

## New Touro provost has eyes set on expanding

By SARAH ROHRS/Times-Herald staff writer  
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Helping the College of Pharmacy grow out of infancy, and strengthening partnerships with the Vallejo school district and Solano Community College top the agenda of Harvey Kaye, the new provost of Touro University on Mare Island.

Kaye became Touro University's top senior administrator in June, filling the shoes of former provost Deborah Blackwell who left after her contract was not renewed. Kaye did not elaborate. He said his appointment will assist Touro in aligning its numerous educational programs with its mission and vision statements. That alignment, he said, "needed strengthening." Earlier this year, Kaye took the job as dean of the College of Education. In his new post he oversees Touro's College of Osteopathic Medicine, College of Health Sciences, and the College of Pharmacy, and remains dean of the College of Education. "I know a lot of the staff and faculty. We thought it would be an appropriate move (his appointment) that would benefit the philosophy and movement of our mission," said Kaye, speaking from his Mare Island office Friday morning.

A chief interest is to work with Solano Community College to establish classes where students could earn bachelor of science degrees in math, science and technology. Touro has room to grow on Mare Island, but he envisions such classes being offered off the island where they might be more accessible to college students.

"The whole completion of an education here in Vallejo is one of my dreams. There are a lot of needs in Vallejo that we could meet," Kaye said.

Kaye has already reached out to the Vallejo City Unified School District to establish an internship program for university students in local schools. He is also assisting efforts to place education graduates with teaching credentials into local classrooms.

Through a pilot program Touro is funding, college students would go into Vallejo classrooms and work with teachers and students on reducing childhood obesity and encouraging healthy lifestyles.

Before coming to Vallejo, Kaye worked at Touro's parent campus in New York City which already has an established teaching program. He has taught every grade level, from elementary grades to post-doctorate courses, and also served in numerous educational administrative positions in both secondary schools and universities.



Dr. Harvey Kaye, who has been promoted to provost of Touro University on Mare Island, gestures toward a building where he would like to expand. (David Pacheco/Times-Herald)

As Touro's new provost, he said one of his chief tasks will be to work on a lengthy accreditation process through the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. He will also oversee the growth of the College of Pharmacy, Touro's newest colleges.

He and his staff are also working to implement Touro's master plan, which calls utilizing the massive Building H81, Mare Island's original hospital ward which is nearly 70,000 square foot. The exact plans for the space are not clear yet, but will likely involve expansion of one or more of the existing colleges.

Kaye has settled in Vallejo with his wife and daughter who is attending a Vallejo public school. He vowed to delve into community activities as a new resident. "I'm thrilled to be here," Kaye said.