# Annual Classified Excellence

## Santa Ana College Awards for

#### **An ongoing commitment** to student success

Unfortunately, the state budget issue has hovered over much of what we have done during this academic year. Despite the ever-changing and often gloomy news from Sacramento, I have been proud to witness the enduring commitment to students demonstrated every day by each one of you. Even as resources have become limited, you continue to do your very best for our students and the community.

According to John Quincy Adams, "Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish." Since coming to Rancho, I have appreciated the perseverance, innovation, and dedication that you bring to the college district in support of our students. Despite the times we live in, you continue to bring your very best to the workplace.

You have rolled up your sleeves and done whatever was necessary to ensure even greater student success. For many, it has meant helping to think of more efficient ways to get the job done with fewer people to carry the load. I appreciate your outside-the-box thinking and initiative.

Our college district's single most valuable asset is its employees. Whatever your role, you are all educators. It is the people inside the classrooms and those who support the instructors and the students who make higher education possible.

I salute you for your hard work and your tireless efforts on behalf of our colleges, our district, and our students. The contributions of your individual skills, high-quality work, and personal commitment to the mission of our college district are much appreciated. Thank you for all you do to encourage the success of our students, faculty,

and administration.

Sincerely,

Raúl Rodríguez, Ph.D. Chancellor Dear Staff & Fellow Colleagues,

2011

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.

We have been challenged to serve more students with fewer operational dollars as a result of the fiscal shortfall facing our state and our nation. However, 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, their peers and the Awards Committee. Please know that I am grateful for the work you do and pledge my continued support of your endeavors.

As ever. Erlinda J. Martinez, Ed.D. President



The Classified Employee of the year honor recognizes the contributions made by our excellent classified staff at Rancho Santiago Community College District in providing support services to our students and the institution. All college personnel are invited to submit nominations for consideration by the Classified Awards Committee. Selection for this honor is determined on the bases of a vote count, assessment of individual recommendations and involvement in district activities.

### Classified Employee of the Year 2011

## **Karen Scott**Administrative Secretary Fire Technology

A special salute and congratulations to Karen Scott for her selection as the 2011 Classified Employee of the Year!

Karen has been employed with the Rancho Santiago Community College District for nearly twelve years. She began her career as a General Office Clerk in Admissions and received two consecutive promotions due to her outstanding performance. Next Karen was selected as an Administrative Secretary at Santiago Canyon College, and in 2004 she accepted a position with Fire Technology at Santa Ana College.

The Fire Technology Department is the single largest producer of FTE Credit in the district (approximately 2600 annually serving approximately 18,000 students) and with this production comes a wide range of responsibilities that include budgeting, purchasing, records management, class and catalog maintenance and scheduling to name only a few. Karen is a key member of the Datatel Work Group and has been instrumental in writing the "Section Building" training manual. She has trained and supported instruction division secretaries and our Continuing Education staff, and has become one of the "go to" individuals when Datatel "Section Building" questions arise.

Karen's managers and colleagues rave about her experience, expertise and insight. Her years of experience with admissions and college processes provide invaluable support to both Admissions and Fire Technology Departments, and most importantly to our students. Last year the division lost three employees and yet somehow Karen's organizational skills, calm demeanor and personality allowed them to keep their heads slightly above water. Her colleagues are eager to share her multiple qualities: kindness, professional, dependable, integrity and honesty.

Karen shares that she does her best to come to work with a positive attitude and enjoys being helpful to her peers. She believes that all of the different areas and departments need to work together well so that our students and faculty can be successful. Karen's most memorable and favorite experience revolves around attending the Fire Academy graduations. While she is not required to participate, she looks forward to working with students as they eagerly start out, progress through the program, and loves witnessing first-hand the culmination of their hard work. "Our students are serious and proud of all they have accomplished. Their families and friends share in their big day and we all applaud and smile," Karen shares.

Congratulations Karen for your multiple contributions to students, staff and the district. Your hard work, dedication and positive attitude reflect attributes that are true assets to Santa Ana College!



This award recognizes the "Half-of-the-Time" employee whose full-time effort and achievement enable the district to continue service to students.

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

### Monika Barbery Counseling Assistant Centennial Education Center

Congratulations to Monika Barbery for her role as the 2011 exemplary employee selected to represent the attributes of all part-time employees with the Half-of-the-Time Award!

As a twelve year employee, Monika has served the Rancho Santiago Community College District as a test proctor, instructional assistant and counseling assistant. Currently she works at Centennial Education Center where she has assisted and collaborated in the set-up and implementation of the processes needed for accountability and services in the Basic Skills Counseling and Assessment areas.

Monika's supervisors and colleagues admire her open-mind and tolerance of all opinions when confronting difficult work problems. They indicate that she is always willing to listen to alternative approaches and uses very good common sense to implement best practices. Her dedication and exemplary support have truly helped student services with program accountability. Moreover, she is diligent, dependable, flexible, and creative.

Monika believes that it is important to always make time to give a helping hand. She also promotes goodwill by being professional, friendly and caring to everyone. She is honored and grateful that one of her colleagues nominated her for this recognition.

Congratulations to Monika for representing the core of our part-time employees with her diligence, can-do approach, and flexibility with colleagues and our students!



This award recognizes an individual who is "nearly indispensable" and who demonstrates sensitivity, dedication, resourcefulness, positive attitude and enthusiasm.

### Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award

#### Monique Marthell Instructional Assistant

Centennial Education Center

Accolades and congratulations to Monique Marthell for her recognition as the recipient of the Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award!

