

SANTA ANA COLLEGE

# CLASSIFIED

Awards for Excellence

# 2019



**SANTA ANA COLLEGE**

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## Annual Classified Awards for Excellence

### Chancellor's Message

Dear Colleagues,

Every year brings a new group of students to Santa Ana College. However, our classified staff and their varied support for those students typically remains stable from year to year. It takes many people and many groups working together to create the rich history, traditions, and successes of a college like SAC. The Classified Staff play an integral and important role in the history of SAC and its many achievements, including student success.

All Classified Staff deserve recognition and thanks for their contributions. Each year, we take time out to thank all those who have helped Santa Ana College achieve another remarkable academic year. In particular, the SAC 2019 Annual Classified Awards for Excellence honors a number of the outstanding Classified Staff employed at Santa Ana College. To all those hard working employees who are being honored, I want to say many thanks for your hard work and your tireless efforts on behalf of our students. Your actions are an inspiration to us all. Thank you for all you do to encourage the success of our students!

With appreciation,



Raúl Rodríguez, Ph.D.

### President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

Our Classified staff members provide the necessary support, in a myriad of ways to keep Santa Ana College moving forward every day. I am grateful for your commitment to provide customer service that is second to none to our new and continuing students. As we prepare to implement Guided Pathways, officially, this fall, your efforts and engagement in our campus-wide activities related to this project are appreciated.

Your dedication to make our campus a welcoming place and your unconditional support of our students do not go unnoticed. I am honored to celebrate the excellent work that you do, every day.

With much appreciation,



Dr. Linda Rose, Ed.D.

President

# Classified Employee of the Year



**The Classified Employee of the year honor is granted to an exceptional permanent, full time employee that exhibits dedication, exemplary skills and traits, and a commitment to excellent work performance over their tenure.**

**Theresa Hagelbarger**

Job Developer  
Paralegal, SAC

Theresa began as a part-time, temporary employee at Santa Ana College in August of 2013. She began her current full-time Job Developer position in February of 2018. Theresa previously worked as a Community Services Presenter for both Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College.

Among her many duties, Theresa serves on the UpSkillsOC Advisory Board, which combats family homelessness and works to identify career areas with upward mobility. Theresa continually seeks to assist colleagues with career advancement through education and professional development. She also works with the Classified Professional Development workgroup to develop new opportunities. Theresa represents classified staff on several committees, including College Council, Guided Pathways Steering Committee, and the Guided Pathways Counseling/ Career Advising team. In addition, she serves on the California Internship Work Experience Association, and has presented at a variety of conferences at the request of Dr. Raul Rodriguez, Chancellor of Rancho Santiago Community College District.

“She researches, discusses, and implements new ideas, information and opportunities to benefit her colleagues and students. This trait alone has resulted in numerous students being selected for scholarships, internships and jobs that they would have otherwise not had. She stays connected with the students, which provides the college with connection to our very successful alumni,” said Dean Madeline Grant.

Congratulations to Theresa, this year’s recipient of the Classified Employee of the Year Award!

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# H.O.T.T. (Half-of-the-Time) Award



**This award recognizes an exceptional permanent, part-time employee that exhibits dedication, exemplary skills and traits, and a commitment to excellent work performance over their tenure.**

## **Mayra Lopez**

Counseling Assistant  
EOPS/CARE & CalWORKs, SAC

Mayra works for the CalWORKs department under EOPS/CARE & CalWORKs, serving in that position for 1 year and 9 months. Mayra is passionate about helping students who are economically disadvantaged and seeking guidance to navigate college life at Santa Ana College's CalWORKs department. Mayra engages CalWORKs students to comply with various documents, state and federal requirements, track student academic progress and provide community and campus resources for CalWORKs students. These students have multiple personal barriers and Mayra's ability to establish positive rapport with her very caring approach makes a stay-in college difference. Mayra inspires students on their journey since she started her advanced education at a community college, attained her bachelor's degree, and completed her Master's in Counseling in Spring 2018.

"Mayra is very innovative. An example is she developed new student orientations that review all the various government documents students need to complete each month, which has increased retention and compliance," said Coordinator Ann Lockhart. She also states, "SAC's CalWORKs program has a very positive reputation due to Mayra aligning and tracking all the statewide documents required to keep students in college."

Congratulations to Mayra for her dedication and full-time support as a part-time employee!

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# Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award



**Sandra Aguilar**

Administrative Clerk

Employee Services, CEC

Sandra has served for 14 years in Employee Services at Santa Ana College School of Continuing Education. Employee Services assists with status changes, scheduling, time reporting, and payroll. In Continuing Education, there are many different positions, projects and individual situations that require different time reporting guidelines and rates of pay. This is potentially complex and confusing information for any employee but Sandra's expertise and patience help to simplify the complicated. Sandra's attention to detailed record keeping, diligence and commitment to excellence serve faculty, staff and administrators. She takes the extra steps to answer questions quickly and professionally. Sandra has been an invaluable resource during a recent transition to a different payroll reporting system.

**This award recognizes an exceptional permanent employee that is nearly indispensable and works diligently behind the scenes. This person exhibits dedication, resourcefulness, sensitivity, enthusiasm and a positive attitude. Named in honor of William R. Brush, Skilled Maintenance Worker (1990).**

Coordinator Rob Jenkins states, "After several decades of managing part-time pay differently, it has been a major shift for all involved; however, Sandra seems to handle all the questions and confusion that has resulted from it in a very positive and effective way."

