

DR. WILLIAM J. "BILL" CAMPION

A native of El Paso, Texas, Ranger College President Dr. Bill Campion's background consists of more than 40 years in higher education with experience as president/CEO at four multi-campus institutions for more than 20 years (Trinity Valley CC, Athens, Texas; Central Florida CC, Ocala, Florida; El Paso CC, El Paso, Texas; and Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton, Oklahoma). In addition, he has taught graduate courses in community college and higher education leadership both in a full-time capacity and for many years was an adjunct. Dr. Campion earned his Bachelor's Degree from Texas Western College, his Master's Degree from the University of Texas-El Paso and his Doctorate from Texas A & M University-Commerce. His professional/educational background also includes serving as Dean of Students, Dean of the College, Director of Financial Aid and Student Recruitment, Director of Admissions and Head Basketball Coach, as well as consulting experience in Texas, Arkansas, and Florida. He and his wife, Sharon, have 4 daughters, 12 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren.

In 1995, Dr. Campion was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges. He has served as Regional Director of the National Junior College Athletic Association, on the Board of Directors for the Organization for the Advancement of Associate Degree Nursing, and served as a member of the American Council on Education Adult and Experiential Learning Commission, and as a member of the SACS Accreditation Teams. In 1992 he was named the state ambassador for *Phi Theta Kappa*, the National Junior College Honor Society.

Dr. Campion has been a member of several Chambers of Commerce and has served on their Board of Directors. He has a long record of community service with organizations such as United Way, March of Dimes (1992 Honorary Chairman of WalkAmerica), the YMCA and the Boy Scouts of America. A longtime Rotarian, he has been recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow. His avocational interests involve sports officiating (where he conducts annual camps for college basketball officials), stamp collecting, genealogy and writing. Bill and his wife enjoy an active involvement in their church.

Bill became one of the youngest college presidents in Texas history at the age of 36, and was recognized as a national leader in health occupations, athletics, and day care programs. He enjoyed national stature in the areas of access and equity. Dr. Campion was a leader in the development of accountability issues through measurable institutional outcomes. An avid writer, he has authored a well-received book on Texas Hill Country folklore, and had numerous articles published in nationally recognized academic journals. Bill also demonstrates a strong commitment to diversity.

During his tenure at TVCC, the college experienced 16 consecutive semesters of record-breaking enrollment as the number of students more than doubled, the tax district doubled through four successful referendums; more than \$6 million in capital improvements were completed, and a nursing center and new campuses were established. While at CFCC, enrollment tripled with an ongoing multi-million dollar construction program and CFCC received, in conjunction with Florida State University, one of the largest gifts ever endowed a community college when the Appleton Museum in Ocala with accompanying acreage became a part of the college. At EPCC he led an articulation agreement with UTEP, the University of Texas System and the Texas A&M System; this accomplishment was the first of its kind in the 28-year history of EPCC. In addition, under his leadership the college established child care centers and insured comprehensive bus transportation to all five campuses. At every institution, Dr. Campion has recognized the important role of foundations and alumni associations in the development and well being of the college. At EOSC he was instrumental in promoting alumni activities which ultimately led to substantial gifts.

Dr. Campion was named Texas' "Outstanding Community College President" in 1986 by the *Phi Theta Kappa* Honor Society, and received the same honor in Florida in 1990. In April of 1992, the *Phi Theta Kappa* International Honor Society presented Dr. Campion with their most prestigious award, the Bennett Distinguished College President designation, reserved for five outstanding community college presidents. In January 1994, Dr. Campion and CFCC received the first Quantum Leap Award for academic excellence in community college teaching presented by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development at the University of Texas. In 1995 Dr. Campion received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Junior College Athletic Association for his long-time efforts to enhance the athletic programs of the nation's two-year colleges.

Dr. Campion believes that the future of Ranger College shines brightly with tremendous opportunities in Brownwood, Stephenville and other communities within the district. Bill views himself as an academic leader and has committed himself to each individual's continuing development. He has the unique ability to establish a genuine and nurturing concern for everyone and takes great pains to know and interact with students in whom he takes a personal interest and is an advocate for services essential to student success. He is an open, accessible and approachable leader whose management style is based on collaborative relationships that seek to empower others.