



**Dr. Frank Gornick**  
**Chancellor, West Hills Community College District**

Dr. Frank Gornick, chancellor of West Hills Community College District, first came to the college as a student from Chicago in the mid-1960s as a student athlete. He went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees from Sacramento State and a Ph.D. in curriculum from St. Louis University.

Dr. Gornick returned to the district in 1994 as superintendent/president and in 2001, he became the district's first chancellor. During that time, the district has grown from about 600 students per semester to almost 7,000 students. He has overseen the revitalization of West Hills College Coalinga and the opening of the first new community college in California in the 21<sup>st</sup> century—West

Hills College Lemoore.

During his tenure, West Hills was recognized at the national level in 2002 by the MetLife Foundation as the small community college nationwide that best serves the needs of a diverse student population. In 2005, Campus Compact featured the district in its publication on service learning. The district also received the State Chancellor's Office Diversity Award in 2004 and Technology Focus Award in 2007.

In 2006, he was elected president of the Central Valley Higher Education Consortium, a regional group of college and university presidents and chancellors, and he serves on the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. In 2004, he was named the West Hills College Coalinga Alumnus of the Year.



**Ken Stoppenbrink**  
**Vice Chancellor of Business Services, West Hills Community College District**

Ken Stoppenbrink has served as vice chancellor of business services at WHCCD since 2004. He joined West Hills in 1996 as director of human resources. He is responsible for oversight of all fiscal matters pertaining to the district and is responsible for the human resources department, business office, information technology department and child development centers.

Prior to joining West Hills, Ken worked for more than 15 years in as a director of human resources at Coalinga and Stockton hospitals. He holds an AA from Shasta College in Redding, a BS from Chico State University and an MBA with a focus on E-business from the

University of Phoenix.

Ken is active in the community and has served as president or chairman of a number of groups including the Coalinga chamber of commerce and Coalinga Rotary Club. He is currently a member of the Coalinga Planning Commission and has served on the board of trustees of the Coalinga Regional Medical Center board of trustees.

Ken and his wife, Alix, enjoy sailing the high seas in their spare time.



**Dr. Willard Clark Lewallen**  
**President, West Hills College Coalinga**

Dr. Willard Clark Lewallen has served as president of West Hills College Coalinga since 2007. He came to West Hills after more than 20 years at Antelope Valley College where he served as a counselor, faculty member, dean and vice president of Student Services.

He holds a B.S. from Cal Poly, Pomona, where he played baseball. He earned master's degrees in exercise science and counseling at Purdue University and a Ph.D. in education from UCLA.

Dr. Lewallen is a leading authority on the subject of undecided college students. Dr. Lewallen has authored several journal articles and is a frequent presenter at state, national, and international conferences.

He has served as president of the California Community College Counselors Association (CCCCA), a professional organization that serves approximately 1,600 counselors statewide.

Dr. Lewallen's is active in the Coalinga community and his hobbies and interests include guitar, fitness, and backpacking. He and his wife, Michele, have three children.



**Don Warkentin**  
**President, West Hills College Lemoore**

Don Warkentin is the president of West Hills College Lemoore, the first new community college built in California in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. WHCL received accreditation in June 2006.

Don has been with the district since 1986 and was dean of Student Services at WHCL prior to being appointed as interim president in 2004. He assumed the presidency in 2005.

He attended Reedley College, where his father was a dean and received his BS in biology in 1968 from CSU, Chico. He holds a master's degree in educational administration from CSU, Fresno.

In addition to his leadership at the campus level, Don has served on the accreditation committee for a number of other colleges and is a past president of the Lemoore Union Elementary School District Board of Trustees.

He is active in Lemoore and Kings County organizations and is a past president of the Lemoore Kiwanis. He is a board member for the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Kings County Economic Development Corporation.

He and his wife, Betty, have two children, Brooke, who is an assistant principal at a Lemoore elementary school and teaches part-time for West Hills, and Steven, who works for the Disney Corporation in Anaheim.