



Dr. Bonnie Ann Dowd, Retired January 31, 2023 after 35 years of experience in the California Community College system. Final 12 years at San Diego Community College District (Multi-college district) where she served as the Executive Vice Chancellor, Business and Technology Services. Prior 23 years were at Palomar Community College District (Single-college district) as Assistant Superintendent/Vice President, Finance & Administrative Services/Professor Emerita, Business Education. Prior to her education career, Dr. Dowd worked in private industry for 20 years in publicly traded corporations and various closely held and publicly traded corporations in New York City, Houston, and San Diego including New York Life Insurance, Columbia Broadcasting Systems (CBS), E.F. Hutton, Executive Air Services, and Critical Air Medicine.

Bonnie began her career in the California Community College system at Palomar CCD as an adjunct faculty member teaching various accounting and general business classes. After one year as an adjunct, she was hired into a tenure track full-time faculty position in the Business Education department. Classes taught included various levels of accounting, advertising, marketing, and small business management in traditional classrooms, ETV, and on-line modalities. During her 17 years as a faculty member, she served in various faculty leadership positions, including Academic Senate President, Senate Secretary, Academic Technology Coordinator, Professional Development Coordinator and Business Education department chair. During her final 6 years at Palomar, she was the Vice President, Finance and Administrative Services ending her career at Palomar having been awarded Professor Emerita status by the Academic Senate. Upon her departure from Palomar, she joined SDCCD as the Executive Vice Chancellor, Business and Technology Services overseeing all business, finance, and technology operations for the four-college district. As Executive Vice Chancellor, Bonnie served as the district Chancellor when the Chancellor was unavailable.

Bonnie earned an Ed. D. in Leadership Studies from the University of San Diego, an MBA in Financial Management, a BBA in Accounting from University of Houston, and an AAS in Business from Staten Community College. All of her education was completed as a part-time student while working full-time over a span of 20 years. She is a licensed Certified Management Accountant (CMA), holds a Lifetime Community College Teaching Credential in several areas of instruction; and earned a Distance Education Coordinator certification from the California Virtual Campus Statewide Rural Regional Center (CVC4).

At the California Community College system level, Bonnie served on the Board of Directors for the Association of Chief Business Officials (ACBO) representing all 73 community college districts, 116 colleges in the California Community College system with regard to business and financial matters. Her service on the ACBO Board spanned fifteen consecutive years including as ACBO's President. Bonnie also served on the Board of the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) for six consecutive years as member of its Board of Directors and as its President. California Community College system chancellors appointed her to represent all San Diego community colleges on several County and City of San Diego and state Oversight Boards. The California State Senate Pro-Tempo appointed her as a member of an oversight committee convened to improve upon state funding for all community colleges.

During her San Diego business career, Dr. Dowd volunteered as a counselor for the U.S. Small Business Administration's ACE program and on the Board and as President of the Southern California Women for Business Ownership organization in support of San Diego County's closely held entrepreneurial businesses. She also taught (2014-2024) as professor/lecturer in San Diego State University's School of Education's Leadership doctoral program. Bonnie has also served as one of two co-facilitators of ACBO's Institute training programs since 2007.

Throughout her industry and academic careers Dr. Dowd was the recipient of several business and education awards and honors including, but not limited to, the following:

- Association of Chief Business Officials' (ACBO) "Walter Star Robie Award"
- Association of California Community College Administrators' (ACCCA) "Volunteer of the Year"
- Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) "Pacific Region Faculty Award"
- CA Community Colleges Board of Governors, "Hayward Award for Excellence in Education"
- Education Award Recipient – Greater San Diego Industry Education Council
- National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) "Excellence Award"
- San Diego Business Journal's "CFO of the Year" in the Education category
- U.S. Small Business Administration's San Diego/Riverside counties "Accountant of the Year"

In her retirement, Dr. Dowd (Dr. BAD as she was known by her students) enjoys national and international travel, is a life-long aficionado of live-theatre, regularly plays Mahjongg, is a member of the City of San Diego's Rancho Bernardo Library's monthly book club, regularly enjoys Yoga and Cardio Drumming, and participates in other exercise and lifelong learning classes offered at "San Diego Oasis", which is an award winning nonprofit organization serving 50+ seniors throughout the County of San Diego and is affiliated with "Oasis Everywhere", which has been located for 40 years in St Louis, Missouri offering classes and activities throughout the United States via partner affiliations that play a vital role in improving the lives of older adults. In October 2024, Bonnie was invited and appointed to the San Diego Oasis' Board of Directors and in July 2025 she was elected Board Treasurer. San Diego Oasis celebrates its "Black & Gold" Gala each November. Bonnie was asked to Chair the 2025 Gala, which is the largest fundraiser of the non-profit that brings together over 250 San Diego business leaders and philanthropists to raise funds for Oasis' Wellness and Healthy Aging Initiatives and its Intergenerational Tutoring programs, which benefits at-risk elementary school children in the neediest public schools.

Bonnie is an active member of the Rancho Bernardo Community Foundation having been termed out as a board member in November 2024 after nine years of board service. She also continues to serve on the Westwood 11-12 Homeowner's Association Board of Directors as member and Treasurer for the past 23 years. Other community organizations currently serving on include the Ed Brown Senior Center, the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society, and as a member and secretary of the San Rafael Parish's Finance Council.

Bonnie believes in and enjoys all of her community service activities and most importantly, she treasures time spent with friends and family near and far, former state and local community college colleagues, and remaining in contact with former students always willing to share advice and encouragement as part of her commitment to "pay it forward" in appreciation to all of those that supported her throughout both of her successful and fulfilling careers.