

2023

# ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES

## CATEGORIES:

TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP

EQUITY

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF

FACULTY MEMBER

# OUR MISSION

Our mission is to foster the principles and practices of exemplary governance while promoting high quality and affordable higher education, cutting-edge workforce and development training, student success, and the opportunity for all individuals to achieve economic self-sufficiency and security.



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**DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS:**

**JUNE 5, 2023**

# AWARDS PROGRAM

ACCT's awards program is designed to recognize and honor outstanding community college trustees, equity programs, presidents, faculty members, and professional board staff members at regional and national levels. In order to be considered for an Association Award, you must first submit a nomination at the regional level.

## 1 **NOMINATION FOR REGIONAL AWARDS**

ACCT is opening nominations for the following **Regional Awards**:

- Trustee Leadership
- Equity
- Chief Executive Officer
- Faculty Member
- Professional Board Staff Member

## 2 **SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION OF THE REGIONAL AWARDS RECIPIENTS**

The Regional Awards Committees will select the Regional Awards recipients. Recipients will be notified prior to the 2023 ACCT Leadership Congress so that they can make arrangements to be present to accept their awards whenever possible; everyone who submitted a nomination for an award will be notified of the results prior to the 2023 ACCT Leadership Congress.

## 3 **NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE ASSOCIATION AWARDS**

Regional Awards recipients are automatically nominated for an Association Award in the same category. The Regional Awards recipients will be the sole nominees of the following **Association Awards**:

- M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award
- Charles Kennedy Equity Award
- Marie Y. Martin Chief Executive Officer Award
- William H. Meardy Faculty Member Award
- Professional Board Staff Member Award

## 4 **SELECTION OF THE ASSOCIATION AWARDS RECIPIENTS**

The Association Awards Committee and the Charles Kennedy Equity Award Committee will select the Association Awards recipients. Recipients will not be disclosed until the Awards Gala Banquet.

## 5 **THE REGIONAL AWARDS**

ACCT's Regional Awards recipients will be honored during the ACCT Leadership Congress in Las Vegas, Nevada.

## 6 **PRESENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION AWARDS**

All Association Awards recipients will be honored during ACCT's Awards Gala Banquet at the ACCT Leadership Congress in Las Vegas, Nevada.



# TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP AWARD

The ACCT Board of Directors annually honors an individual who has made a significant contribution as a lay trustee to promote the community college concept.

The Association Award is named after M. Dale Ensign, one of ACCT's pioneers and the founding chair of the association, who served as a trustee at Northwest Community College in Powell, Wyoming.

## ELIGIBILITY

Any trustee or former trustee of an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution board or state board for two-year postsecondary institutions is eligible to receive this award.

Current members of the ACCT Board of Directors are ineligible to receive the M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award. Past ACCT Board of Directors Executive Committee members are eligible five years after their ACCT Board of Directors term ends.

## CRITERIA

- Has the trustee served as an officer of the college's board of trustees?
- In addition to service on the board of trustees, in what capacity has the trustee participated in community life (i.e., civic clubs, public office, etc.)?
- What has the trustee initiated or helped to develop in the area of innovative programs used in two-year postsecondary institutions?
- Has the trustee served on technical or special committees serving two-year postsecondary education?
- How has the trustee been a factor in influencing legislation for two-year postsecondary institutions, and how has the trustee been active in communication and advocacy with state and national legislators?
- What has the trustee contributed overall to the two-year postsecondary concept, and how did this affect the college's total impact on the community, state, or nation?
- How has the trustee provided leadership in helping to solve challenges facing two-year postsecondary education?
- How has the trustee been active in developing, organizing, or supporting state two-year postsecondary associations, and what kind of leadership role has the trustee played in state, regional, or national associations?
- Has the trustee given presentations or published articles on two-year postsecondary education?

## 2022 M. DALE ENSIGN TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNER



## DEBORAH IKEDA

STATE CENTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

### WHAT DOES THE AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

I was humbled and honored to receive the M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award because it shines a light on the work the State Center Community College District and the California Community College Trustees have done in advocating community college educational opportunities for all.

### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

Trustees are people who are used to taking charge and taking action, but as a trustee, your role is to provide guidance through policy and trust in the administration you hire to promote your policies to bring the transformative vision you desire as a Board. We all seek the same goal and that is to provide the necessary support for each student to succeed.



# EQUITY AWARD

This award recognizes exemplary commitment by a governing board or governing board and president of an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution board or state board for two-year postsecondary institutions to achieve equity in the college's education programs and services and in the administration and delivery of those programs and services.

The award honors the late Charles Kennedy, a trustee of Joliet Junior College in Illinois, who was a founder of the ACCT Minority Affairs Assembly, which became the ACCT Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.

## ELIGIBILITY

Any governing board or governing board and president of an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution board or state board for two-year postsecondary institutions is eligible to receive this award.

