

SANTA ANA COLLEGE

# Annual Classified

2014  
AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE



## An ongoing commitment to student success

Dear Colleagues,

Community colleges, like other institutions of higher education, are all about learning. What we have come to understand in recent years is that not all learning takes place in the classroom. In fact, some of the most important learning during the college years occurs outside of the classroom. Further, when students recount the people who assisted them in reaching their goals, one would expect most students to name a faculty member. That is often the case, but it is not always the case. I can recall many examples of when students cited classified staff members as being key contributors to their success. It may have been a particular person in the career center, or a learning aide in a math tutoring center, or even a custodian. A pivotal point for a student may come about by their involvement in student activities and the guidance provided by the classified advisor. It may come about from sitting on a committee and interacting with a variety of staff members or it may be as simple as receiving encouragement from a clerk or an administrative assistant or some other staff member at a time when a student needs some encouragement and support. There are countless ways that classified staff members contribute to the learning and progress of our students.

Although all classified employees deserve appreciation and recognition for their contributions, I especially want to salute the classified employees of Santa Ana College that have been selected by their peers and singled out for an Award for Excellence. Your hard work and your tireless efforts on behalf of our students are an inspiration to us all. Thank you for all you do to encourage the success of our students!

 Respectfully,

Raúl Rodríguez, Ph.D.  
Chancellor

Dear Staff & Colleagues,

It is the Classified employees like yourself that keep this campus buoyant in these economic tidal waves. Most often you are the first image of Santa Ana College and it is your pride, care and hope that leave a lasting impression on all that visit our campus. You demonstrate true dedication, commitment and genuine hard work by giving your very best every day.

As we look forward to our Centennial Celebration, we are reminded of the important link classified staff are to our legacy. Your unconditional support for one another, our students, and the college is truly inspiring. I am appreciative of your efforts that create the welcoming atmosphere our campus is known for, and that provides our students with a passion to succeed and learn.

All of you deserve to be recognized and I am honored to join in the chorus of praise as we celebrate and recognize individuals that have been nominated by YOU and the Awards Committee. Please know that I am grateful for the work you do and pledge my continued support.

As ever,



Erlinda J. Martinez, Ed.D.  
President

2014  
AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE  
2014



## **Classified Employee of the Year 2014 Recipient**

**Leisa Schumacher**

Administrative Secretary

Science, Math & Health Science Department

Congratulations to Leisa Schumacher as this year's recipient of the Classified Employee of the Year 2014 Award!

*The "Classified Employee of the Year" award recognizes one exceptional employee whose dedication to students and the institution best exemplifies the high standards of all Santa Ana College classified employees.*

Leisa has been employed with the Rancho Santiago Community College District for a remarkable eleven years. In her position as Administrative Secretary for the Science, Math & Health Science Department, Leisa promotes collegiality to achieve common practices through her collaboration with all levels of staff, faculty, and management. She is well known for her high ability to learn and adapt to and use new systems such as Ad Astra and the many facets of Datatel. Leisa is also committed to meeting the needs of students as is exemplified by her dedication to helping students identify the many tools and resources they have available on campus. Additionally, Leisa participates in the Curriculum and Scheduling Prioritization Team meetings and makes recommendations on operational and procedural concerns regarding our systems.

Leisa is an exceptional employee, whose dedication to students and the institution is best exemplified by her qualities, including her on-task character, high level of integrity, positive attitude, reliability, and honesty. Her philosophy promotes cooperation and mutual respect. Those that know Leisa speak of her knowledge and understanding of the organization, her excellence as a communicator, her tact and diplomacy in handling concerns, and her dedication and pride in all aspects of her job.

A special salute to Leisa for your dedication, commitment, and promoting your work to the highest standards at Santa Ana College!



## **HOTT (Half-of-the-Time) Award**

Erin Woodmas  
General Office Clerk  
Nursing Department

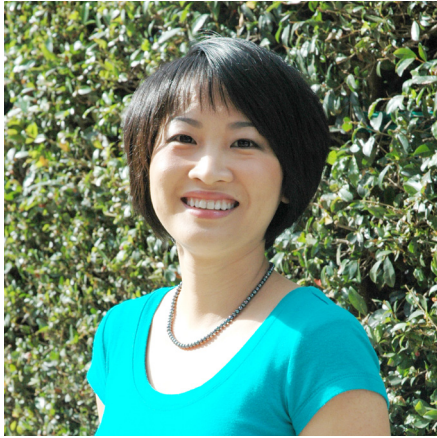
*The “Half-of-the-Time” award recognizes the outstanding efforts and contributions made by a Santa Ana College part-time employee.*

A warm and special applause to Erin Woodmas as the recipient of the Half-of-the-Time Award. This recognition represents her outstanding full-time efforts and contributions as a part-time employee!

