the meeting, a public notice of appointment was posted to the Board's webpage at www.smc.edu/botmeetings, noting that the appointment fills the vacancy left by the election of former board member **Barry Snell** to the **Santa Monica City Council**.

Registered voters in **Santa Monica** and **Malibu** have 30 days from within the date of the provisional appointment to petition the office of the **Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools** for the conduct of a special election to fill the vacancy, per **Education Code**. Such a petition would require a sufficient number of signatures. Following this 30-day period, the provisional appointment of **Dr. Castañón** becomes an effective appointment.

This vacant seat remains filled until the next regularly scheduled Board election in **November 2026** when a new four-year term will be filled via the electoral process.

The current trustees include **Dr. Nancy Greenstein** (chair); **Dr. Sion Roy** (vice-chair); **Anastasia Foster**; **Dr. Tom Peters**; **Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez**; **Rob Rader**; and

**Daniel Martinez Garcia** (student trustee). At its Dec. 12, 2024 meeting, the Board appointed trustees Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez, Dr. Nancy Greenstein and Dr. Sion Roy to serve on the ad hoc committee to screen applications and select finalists for further consideration.

In addition to Dr. Castañón, six other community members submitted applications: **Patrick Acosta**, **Kera Blades**, **Zach Bruhnke**, **Dr. Karen S. Gunn**, **Patricia Nakao**, and **Peter R. Taffae**.

The seven-member Board of Trustees—elected by voters in the **Santa Monica Community College District**, comprising **Santa Monica** and **Malibu**—is the governing body for Santa Monica College, which serves more than 27,000 students and provides vital educational services to communities in the region. A student trustee who serves for a one-year term is elected by the students of the college.

For more information, please contact **District/Board of Trustees Coordinator Lisa Rose** at 310-434-4402 or Rose_Lisa@smc.edu. Santa Monica College is a **California Community College** accredited by the **Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)**.

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**IMAGE CAPTION:**
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