## CRITERIA

Demonstrable evidence of leadership in setting policies that promote and enhance opportunities for institutional diversity, inclusion, and equity for women, persons of color, LGBTQ+ or members of any other underrepresented or underserved population that has occurred within the last five (5) years regarding the following:

- Increases in access by underrepresented or underserved populations and increases in completion of the educational objectives (attainment of a degree, certificate, credential, transfer or gainful employment) of those populations.
- Increases in the institution's workforce and leadership positions by underrepresented or underserved populations.
- Success of the institution's community engagement or outreach efforts in attracting and maintaining the interests of underrepresented or underserved populations regarding the institution.

# 2022 CHARLES KENNEDY EQUITY AWARD WINNER



## COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

### MARYLAND

#### WHAT DOES THE AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

CCBC is proud to accept this award as recognition of the extraordinary commitment made by our trustees, faculty, and staff to a heightened equity agenda. But in a sense, we want to share this award with all of the community colleges across the county. We may serve different populations in different geographical regions, but when you live your mission (as we do) and you love your mission (and we do), the magic of our open door extends opportunity to many who would otherwise be denied. No other sector of higher education can do what we do. We at CCBC are grateful to have our work acknowledged, and we are proud to be a part of this broad fellowship of community colleges who are dedicated to this work.

#### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

- Foster a college climate of equity, civility, and inclusion that is welcoming to all students, faculty, and staff within a mantra of "Every One of Us Counts."
- Create a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Council to bring leadership to the institution's equity agenda, preferably led by the college president.
- Commit to reviewing and revising every academic and administrative policy, practice, and protocol through the lens of the students in our classrooms today.
- Provide an ongoing forum for uncomfortable conversations.
- Face squarely the data that show deficiencies in academic performance and completion among minority students and develop retention and completion initiatives to close those gaps.
- Support and expand professional development efforts across the college to influence classroom pedagogy and methodology as well as service and management models.
- Recognize and work from the premise that "Words are ephemeral, quickly forgotten; only action can influence change for generations!"

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE AWARD

ACCT annually recognizes the tremendous services of and contributions made by community college chief executive officers.

The Association Award is named in honor of Marie Y. Martin, who served as director of the Community College Unit, U.S. Office of Education, and as a chief executive officer in the Los Angeles Community College District.

## ELIGIBILITY

Any chief executive officer (must be currently serving when nomination is submitted) of an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution board or state board for two-year postsecondary institutions is eligible to receive this award.

## CRITERIA

- What has the CEO initiated or helped to develop in the area of innovative programs used in two-year postsecondary institutions?
- How has the CEO served on technical or special committees serving two-year postsecondary education, and what impact did this effort have in the community, state, or nation?
- How has the CEO demonstrated a “caring attitude” toward the board of trustees, administrators, faculty, and students?
- How has the CEO been active in developing, organizing, or supporting state and/or national two-year postsecondary education associations?
- What has the CEO published in the area of two-year postsecondary educational concepts?
- What awards or honors has the CEO received in recognition of leadership in the college, community, or nation?
- What outstanding characteristics of the CEO motivated you to nominate him or her?

## 2022 MARIE Y. MARTIN CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AWARD WINNER



## DR. CHRISTINE JOHNSON

COMMUNITY COLLEGES OF SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

### WHAT DOES THE AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

This award reflects the vision and collective action of remarkably talented and dedicated professionals in every role who are deeply committed to transforming the lives and expanding opportunities for our students and elevating all the communities we serve. I am profoundly grateful to each and every one of them.

### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGE CEOs?

There is no sector that is more vital to our future than community and technical colleges. We are essential to America's future. Our institutions hold the future of our students and our country. We must act accordingly and with urgency.

# FACULTY MEMBER AWARD

ACCT recognizes that the central purpose of our community colleges is teaching and learning. ACCT annually presents its Faculty Member Award to say “thank you” to outstanding faculty members.

The Association Award is named in honor of ACCT’s founding executive director, William H. Meardy, who championed the concept of faculty excellence as the foundation of success in the community college movement.

## ELIGIBILITY

Any full-time instructor (must be employed when nomination is submitted) at an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution or state board for two-year postsecondary institutions is eligible to receive this award.

## CRITERIA

- In what ways has this educator demonstrated excellence in teaching?
- What has this educator initiated and helped to develop in the area of innovative programs used in two-year postsecondary institutions?
- How has this educator served on technical or special committees that have positively affected the community, state, or nation?
- How has this educator provided leadership in helping to solve challenges facing two-year postsecondary education?
- How has this educator been active in developing, organizing, or supporting state and/or national two-year postsecondary associations?
- What awards or honors has this educator received in recognition of leadership in the college or community?

