

## Elmhurst College names Dr. Troy VanAken president

Feb. 18, 2016



The [board of trustees](#) of [Elmhurst College](#), Elmhurst, Illinois, unanimously appointed Dr. [Troy VanAken](#) to serve as the college's 14th president, according to a college news release.

VanAken, currently president of Thiel College, Greenville, Pennsylvania, will begin his work at Elmhurst College, an ACI [member college](#), this summer. He will succeed Interim President [Larry A. Braskamp](#).

VanAken's career in higher education includes a wide range of experience, including years as a senior administrator, a mathematics professor, a business entrepreneur and an athletic director.

Since 2009, he has been president of Thiel College, an independent Lutheran college that enrolls approximately 1,000 students. VanAken is also a mathematics professor at Thiel, and recently oversaw the college's 2016 capital campaign.

Previously, he served in a number of roles at Albion College, Albion, Michigan, including executive vice president, vice president for finance and management and athletic director. A native of Michigan, he began his career in higher education as an assistant professor of mathematics at the University of Evansville, Evansville, Indiana. He has been a high school football and track coach. VanAken is also active in economic and community development, and has started three successful technology-related companies.

VanAken earned a bachelor of science degree from Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan, and master's and doctoral degrees in mathematics from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.