Erin has been with the Rancho Santiago Community College District since 2007. In her part-time position as the General Office Clerk in the Nursing Department, Erin proudly oversees the off-campus office location at St. Joseph’s Hospital where she is the first contact for students, and answers inquiries regarding pre-requisites, program guidelines, and document compliance. Additionally, she is a great support to faculty and administrators where she utilizes her qualities of being concise, professional, and flexible to help create a seamless link between departments and the students. Erin exemplifies this collaboration in putting together and making readily accessible the Nursing Program’s waiting list from the traditional paper form into an Excel spreadsheet and posting the information on Santa Ana College’s Nursing webpage for student to access.

Erin is best known for her positive attitude and her commendable work ethic. She has been described as being full of spark, focused, directed, and motivated, and most of all, dedicated to her role and responsibilities at SAC. She is described as hard-working, dedicated, and very personable. Those who know her speak of her integrity and exemplary interpersonal skills, as well as her friendly and carrying attributes that demonstrate the positive and collegial attitudes embraced by the Nursing Program at Santa Ana College.

Congratulations to Erin for your exemplary full-time support as a part-time employee and for your strong dedication and commitment to serving Santa Ana College!



## Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award

Elaine Pham  
Instructional Center Specialist  
Math Study Center

Congratulations to Elaine Pham on her special acknowledgment as this year's recipient of the Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award!

*The "Bill Brush Colleague  
Appreciation" award  
recognizes an individual who  
is "nearly indispensable" and  
who demonstrates sensitivity,  
dedication, resourcefulness,  
positive attitude and  
enthusiasm.*

Elaine has been with Rancho Santiago Community College District for five years. She displays her Bill Brush attributes of being dedicated, resourceful, and enthusiastic in creating a safe and inviting atmosphere in the setting where she works. Elaine has assisted with the development of the Math Center at Centennial Education Center and has assisted with the creation of the Math Center at Santa Ana College. Additionally, she has been involved in creating curriculum, facilitating workshops, and guiding peer mentors and tutors in enhancing their student-centered teaching abilities. For example, she has collaborated with colleagues in developing a pre-semester Math preparation program for STEM students, helping increase the size of the drop-in student population, and helping expand workshop services in the Math Center.

Elaine's genuine interest in promoting collegiality among her peers exemplifies her qualities of sincerity and enthusiasm in role modeling and helping colleagues put their best effort in the work they do and in encouraging them to move forward in their education and careers. Elaine is truly admired and respected by her colleagues. She is best known for her excellent communication and interpersonal skills, and her ability to build rapport and promote an environment of community and home in the Math Center.

Warm congratulations to Elaine for your exceptional job, dedication, resourcefulness, and pride in serving Santa Ana College!



## Professional Achievement Award

Michael Ediss  
Skilled Maintenance Worker  
Maintenance & Operations Department

Please put your hands together to congratulate Michael Ediss as this year's recipient of the Professional Achievement Award!

*The "Professional Achievement" award recognizes an employee for demonstrating outstanding job performance and professional growth through education, positive impact and creativity, or experience and dedication.*

Michael is a model employee who has been with Rancho Santiago Community College District for seven years. In his position as Skilled Maintenance Worker, Michael helps maintain the campus grounds clean. He has addressed the lack of trash receptacles in parking lots by taking the initiative in strategically planning to procure additional receptacles for easy access. Michael has also been a representative on the facilities committee to have a voice in the future development of the campus. Additionally, Michael has demonstrated an outstanding job performance and commitment to professional growth through education. Pursuing higher education is important in his family. He has exemplified this commitment by being a student during the day and a custodian at night. Michael graduated from Santa Ana College with an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts then transferred to Cal State Long Beach where he studied accounting and history.

Michael is a highly driven and focused individual who leads by example and demonstrates integrity in his day-to-day work at Santa Ana College. Those who know him speak of his commitment and dedication in finding new ways and means to save the college money, help us achieve our goal of being more sustainable and doing all he can to promote SAC to students, staff and faculty. Michael is known to be honest, hard-working, and a team player.

Congratulations Michael for your commitment and dedication to your exceptional job performance and professional development!



