



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 5, 2006

**Lynette Robinson succeeds Jerry Berberet  
New Executive Director Named For Associated New American Colleges**

**EVANSVILLE, Ind.** — Dr. Lynette Robinson, Vice Chancellor and Deputy Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education in Boston, Mass., has accepted the Executive Directorship of the Associated New American Colleges (ANAC), Dr. Stephen G. Jennings, President of the University of Evansville and Chair of ANAC's Presidents Council, announced today. She will begin her new position with ANAC in September 2006.

“Dr. Robinson assumes leadership of ANAC with a strong background in private higher education and accreditation coupled with extensive experience in the public sector.” Dr. Jennings said. “Her leadership should prove invaluable as ANAC seeks to improve the quality and effectiveness of teaching and learning among its members through the intentional integration of teaching and learning, scholarship, and service.”

“I deeply believe that ANAC colleges are the institutions of the future. They are dedicated to preparing graduates who are well-grounded in the liberal arts and sciences, prepared for meaningful and successful careers, and committed to becoming contributing members of the communities in which they live and work.” Dr. Robinson said when accepting the appointment.

“ANAC has been nurtured expertly for more than a decade by its founding executive director, Jerry Berberet, and the talented presidents, provosts, and faculty of its 23-member colleges and universities,” she continued. “ANAC's foundation is based upon mutual trust, shared values and vision, and an abiding commitment to continual improvement. It is a privilege to be invited to join ANAC to help it deepen its services to member colleges and expand its impact on American higher education.”

During the past 11 years, Dr. Robinson served the 29-campus Massachusetts public higher education system as its chief academic officer. Additional responsibilities included liaison with the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Massachusetts and the New England Association of

Arcadia University  
Belmont University  
Butler University  
Capital University  
Drake University  
Drury University  
Elon University  
Hamline University  
Hampton University  
Ithaca College  
Mercer University  
North Central College  
Pacific Lutheran  
University  
Quinnipiac University  
Simmons College  
Susquehanna University  
The Sage Colleges  
The University of Scranton  
University of Evansville  
University of Redlands  
Valparaiso University  
Wagner College  
Westminster College

**Jerry Berberet**  
**Executive Director**  
2248 Sailfish Dr.  
St. George Fl 32328  
Ph: 850/927-3948  
Fx: 850/927-3950  
anacjberb@aol.com  
www.anac.org

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Schools and Colleges, the regional accreditation organization. Her hallmark is facilitation of disparate groups in pursuit of solutions to complex and often controversial projects.

Among her most recent accomplishments are her leadership of statewide task forces on retention and graduation rates in the state and community colleges and the development of quality standards for criminal justice education programs throughout New England for which she was awarded the Governor's Manuel Carbello Award for Excellence in Public Service.

Dr. Robinson earned her bachelor's degree at Earlham College in Richmond, Ind. and her master's at the University of Pennsylvania. After working for 15 years at Earlham, ultimately becoming Dean of Admissions and a Lecturer in Education, she was appointed Dean of Admissions at Boston's Simmons College, a member of ANAC. While completing her Ph.D. at Boston College, she worked as a Research Associate and, then, Assistant Director of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. She joined the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education as Senior Policy Analyst in 1995.

When she takes office in September, Dr. Robinson will be responsible for the coordination of ANAC's signature programs that foster collaboration among member colleges and universities scattered broadly across the United States. The collaboration, which involves presidents as well as chief academic, student affairs, and financial officers yields exchange of data and best practices that accelerates institutional improvement. That ANAC's members are increasingly cited collectively and individually as "best of class" is a direct result of the association's culture of cooperation.

The appointment of Dr. Robinson concludes a year-long search after Dr. Berberet announced his intention to retire. Former vice president for academic affairs at North Central College in Naperville, Ill., he organized ANAC from its beginning and led the research that produced the book, *A New Academic Compact: Revisioning the Relationship between Faculty and Their Institutions* (Anker Press, 2002). Dr. Berberet will remain with the association through December, 2006 as he completes a new TIAA-CREF funded study of new faculty.

Founded in 1995, ANAC is a national consortium of 23 selective small to mid-size (2,000-7,500 students) independent colleges and universities dedicated to the purposeful integration of liberal education, professional studies, and civic engagement. To improve the quality and effectiveness of teaching and learning among its members, ANAC sponsors projects and conferences, administrator and faculty affinity groups, surveys and data benchmarking, and international study programs. ANAC and its members are often cited as models of the intentional integration of teaching and learning, scholarship, and service.

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For more information about ANAC, contact: Jerry Berberet, Executive Director, 2248 Sailfish Dr., St. George Island, FL 32328, email: [anacjberb@aol.com](mailto:anacjberb@aol.com); phone: 850-927-3948; or John Ross, Principal, RossWrites, Phone: 540/592-7020, e-mail: [ross@rosswrites.com](mailto:ross@rosswrites.com). ANAC information is also available: [www.anac.org](http://www.anac.org).