



## Presidential Search Finalists

### Dr. Tyler Hart



Leaving the world of finance, Dr. Tyler Hart began his higher education career at Richard Bland College (RBC) of William & Mary in May 2008 as a financial aid administrator. Promotions led to a seat on President's Cabinet and oversight of key areas of college operations, including development (fund raising), strategic planning, strategic enrollment management, and academic and institutional effectiveness. Currently, Dr. Hart serves as Chief Administrative Officer, overseeing development, marketing & communications, campus safety and information technology.

As an executive leader who has earned recognition throughout the region as a strategic thinker and an innovative problem-solver, Dr. Hart has overseen a number of major institutional initiatives, including planning and implementation of the College's strategic plan (RBC-19) that redefined and refocused the mission and vision along three critical areas: (1) enrollment, (2) programs and delivery, and (3) operations and resources. As project manager for the Exceptional Student Experience (ESE@RBC) program, Dr. Hart led a team that successfully implemented a predictive analytical tool, using business intelligence along with a case management approach. This model program pairs students with a Learner Mentor who guide them from orientation to graduation as a single point of contact to positively impact student retention and graduation.

Dr. Hart holds a Ph.D. in Community College Leadership from Old Dominion University in Norfolk Virginia, where his research focused on entrepreneurial practices in community colleges. He has a M.B.A. from Averett University in Danville Virginia and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Longwood University in Farmville Virginia. He and his wife, Mali, love to spend time outdoors with their three daughters (Ruby, 8; Maizy, 5, and Tilly, 3).

## Dr. Richard Sax

Dr. Richard Sax earned his BA degree in English (Concentration in American Studies) with Honors from Haverford College. He earned the MA with Distinction and PhD degree in English Language & Literature from The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Since 1982, he has taught over 250 sections of 40 different courses in English (principally Literature but also Rhetoric & Composition), History, Teacher Education, and Interdisciplinary Humanities, earning campuswide Outstanding Teaching Awards at The University of Michigan (1986) and at Madonna University (1992).



Dr. Sax has served in two decanal positions (Dean of the College of Arts & Humanities at Madonna University in Livonia, Michigan; Dean of the School of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado) and in three academic vice presidencies, including currently (Vice President for Academic Affairs & Dean of the College at Lake Erie College in Painesville, Ohio; Campus Dean & Chief Academic Officer at the University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus in Los Lunas, New Mexico; Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Rio Grande & Rio Grande Community College in Rio Grande, Ohio).

Dr. Sax is married to Lynda Fern Sax (nee Chambers), an account executive with Pearson Publishing. He has five children: Danny, 33, a Talent Buyer for AEG Rocky Mountains in Denver; Jonathan, 32, an agent for Liaison (Electronic Music) in San Francisco; Megan, 29, a 3rd-year OB/GYN resident at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center; Aidan, 18, a first-year cadet at the United States Air Force Academy; Gareth, 14, a 9th-grader at Shaker Heights High School. Dr. Sax's older brother, Steve, is a radiologist at Texas Medical Center in Houston; his younger brother, Leonard, is a family practice doctor in eastern Pennsylvania and the author of four books, including *Why Gender Matters*.

## Dr. Tom Striplin



Dr. Striplin is the Dean of Arts & Science at Allegany College of Maryland and has been serving in this capacity since 2016. Dr. Striplin holds the academic rank of full professor and previously was the Director of Clinical Education in the Respiratory Care Program and a full-time faculty member for 27 years at Allegany College of Maryland. He holds both a Doctor of Education degree in Higher Education Leadership and a Master of Education Degree from Frostburg State University in Frostburg, Maryland. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Salisbury State University in Salisbury, Maryland.

Dr. Striplin was recognized in 2016 as a League of Innovation winner in Chicago. His dissertation topic and study were "Characteristics and Conditions Influencing Assessment Culture in a Community College." He has led a number of important initiatives while at Allegany College of Maryland, including leading the design and implementation of college-wide academic assessment processes, providing academic guidance in the successful implementation of the cybersecurity PTECH grant, assisting with transitioning to a new learning management system at the college, helping establish a food pantry for hungry students, expanding multiple measures for college course placement by incorporating high school GPA as an optional placement measure, streamlining the articulation process for high school articulated credit to college credit, and raising external funds to upgrade the athletic facilities.

In his current role as Dean he provides administrative oversight of 7 academic divisions, and 3 professional departments of the college. These areas include, arts and humanities, science, social science, math, academic development, teacher education, physical education, business and economics, early college/dual enrollment, athletics, and academic assessment. Dr. Striplin is also a Middle States Higher Education team evaluator and has been actively involved in higher education accreditation processes while at Allegany College. He conducts team evaluation visits for colleges pursuing re-accreditation. He serves on numerous committees at the college including, financial aid appeals, assessment, budget, strategic planning, educational master plan, academic standards, enrollment management and technology governance.

He has a passion for helping advance education in rural communities both at the college and high school level. He previously served as an elected member on the Allegany County Board of Education for 6 years. He has been married to his wife Jaime for the past 32 years. Jaime is a registered nurse and faculty member of the online BSN nursing program at Frostburg State University. He has one son who is married and they have blessed him and Jaime with two beautiful grand children who are the light of his life. Tom and Jaime reside in Mount Savage, Maryland.