

## Dr. Vince Rodriguez Coastline President Bio

Dr. Rodriguez was born and raised in Orange, California. He graduated from Orange Coast College with an Associate degree and went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology and a Master of Arts in Education at the University of Phoenix in Tempe, Arizona, with an emphasis in Distance Learning and Adult Education. In 2011 he completed his dissertation “Relationships Between Student Characteristics and Student Persistence in Online Classes at a Community College” and earned his doctorate in Educational Leadership from California State University, Long Beach.

Dr. Rodriguez has been a member of the Coast Community College District in California since 1998 and has worked as a classified employee, instructor, and administrator. Over his 20-plus years at Coastline, he provided leadership at each of Coastline's learning centers and spent many years overseeing a Distance Learning Program that accounted for nearly 75 percent of the enrollments at the college. Dr. Rodriguez served in the role as Vice President of Instruction at Coastline since 2012. In June 2021, he became the new President of Coastline College, upon the retirement of Dr. Loretta Adrian.

Rodriguez said he feels his perspective from having worked in classified, faculty and administrative roles helps inform his presidency at Coastline. He added that he also worked at the college while finishing his degrees. This also helps him further relate to Coastline students because he understands what it means to be a working adult, like many of Coastline's students. Rodriguez said that past presidents have mentored him and provided opportunities for his growth into his current role. He also thanked Dr. Adrian for her guidance in the last few years.

Dr. Vince Rodriguez is a strong believer in education being the most powerful tool in providing social justice for traditionally disadvantaged students. He has also been influenced by discussions of racism and race during the past years, particularly in academia, as a Mexican American himself.

*“For me, it fostered this desire to do more for our students of color,” said Rodriguez. “Our Black students, our Mexican students, there’s a lot they’ve had to overcome. I need to do more to help our students of color and ‘how can we do more to improve our overall outcomes in our service area?’ What can I do about that?”*

He looks forward to working on ethnic studies curriculum for the college in coordination with other California State Universities and California Community Colleges. President Rodriguez plans to work with faculty and staff to develop greater flexibility in classes for students that will allow them to be “on-demand” for the pace they study.

In May of 2020, Dr. Vincent Rodriguez was the Recipient of The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. He was one of forty leaders selected for the 2020-21 class of the Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship, a highly selected leadership program preparing the next generation of

community college presidents to transform institutions to achieve higher and more equitable levels of student success.

Dr. Rodriguez is a resident of Huntington Beach. In his free time, he volunteers as a coach and referee for the Costa Mesa region of the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) and served as a referee for the Daily Pilot Cup tournament.