



## Dr. Eric Y. Tao

Dr. Eric Y. Tao is the 5th president of Mt Sierra College. He has brought innovative curriculum, external financial support, international recruitment, systematic accountability, participative governance and service oriented leadership to the campus.

Dr. Tao is a well-known innovator, professor, and academic leader. Before joining Mt Sierra, he is a full professor of computer science and the director of Institute for Innovation and Economic Development (iiED) at California State University Monterey Bay over 20 years. He founded and directed School of Computing and Design at CSUMB between 2001 and 2015. The School provides various degree programs, research and development projects in Computer Science, Communication Design, Information Technology, and Learning Science fields. In 2014, the school launched an innovative, fully online bachelor's degree program in Computer Science, the largest such program among all California public universities. During his leadership, the school has grown from one program, two hundred students to five degree programs and over two thousand students. In 2015, California governor Jerry Brown recognized the school is one of the most innovative academic units in the state. iiED offers StartupWeekend, StartupChallenges, visiting scholars, international executive development, youth summer camp, and more, to support global innovation and economic development. Between 2013 and 2017, StartupChallenges attracted over 400 startup companies from all over the world to compete for seed level investment.

Dr. Tao received his doctorate degree in Computer Engineering from University of California Irvine while receiving full scholarship. His expertise is in innovation, information system, higher education management, and globalization. He has published over 30 papers in medical information systems, e-learning systems, and innovation processes. He has served on the boards of, WASC-Western Association of Colleges and Schools, Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, Leadership Monterey Peninsula, California Institute for Global Education, Zeuss Group Inc. among others. He often speaks at international conferences and universities on global innovation and education. Dr. Tao is fluent in Mandarin Chinese. He travels abroad frequently and provides speeches and workshops worldwide, especially in the greater Chinese region. In addition to education, innovation and entrepreneurship, Dr. Tao has deep interests in classical music, travel, cycling and tennis. He currently resides in Carmel, California.

Additional information resources:

- Message from the Mt Sierra College President <https://mtsierra.edu/letter-from-the-president/>
- Founder of School of Computing and Design at California State University Monterey Bay <https://csumb.edu/scd/message-school-founding-director-dr-eric-tao>
- Biography <http://erictao.weebly.com/bio.html>
- Full Professor at CSUMB <https://csumb.edu/directory/people/eric-tao>