Monique has worked for the Rancho Santiago Community College District as an Instructional Assistant for nearly eleven years! She has supported the Reading and Writing Lab, and is currently assigned to the Language Arts Center which incorporates students from ABE through High School Subjects. Her responsibilities include processing and organizing folders and attendance for every multi-level student while working with staff, teachers and students on a daily basis.

Colleagues share that Monique is always looking for ways to improve the efficiency of the classroom. She is receptive to all requests, sensitive to the needs of the program, takes initiative and is willing to offer her assistance to anyone in need. Monique is patient, understanding and helps students as they take those important steps toward achieving their goal of graduating. She is always positive and willing to adapt to the ever changing working environment with a smile.

Monique maintains her enthusiasm for the job by looking at the big picture. She shares that every person has highs and lows. The highs help people maintain their path but the lows are what truly shape a person. Striving for more and doing whatever it takes to move beyond while being enthusiastic is what helps with the love of her job.

Warm congratulations to Monique whose motto is: the heart seeks the utmost good in people, which to me is an expression of goodwill. Your motto, view of the big picture, pleasant personality, and passion represent this prestigious award perfectly!



This award is given to an employee for demonstrating outstanding job performance and professional growth through education, positive impact and creativity, or experience and dedication leading to promotion

### Professional Achievement Award

## **Trevor Kay**Admissions & Records Specialist 1 Santa Ana College

Double congratulations to Trevor Kay for not only receiving the 2009 Half-of-the-Time (H-O-T-T) Award but also rising to the top once again to be honored with the Professional Achievement Award!

Trevor started working with the Rancho Santiago Community College District as a student assistant in 1994, then went on to work as an Instructional Aid, and in June of 2000 he began his tenure with Admissions & Records (A&R) at SAC. He has continued his higher education by earning his BA, pursing graduate studies, and a California Teaching Credential. In addition, he was also a full-time instructor at SAC's own Middle College High School while maintaining a part-time position with A&R.

Trevor not only has a strong background in education but maintains a consistent effort to enhance his learning. He was one of the first persons to be trained with the newly implemented SIS system (Datatel) and, under the toughest and tightest of deadlines, assisted with the monumental task of training and assisting other staff and administrators. He has excellent communication skills. His patience, detailed explanations, and clarification of processes and procedures are always a plus for students, faculty and staff.

Colleagues indicate that Trevor is easy to work with. His willingness to give and share lends strength to the work place environment that varies every day. He has become an invaluable resource in the department. His professional work ethic brings consistency and dedication to every task at hand. He represents the level of professionalism that everyone is proud to support.

Trevor wants his coworkers to enjoy coming to work as he does; thus, he promotes harmony and cooperation. One of the highlights of his professional career was receiving the H-O-T-T Award in 2009 because he realized that his colleagues appreciated and recognized his positive attitude and self-improvement while at SAC.

Congratulations Trevor for your adaptation to change, professional growth, positive impact on others, dedication and leadership as your recognition is a win-win for all!



#### 2010/2011 Retirees

Linda Bradoch
Linda Chadwick
Donna Cordia
Jeanie Gonzalez
Pauline Leon
Kolena Minor
Michael Mugica
Ezequiel Palomares
Carolina Saldivar
Margarita Vargas-Klase
Nancy Williams

#### **2011 Classified Awards Finalists**

#### **Classified Employee of the Year**

Veronica Hurtado Ruth Rodriguez Karen Scott

#### Half-of-the-Time

(H-O-T-T) Award Monika Barbery Mark Franco Monique Marthell

#### **Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award**

Marisela Godinez Monique Marthell Shawn Thor

#### **Professional Achievement Award**

Huong Banh Trevor Kay Francisco Suarez

#### **2011 Classified Awards Committee**

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

Maria Taylor, Co-Chair Facilities Coordinator Academic Affairs

Donna Cordia Classified Employee of the Year Award Recipient, 2010 Admissions & Records Specialist II Santa Ana College

Juan Cabrera H-O-T-T (Half-of-the-Time) Award Recipient, 2010 Instructional Assistant Math Study Center

Elva Negrete Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award Recipient, 2010 Student Services Coordinator SAC Nursing Department

Irma Fernandez Professional Achievement Award Recipient, 2010 Counseling Assistant EOPS/CARE



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Chancellor Raúl Rodríguez, Ph.D.

Santa Ana College President Erlinda J. Martinez, Ed.D.

#### **Classified Service Pin Awards 2011**

#### 10 Year Recipients

Sandra Aguilar
Sheri Bagdonas
Veronica Bizon
Ricardo Castillo
Irma Fernandez
Linda Furlong Diaz
Omelina Garcia
Maria Gil
Patricia Guillen
Junko Ishikawa
Eduardo Lopez
Monique Marthell

Raymundo Mendoza Norma Meraz Renise Meza Anna Montoya Mary Polychrome Gloria Ramos Brenda Serratos Francisco Suarez Anthony Tran Christina Vives Gina Wilson

#### 15 Year Recipients

Evangelina Camarena Karlene Farris Deborah Gossett Felipe Lopez Georgia Matsuda Phong Nguyen Leslie Wood-Rogers

#### 20 Year Recipients

Kathleen Lehman Hoai Quan Ruth Rodriguez Maria Sanchez-Mendez Virginia Witmer Brian Yoder

#### 25 Year Recipients

Patricia Adame Denise Phillips Sara Salas Suzanne Stump Jose Javier Villegas Arturo Zamudio Fidel Zamudio

#### **30 Year Recipients**

Stephanie Adams Maria Garibay Giang Vu

### 35 Year Recipient Janet Grunbaum

#### Thank you

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