



Dave Heineman  
Governor

## STATE OF NEBRASKA

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### NEW LATINO AMERICAN COMMISSION COMMISSIONER FROM COLUMBUS

COLUMBUS – The Nebraska Latino American Commission (NLAC) welcomes Jack Gutierrez of Columbus as the newest Commissioner to serve on the Board of Directors.

Gutierrez is originally from Lexington, Nebraska. He earned his bachelor's degree in Education from Chadron State College in 1976 and a master's degree in Education from the University of Nebraska-Kearney (UNK) in 1980.

“I have been interested in becoming a member of the Latino-American Commission because I believe my experience and commitment to education, and especially the need to see our youth grow, is of the utmost importance,” said Gutierrez. “My mother, Jennie Gutierrez, was on the Mexican-American Commission Board years ago. I believe my name is out there in many different circles to make a difference and to continue the good things that are happening in the state with our population.”

During his student career, he worked as a Physical Education Graduate Assistant for the 1979-80 school year at UNK. His career as a teacher includes teaching middle school English and Math at St. Ann's Catholic School in Lexington from 1976 to 1979.

He currently works at Central Community College (CCC) in Columbus, Nebraska as the college's Athletic Director. His career at CCC began in 1980 where he has worn many hats including the CCC Financial Aid Director, Admissions Director, and Campus Recruiter.

He also coached the CCC basketball team from 1980-2007, and currently coaches the CCC women's softball team.

“I have been very instrumental in the inception of a men's soccer program at CCC which will start in the fall of 2013,” said Gutierrez. “With our soccer program we have attracted and given the opportunity for many Latino males to attend college and play soccer, with 20 of 25 incoming soccer players being Latino. I plan to be very involved with their progress as a student-athlete in



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their two years at Central. I am very involved in my work at Central Community College and would like to carry over my strengths in education to the Latino-American Commission.”

His service to the community includes being a member of the Sertoma Service Club of Columbus, the ARC of Platte County Club, which works with adults and children with disabilities, and volunteers for the Teammate Program. He is the current president of the Pinnacle Bank Bullets summer softball association and past president of the Big Pals-Little Pals of Greater Columbus.

Gutierrez is married with three children. His wife, Kelly, works at East Central District Health Department. His eldest son, Drew, works for the Autistic Center of Nebraska, his son Jake attends Versatile Support Services and works on life skills, and his youngest, daughter Jaisa, currently attends the University of Nebraska-Omaha and is majoring in Environmental Science.

“The college experience is a positive influence for all youth and making friends while learning is something that is a must for all college students,” he said.

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*Note: Photo Available.*