## 2014 Classified Awards Finalists

### Classified Employee of the Year

Joseph Alonzo  
Gilbert Cossio

### Half-of-the-Time

(H-O-T-T) Award  
Margie Castellanos  
Maribel Pineda

### Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award

Justin McAdam  
Leisa Schumacher

### Professional Achievement Award

Jimmy Nguyen

## 2014 Classified Awards Committee

Teresa Mercado-Cota, Co-Chair  
Assistant Dean, Student Services

Lithia Williams, Co-Chair  
CSEA Representative

Geni Lusk  
Classified Employee of the Year Award Co-Recipient, 2013  
Executive Secretary | Administrative Services

Jennifer Valencia  
Classified Employee of the Year Award Co-Recipient, 2013  
Administrative Secretary | Santa Ana College Foundation | Office of College Advancement

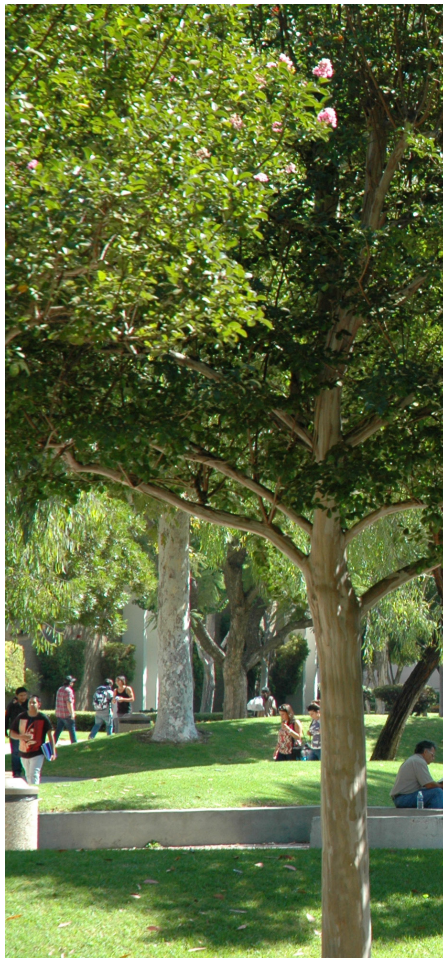
Tonimarie Withey  
Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award Recipient, 2013  
Administrative Secretary | Fine & Performing Arts Division

Anh-Phuong Tran  
Professional Achievement Award Recipient, 2013  
Support Services Assistant | Academic Affairs

Chris Steward  
H-O-T-T (Half-of-the-Time) Award Recipient, 2013  
Clerk | Admission and Records

## 2013/2014 Retirees

Gloria Barela  
Jean Gonzalez  
John Lundgren  
Denise Phillips  
Hoai Quan



## Classified Service Pin Awards 2014

### 10 Year Recipients

Omar Avalos	Joseph Luarte	Martin Olivera
Christopher Connally	Michael Martinez	Chi Pham
Stephen Crenshaw	John Math	David Phan
Thao Duong	Donald Nankivil	Phyllis Steele
Arturo Hernandez-Morales	Diem Nguyen	Anh-Phoung Tran
Paul Kohlhas	Nga Nguyen	Phil Tran
Anisa Latthitham	Claudia Ojeda	Adalberto Zambrano

### 15 Year Recipients

Abel Arredondo	Maria Linares	Deanne Quiggle
Chris Conway	Suzanne Lohmann	Luisa Ruiz
Claudia Cruz	Claudia Lozada	Steve Tlaseca
Steven Demeria	Velan McMinimy	Sophareth Tuon
Connie Jimenez	Christina Orozco	Lithia Williams
Supreme Lim	Beatrice Padilla	

### 20 Year Recipients

Nora Schug

### 25 Year Recipients

Victor Aguilar  
John Chambers  
Teresa Grijalva  
Thuy Nguyen  
Raydene Puente  
Lillian Reimer  
Salvador Sanchez

### 30 Year Recipients

Tai Bahn  
Ilene Mai  
Yolanda Vasquez

### 35 Year Recipients

Sylvia Gordon

### 40 Year Recipients

Susana Albuja

## RSCCD Board of Trustees

Jose Solorio, President  
Lawrence R. Labrado, Vice President  
Claudia C. Alvarez, Clerk  
Arianna P. Barrios  
John R. Hanna  
Nelida Mendoza Yanez  
Phillip E. Yarbrough

Chancellor  
Raúl Rodríguez, Ph.D.  
Santa Ana College President  
Erlinda J. Martinez, Ed.D.

## Thank you

We would like to extend our gratitude to the following colleagues for their professional contributions: Miranda Medrano, Graphic Design, Joe Pacino and Brian Yoder, Media Productions, David Styffe, Graphic Communications, and Dean Hopkins, Public Affairs. We would also like to thank Lupe Mendoza and Elizabeth Gomez, CSU, Fullerton Interns, for their support with the e-booklet and awards program.

A very special appreciation to the Santa Ana College Foundation Board of Directors for their financial support to our Classified & Faculty Awards Program.



## SANTA ANA COLLEGE