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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGES FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES
NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

San Mateo, California — March 21, 2018: The San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation (SMCCCF) announces the appointment of five new members to its Board of Directors: Sheryl Axline, Stanford University Associate Director of Program Development, Einat Meisel, head of O’Melveny’s Israel Practice, Larry Owens, retired Head Football Coach at College of San Mateo, Patricia Siguenza, a senior director at Genentech and an alumnae of the College of San Mateo, and Hiba Sharief, CIO and Startup Advisor.

Sapna Singh, Chair of the SMCCCF Board of Directors, has expressed her enthusiasm for the Foundation’s new slate of Directors and describes them as “a diverse and enthusiastic group with a broad range of life and work experience.” Singh continues, “we have new members with a deep connection to the Peninsula community and an understanding of the opportunities that are made available by attending an SMCCC District college.” The Foundation’s Executive Director, Tykia Warden remarks that, “one of our most important initiatives is to raise funds for the District’s Promise Scholars Program.” The Promise Scholars Program provides students with full tuition scholarships and wrap-around services for two years of college. In addition to attending the SMCCC District colleges tuition-free, Promise Scholars receive funding for textbooks, transportation, academic support and resources, and career counseling. The Program accelerates the path towards achieving a student’s educational goals, whether it is earning an associate degree or a certificate, or transfer to a four-year institution. Warden says, “our new Board members will be tremendous advocates and partners as we work together to

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significantly increase our fundraising capacity over the next five to 10 years in order to fully fund the Promise Scholars Program.”

Sheryl Axline

A seasoned organization and leadership development professional with experience in the corporate, nonprofit, and educational sectors, Sheryl Axline holds both a Ph.D. in organizational behavior and an MBA. She is passionate about improving educational practices, workplace experiences, and business results. Axline is known as a collaborative team member, constructive partner, and discerning leader. Currently, she works for Stanford Graduate School of Business Executive Education as the Associate Director, Program Development. She works with clients and faculty to develop high impact custom and open enrollment executive education programs. Axline has helped individuals improve their work lives and organizations produce better results. She has extensive experience developing organizations and leaders from startups to Fortune 50 corporations spanning a wide variety of industries and sectors in 37 countries around the world. She has worked in organization development and people analytics as an independent consultant and for global consulting firms including PricewaterhouseCoopers and Louis Allen Worldwide. Axline also values the impact she can make by volunteering her time and has served as a Board member for The Nueva School, pfc Social Impact Advisors, The Peter F. Drucker and Masatoshi Ito Graduate School of Management, and Children’s Creative Learning Center.

Einat Meisel

Einat Meisel leads O’Melveny’s Israel Practice, advising international clients on their investments and operations in Israel as well as Israel-based clients on their cross-border growth, financing, and transactional matters. She is also a partner in the firm’s Mergers and Acquisitions Practice. Her clients include seed-stage emerging growth companies as well as mature global companies, with an emphasis on the technology and life sciences sectors. Meisel

is fluent in all manner of complex, cross-border transactions, from venture capital financings to business combination transactions, public offerings and private placements, spin-outs, recapitalizations, and joint ventures and strategic alliances. She also regularly counsels boards of directors on governance, equity incentive plans and arrangements, employment matters, intellectual property issues, and commercial transactions.

Larry Owens

After spending nearly a quarter of a century coaching football at College of San Mateo (CSM), Larry Owens announced his retirement as Head Football Coach in June 2018. Under his expert leadership, the Bulldogs won over 100 games. His work outside of CSM includes coaching at Woodside High School in the late 1980s and a brief stint as assistant coach at Humboldt State University for a year. Earlier this year, the City of East Palo Alto honored Owens with a Lifetime Achievement Award and proclamation for his years of service to the community. Owens is a graduate of Redwood City's Sequoia High School. He holds a bachelor's degree in physical education from Cal State Fullerton and a master's degree in administration/physical education from St. Mary's College.

Patricia Siguenza

Patricia Siguenza currently serves as Vice President of BioAnalytical Sciences in Development Sciences at Genentech. Since 2009, she has also lead the BioAnalytical Sciences (BAS) department, enabling global drug development by providing key data for non-clinical and clinical studies. Siguenza joined Genentech in 1987 after receiving her associate degree in biology from College of San Mateo and her Bachelor's of Science degree in clinical science at San Francisco State University. Since then she has held positions of increasing responsibility, serving as team lead and contributing to many projects, including marketed products. She is a member of multiple portfolio review committees and technical/scientific forums and is currently co-sponsoring the Development Sciences Rotation Program, which aims to develop

our future generation of scientists and leaders.

Realizing her passion for education and people development, Siguenza volunteers her time mentoring professionals, college students, and recent graduates. She has also participated in various panels where she shares her life story, and has volunteered with the San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation reviewing scholarship applications and serving as a member of the Alumni Council. In addition to her SMCCCF Board membership, Siguenza also serves on the Cañada College President's Advisory Group. Most recently, she established a scholarship for San Mateo County Community College Students.

Hiba Sharief

Hiba Sharief is a seasoned technology executive fueled by a passion for innovation, growth, and impact. She served as Vice President of Information Technology at Oportun, a financial technology company with the mission of providing affordable loans to people with little or no credit history so they can establish credit and build a better future. In her role, Hiba was responsible for defining the IT strategy and building effective, cross-functional teams that can enable business agility, growth, and results.

Sharief has a diverse personal and professional background with technology and leadership experience across various industries, and in more than 20 countries around the globe. As the daughter of a career diplomat, she lived in four countries and spoke four languages fluently before the age of eight. Hiba moved to New York City from her home country of Sudan in late 1995 to pursue her university education. She graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Business Administration in finance and information systems from Baruch College's Zicklin School of Business, City University of New York. She has since assumed various leadership roles at Lehman Brothers, Accenture, EMC, and Slalom. Sharief spent two years in Dubai building EMC's consulting arm in Europe South, Middle East and Africa before moving to her new home in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Silicon Valley Business Journal recently named Sharief to its “40 Under 40” list, and software company MongoDB nominated her for Female Innovator of the Year. Sharief is active in humanitarian organizations and is highly committed to shaping future generations and changing the ratio of women in technology and leadership. She is currently a Board Member at SPEAK Mentorship, an organization with a mission to provide mentorship to girls of immigrant and first-generation American families.

The San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation provides philanthropic support through student scholarships and programs at the San Mateo County Community College District: Cañada College, College of San Mateo, and Skyline College. The purposes of the Foundation are to promote student success and nourish program innovation and excellence. The Foundation is an integral and substantial source of scholarships and grants and similar financial assistance to the District’s students, programs, and colleges.

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For more information, visit the San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation website at <https://foundation.smccd.edu>.