Our warmest congratulations to Sandra for receiving this year's Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award!

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# Professional Achievement Award



**Thi Nguyen**

Library Technician II

Fine & Performing Arts, SAC

Thi's first Santa Ana College work experience as a Student Library Worker inspired her to earn an Associate of Arts Degree in Library Technology. She was hired by the district as a Library Clerk in August 1988 and promoted to Library Technician in 1995. She was promoted to Library Technician II in 2002. Her experience as a Santa Ana College student and her passion for the library profession give her a heightened awareness of our diverse college community needs. She participates in service trainings, programs and activities to improve library services to students and other members of the college community. She is an active participant in Library Technology Program's student recruitment efforts at Santa Ana College and Centennial Education Center. Since 2001, she has been instrumental in jointly requesting grant funds for the library's student laptop-lending program, in addition to running and overseeing the program. She has also been a key contributor to the maintenance and upkeep of our college's new pay-for-print system.

Her co-workers say that her kind, calm, and warm demeanor allow the students to be at ease when they interact with her.

Thi consistently demonstrates service and professional growth. We congratulate you!

**This award is given to an exceptional permanent employee that better serves students, colleagues and the college as a result of continued professional development, education, and/or experience. This person is a life-long learner.**

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## 2019 Classified Awards Finalists

**Classified Employee of the Year**  
Monica Bustamante  
Basti Lopez

**Half-of-the-Time (H-O-T-T) Award**  
Maria Cardenas  
Elizabeth Lomeli

**Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award**  
Maria Palomares  
Raquel Serratos

**Professional Achievement Award**  
Yuri Betancourt  
Sarah Salas

## 2019 Classified Awards Committee

**Teresa Mercado-Cota, Co-Chair**  
Associate Dean, Public Affairs & Governmental Relations

**Lithia Williams, Co-Chair**  
Community Services Coordinator II

**Chris Wild**  
Classified Employee of the Year Award Recipient, 2018  
Operations Specialist, SAC Bookstore

**Sophia Le**  
H-O-T-T (Half-of-the-Time) Award Recipient, 2018

Student Services Specialist/SAC CalWORKs Program

**Brenda Furlong**  
Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award Recipient, 2017  
Accountant, Administration Services

**Mary Chang**  
Professional Achievement Award Recipient, 2017  
Instructional Assistant, CEC High School Diploma Program Program/ GED

**Elsa Garcia**  
Public Affairs & Governmental Relations

## Rancho Santiago Community College District

### Board of Trustees

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**Claudia C. Alvarez**, Vice President  
**Zeke Hernandez**, Clerk  
**Arianna P. Barrios**, Member  
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**Lawrence "Larry" R. Labrado**, Member  
**Nelida Mendoza**, Member  
**Elizabeth M. Weber**, Student Trustee

### Chancellor

**Raúl Rodriguez, Ph.D.**

### Santa Ana College President

**Linda D. Rose, Ed.D.**

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## Classified Service Pin Awards

### 10 Years

Debra Bailey  
Jarunee Chaikaew  
Fausta Medina  
Hector Rodriguez  
Rogelio Rosales Rojas  
John Ross, Jr.

### 15 Years

Omar Avalos  
Chris Connally  
Claudia Diaz  
Thao Duong  
Zachary Fish  
Geoffrey Jones  
James Isbell  
Paul Kohlhas  
Anisa Latthitham  
Joseph Luarte  
Maria Luppiani  
Michael Martinez  
John Math  
Dale Mixer  
Melanie Mowrer  
William Nguyen  
Martin Olivera  
Chi Pham  
David Phan  
Anh-Phuong Tran

### 20 Years

Abel Arredondo  
Chris Conway  
Claudia Cruz  
Connie Jimenez  
Supreme Lim  
Maria Linares  
Suzanne Lohmann  
Claudia Lozada

Christina Orozco  
Beatriz Padilla  
Luisa Ruiz  
Nirbhai Singh  
Steve Tlaseca  
Melissa Tran  
Jinhee Trone  
Sophanareth Tuon  
Lithia Williams

### 25 Years

Suzanne Freeman  
Leticia Lopez-Jaurequi  
Romelia Madrigal  
Luis Pedroza  
Kenneth Sill  
Irene Soriano

### 30 Years

Victor Aguila  
Kelly Brandon  
John Chambers  
Robert Gallego  
Teresa Grijalva  
Mark Higgins  
Thuy Nguyen  
Lillian Reimer  
Salvador Sanchez  
Reyes Vazquez

### 35 Years

Tai Banh  
Dennis Sadler  
Mary Castellanos  
Sylvia Gordon

### 45 Years

Susana Albuja

## Thank you

We would like to extend our gratitude to the following colleagues for their professional contributions: our valued partners, the Joint Faculty Co-Chairs and the committee; Nancy Smith and Mary Law, Graphic Design; Joe Pacino and Brian Yoder, Media Productions; Sean Small and the Technical Theater team; John Tran and the Information Technology Team; Maria Taylor, Facilities Coordination; Maintenance & Operations; and Dean Hopkins, RSCCD Public Affairs. A special thank you to Brenda Furlong and Mary Chang for serving on the Awards for Excellence Committee for the second consecutive year in order to fill vacancies. A very special appreciation to the Santa Ana College Foundation Board of Directors for their financial support of our Classified & Faculty Awards Program.

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