

Maxson done with being college leader

By Doug Krikorian, Long Beach Press-Telegram

It was surprising to me awhile back when Dr. Robert Maxson, who had retired as president of Long Beach State after a successful 12-year incumbency, decided to resurrect his academic career by accepting a similar position at a tiny private institution next to Lake Tahoe called Sierra Nevada College.

Of course, I was informed he was offered considerable money-it was speculated by some it was twice as much as he earned in Long Beach-and such an enticement is difficult to resist for a healthy fellow with uncommon resourcefulness not exactly accustomed to doing nothing more every day than hiking, fishing, reading and clipping coupons.

I mean, it was Maxson's intention to live happily ever after with wife Sylvia in their 4,400-square foot shoreline home on Fidalgo in the San Juan Islands-and enjoy the intermittent company of his children and grandchildren.

But an old friend, Dr. Barry Munitz, a one-time chancellor of the California state college system who had become the board of trustees chairman at Sierra Nevada College, coaxed Maxson to return to the campus.

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