SANTA ANA COLLEGE
Annual Classified

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

2015
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

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An ongoing commitment to student success

Dear Colleagues,

As Santa Ana College (SAC) celebrates its Centennial year, it is a time to reflect on the long and eventful history and traditions of the college. Even so, it is equally important to honor the traditions of the present, especially those recognizing superior performance. The SAC 2015 Annual Classified Awards for Excellence honors the best of the best from the wonderful group of Classified Staff employed at Santa Ana College.

Classified Staff make so many contributions in so many different ways to advance the success of our students that it would take a long list to recount them all. A chance interaction in a hallway, a problem solved at Admissions and Records, or numerous other encounters and interactions between Classified Staff and students can and often do contribute to engaging our students and keeping them on track. These many informal moments can play a huge and largely undocumented role in the everyday lives of our students.

In the end, all Classified Staff deserve appreciation and recognition for their contributions. However, I especially want to salute the individuals that have been selected by their peers and singled out for an Annual Classified 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!

With respect and gratitude,

Raúl Rodríguez, Ph.D.
Chancellor

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As ever,

Erlinda J. Martinez, Ed.D.
President
Classified Employee of the Year 2015 Recipient

Kalonji Saterfield
Student Services Coordinator
Center for Teacher Education Program

Congratulations to Kalonji Saterfield as this year’s recipient of the Classified Employee of the Year 2015 Award!

Kalonji has been employed with the Rancho Santiago Community College District for an extraordinary eleven years. In his position of Student Services Coordinator for the Teacher Education Program, Kalonji promotes collegiality through collaboration, communication, professionalism, and dedication to the students of the college.

He is well known for his ability to effectively implement a myriad of complex student services activities, lead multiple staff members, collaborate with partners and maintain a positive and gracious persona. Kalonji is dedicated to serving the students at Santa Ana College as illustrated through his work with the Center for Teacher Education Program. His passion to help students grow and develop has driven his dedication and involvement with establishing and strengthening clubs, organizations, social action events, and community service activities for SAC’s students and future educators. Additionally, Kalonji coordinates the annual Road to Teaching Conference which exposes students to various workshops conducted by professionals in education and Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). His work within the college sets the platform for student success.

Kalonji is an outstanding employee, whose passion and commitment to serving students and the college is best exemplified by his qualities including his commitment, heart, zeal, and being an excellent team member. His philosophy of honesty and positivity fosters strong relationships among students and staff and raises the morale of those who comes in contact with.

He has been described as an infectious and audaciously amazing member of the SAC family. He is known for his enthusiastic attitude, willingness to help, excellence as a communicator, and the pride he holds in every aspect of his job. We would like to provide a special salute to Kalonji for his commitment, eagerness, and dedication in his work at Santa Ana College.
HOTT (Half-of-the-Time) Award

Nicole Gallegos
Instructional Assistant
School of Continuing Education

Special congratulations to Nicole Gallegos for her acknowledgement as this year’s recipient of the Half-of-the-Time Award.

This recognition symbolizes her stupendous dedication and contribution as a part-time employee! Nicole has been a part of the Rancho Santiago Community College District for over eight years. In her position as an Instructional Assistant for the Centennial Education Center, Nicole works with over one hundred students daily by creating a welcoming environment and encouraging student success through positive affirmations. Additionally, she is a great support to faculty and students where she utilizes her qualities of true leadership, creativity, and flexibility to create a seamless link between students and the different departments. Nicole exemplifies this by assuring staff is prepared and looking for ways to improve the efficiency of the classroom and the program.

Nicole is best known for her positive attitude and commendable work ethic. She has been described as a leader, responsible, innovative, and creative, and dedicated to making an impact on the students she interacts with. Those who know her speak highly of her innovative thinking and desire to do what's best. Nicole is an essential part of CEC and the program would not be able to function without her help.

Congratulations to Nicole for your exemplary full-time support as a part-time employee and for your strong commitment and dedication to student success.
Our warmest congratulations to Justin McAdam as he is this year’s recipient of the Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award!

Justin has been with Rancho Santiago Community College District for five years. He displays his Bill Brush attributes of being dedicated to exceed student success, and enthusiastic in creating a safe and inviting environment at Santa Ana College. Through self-initiative, he actively looks at ways to improve the campus. Justin assisted in the transformation of the campus curb appeal to a more sustainable and cost efficient approach by replacing plants to address the ongoing drought.

Justin’s genuine interest in promoting collegiality among his peers exemplifies his qualities of creating a welcoming environment and helping others. His willingness to help various departments and individuals on campus has displayed his leadership skills and pride in what he does. Justin is truly admired and respected by his colleagues. He is best known for his excellent communication and interpersonal skills, genuine personality, his contributions to a team, and his dedication to improving the campus through sustainability and environmental consciousness.

Congratulations Justin for your exceptional job, dedication, hard work, and pride in serving Santa Ana College!
Congratulations to Jose Lopez-Mercedes as he is this year’s recipient of the Professional Achievement Award!

Jose is a model employee who has been with Rancho Santiago Community College District for fifteen years. In his position as Administrative Assistant, Jose brings a wide variety of skills and talents that have contributed to the advancement of SAC CEC. Through his work at CEC, Jose has created several processes and tracking forms as well as designed the SAC CEC Curriculum webpage. Being an advocate for higher education, Jose was motivated to return to school and received an Associate in Arts degree in Liberal Arts from Santa Ana College and transferred to California State University, Fullerton where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies, followed by a TESOL/TESL certificate and Master of Arts in Spanish. The students, teachers, and his community continue to motivate Jose’s passion for continuing his education. He is constantly sharing his knowledge and helping others advance their skills through promoting professional growth and development.

Jose is a highly driven and focused individual who leads by example and demonstrates integrity in his day-to-day work with students, staff, and the community. Those who know him speak of his energy, positive attitude, dedication and contributions to CEC through the use of technology. Jose is often called upon to work on special projects throughout campus and always makes himself available to help others. He is known to be caring, talented, and hard-working and motivates others to continue to learn and grow.

Congratulations Jose for your commitment and dedication to your exceptional job performance and professional development!
2015 Classified Awards Finalists

Classified Employee of the Year
Miranda Medrano
Debra Bailey

Half-of-the-Time (H-O-T-T) Award
Tammy Hoang
Hillary Barker

Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award
Peggy Card-Govela
Hang Le

Professional Achievement Award
Kalonji Saterfield

2015 Classified Awards Committee

Teresa Mercado-Cota, Co-Chair
Assistant Dean, College Advancement/Professional Development

Lithia Williams, Co-Chair
CSEA Representative

2014/2015 Retirees

Marta Barker
Carmina Castillo Lokos
Diane Durdella
Marva Hanley
Katherine Jesse
Ilene Mai
Lorraine Melendez
Phyllis Steele
Suzanne Stump
Yolanda Vasquez
Jose Roberto Villegas
Slawa Wajner

Leisa Schumacher
Classified Employee of the Year Award Recipient, 2014
Administrative Secretary | Science, Math & Health Science Department

Elaine Pham
Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award Recipient, 2014 Instructional Center Specialist | Math Study Center

Michael Ediss
Professional Achievement Award Recipient, 2014
Skilled Maintenance Worker | Maintenance & Operations Department

Erin Woodmas
H-O-T-T (Half-of-the-Time) Award Recipient, 2014
General Office Clerk | Nursing Department
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 Diana Vasquez, CSU Fullerton Intern, for her 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.