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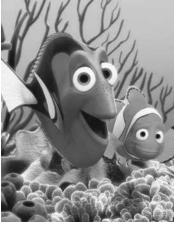












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OCAL NEWS



New Portland Community College Board Member Tiffani Penson (second from left) is congratulated Thursday as she begins her first four year term on the PCC Board of Directors. Oregon Supreme Court Justice Adrienne Nelson (far left) presided over the oath of office ceremony and PCC President Mark Mitsui and Board Chair Jim Harper (far right) also celebrate.

Penson Takes Oath

Begins term on Portland Community College board

Tiffani Penson, an education advocate from the African American community and a city hall staffer promoting equity in city four year term on the Portland Community College Board of Directors. On Thursday Penson took Nelson, the first black woman ever to serve on the state's highest

Nelson swore in all of PCC's and service disabled businesses. new directors during the special ceremony. Penson was elected by voters in May to represent PCC's contracting has started her first Zone 2, which covers north and northeast Portland along and Columbia County.

en, emerging small businesses Native American Chamber.

She implemented and manages the Minority Evaluator Program, which requires city bureaus to include at least one minority evaluator from the community to serve on evalu-A native Oregonian and the ation panels awarding formal the oath of office from Oregon supplier diversity officer for the contracts. She also serves on Supreme Court Justice Adrienne city of Portland, Penson's re- the board of Architecture Founsponsibilities include outreach dation of Oregon, Bound for A to disadvantage, minority, wom- Cure, Kairos PDX, and Oregon

New Prison Chief Makes History

Named first black woman to run a prison

Nichole Brown, a state Department of Corrections official with more than 20 years of experience was named Monday as the new superintendent of the Columbia River Correctional Institution in Portland, the first African American woman to run a prison in the state of Oregon. The appointment is effective Aug. 1.

When asked to reflect on what it means to be the first black woman to run a prison in the state, Brown community, traditionally, have not always had a good relationship.



Nichole Brown

"My decision to apply for the acknowledged that law enforce- position was easy, as I know the ment and the African American leadership of the agency has made a commitment to diversify the workforce with highly trained

staff and to normalize and humanize the corrections setting," she said. "I bring a diverse perspective - not only in ethnicity and culture – but diversity of opinion, thoughts and abilities. I will be a role model to staff and to adults in custody showing that our diversity can be our greatest strength as we share and grow with one another as corrections professionals.

Brown started her career in 1997 at the Powder River Correctional Facility in Baker City in the inmate work programs section. From 2004 to 2012, she served as the workforce development administrator responsible for education training and alcohol and drug treatment programs. She currently oversees programs and

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