

## Candidate Statement: Dr. John Gillette

Dr. John Gillette's administrative, instructional, and service record spans community colleges, technical colleges, public universities, and civic organizations. His professional history includes multi-divisional leadership, large-scale academic-support operations, program and curriculum design, faculty hiring and development, student-success initiatives, budget oversight, facilities projects, and statewide transfer-pathway collaboration. His experience includes both liberal-arts and workforce-oriented environments, requisite to addressing the intersecting needs of Liberal Arts and Business programs.

Dr. Gillette's administrative record covers liberal-arts core disciplines (English, Communication, Cultural Studies) and technical-college general-education courses that articulate with workforce and business programs. His course-redesign leadership, transfer-agreement negotiations, and financial-analysis projects demonstrate familiarity with enrollment management and resource allocation.

From 2019 to 2024, Dr. Gillette served as Dean of General Studies at Western Technical College, responsible for up to 91 courses and more than 70 faculty members, along with advisors and staff. His responsibilities included coordinating cross-division instructional planning, supervising hiring and credential review, conducting equity audits, and leading a 64-course redesign into a seven-week format. He guided policy development, transfer-agreement negotiations with state and local universities, financial analyses that reset course caps, and succession planning. Committee roles encompassed the Guided Pathways Steering Committee and statewide groups on transfer pathways and curricular development.

Earlier, as Associate Dean of Learning Resources at Pasadena City College (2017–2019), Dr. Gillette directed academic support for over 50,000 students across 22 centers, managing 200-plus staff and multiple budgets. He implemented center evaluation systems, led renovation projects, met state student-success metrics, launched an early-alert retention strategy, and chaired the Learning Resources Redesign Committee.

At Montana State University (2016–2017), Dr. Gillette was Director of Academic Support for two campuses, managing tutoring, testing, and placement services. This role encompassed staff supervision, curriculum alignment, supplemental-instruction programs, and participation on institutional councils. In addition, he led a Title III grant team in 2018.

Previous appointments include Director of the Writing Center at Henderson State University (2014–2015) and Director of Writing at New College of Florida (2012–2014). Both positions involved budget management, curriculum redesign, faculty training, workshop development, and academic policy creation.

Dr. Gillette's teaching roles span graduate and undergraduate levels, including graduate faculty of English at Henderson State University, tenured Professor of English and Speech at Gateway College, and visiting positions in Rhetoric and Communication at Allegheny College and the University of Pittsburgh.

Service activities feature board membership and project leadership with the Gertrude Stein Foundation, participation in Peace Corps assignments in Paraguay and Antigua, and advisory work on master's theses and senior projects. Dr. Gillette is fluent in Spanish and has reading proficiency in French.

Dr. Gillette holds a PhD Certificate in Cultural Studies, a PhD in Rhetoric and Communication, with a minor in Rhetoric of Science, an MA in Rhetoric and Composition, a BA in English and American Literature, and 60 credit hours from Seminole Community College.