## 2022 WILLIAM H. MEARDY FACULTY MEMBER AWARD WINNER



## PATRICIA MALONEY-TITLAND

ROCKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NEW YORK

### WHAT DOES THE AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

I am deeply honored and humbled to be the recipient of this prestigious faculty excellence award. Education is the key to empowering success and the realization of one’s dreams. I have been an arts educator for most of my life, passionately believing that arts in education transforms lives by engaging students to explore and create their own unique stories. Rockland Community College is a brilliant beacon whose mission is, not only to educate, but also uplift, guide, and celebrate the stories of each student. This award recognizes the leadership, vision, and innovation of all the exceptional educators, students, colleagues, family, and friends who have inspired me throughout my career. It highlights the arts as an unwavering and powerful voice for the voiceless, and a vehicle for change, rejuvenation, and unity.

### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACULTY MEMBERS?

Faculty are the foundation of every educational institution. We must have the courage to be leaders and changemakers, to embrace every challenge and opportunity to collaborate with colleagues across disciplines, and to create bridges to the community. Be passionate and compassionate in your efforts to mentor, engage, and inspire. Never stop being innovative! Formulate new initiatives and partnerships. Respect, elevate, and listen to all voices. Be steadfast in your commitment to the mission of education and enlightenment. Approach each day with humility and gratitude, as there is so much to learn from your students and from each other.



# PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER AWARD

The Professional Board Staff Member Award is presented to a board staff member in recognition of exemplary service to a board.

## ELIGIBILITY

Any board staff member (i.e., an administrative assistant or executive secretary to the president/superintendent) of an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution is eligible to receive this award.

Those currently serving as the ACCT Professional Board Staff Network President and Vice President are not eligible to receive this award.

## CRITERIA

- In what ways has this staff member demonstrated a service leadership role toward the members of the board of trustees, administrators, faculty, students, and community?
- How does this staff member demonstrate performance in support of the board/CEO team?
- How has this staff member assisted the board/CEO team in developing or initiating innovative projects for your institution?
- What professional development activities at the national and/or state level has this staff member pursued?
- What other continuing education activities has this staff member pursued?
- What recognition has this staff member received for their leadership or involvement in the college or community?
- What outstanding characteristics motivated you to nominate this staff member?

2022

# ACCT PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER AWARD WINNER



## MARY LOU HERNANDEZ

CENTRAL ARIZONA COLLEGE, ARIZONA

### WHAT DOES THE AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

It was such an honor to receive the ACCT Professional Board Staff Member Award. To be nominated and chosen for this award has meant more to me than words can express. I have held the position of Executive Assistant to the President and Board for 10 years. Each year finds its own new and unique rewards and challenges, and both have enabled me to grow as a staff member as well as a person. I hope to continue to contribute all I can to support the mission and goals of Central Arizona College. Receiving this award has truly been a highlight in my career.

### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBERS

Continue to give your best each and every day. When you think no one is noticing and that you aren't making a difference, just know that you are! I encourage you to connect and network with others that are in the same role as you are. Learning from each other and supporting each other are key to making you an asset to your institution.



# 2022 ACCT REGIONAL AWARDEES

## TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

### CENTRAL REGION

Robert E. Proctor  
*Lansing Community College, Michigan*

### NORTHEAST REGION

Allen K. Williams  
*Monroe Community College, New York*

### PACIFIC REGION

Deborah J. Ikeda  
*State Center Community College District, California*  
- & -  
Ray Sigafoos  
*Yavapai College, Arizona*

### SOUTHERN REGION

Andre M. Lassiter, Sr.  
*Roanoke-Chowan Community College, North Carolina*

### WESTERN REGION

Diane Keller  
*Central Community College, Nebraska*

## EQUITY AWARD RECIPIENTS

### CENTRAL REGION

Lansing Community College  
*Michigan*

### NORTHEAST REGION

Community College of Baltimore County  
*Maryland*

### PACIFIC REGION

California Community Colleges  
Board of Governors  
*California*

### SOUTHERN REGION

Northern Virginia Community College  
*Virginia*

### WESTERN REGION

El Paso Community College  
*Texas*

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AWARD RECIPIENTS

### CENTRAL REGION

Dr. Dorey Diab  
*North Central State College, Ohio*

### NORTHEAST REGION

Dr. Christopher M. Reber  
*Hudson County Community College, New Jersey*

### PACIFIC REGION

Dr. Christine Johnson  
*Community Colleges of Spokane, Washington*

### SOUTHERN REGION

Dr. Kyle Wagner  
*Northeastern Technical College, South Carolina*

### WESTERN REGION

Dr. Paul Illich  
*Southeast Community College, Nebraska*

## FACULTY MEMBER AWARD RECIPIENTS

### CENTRAL REGION

Dr. Lisa Bergin  
*Minneapolis Community & Technical College, Minnesota*

### NORTHEAST REGION

Patricia Maloney-Titland  
*Rockland Community College, New York*

### PACIFIC REGION

Dr. James Chen  
*South Puget Sound Community College, Washington*  
- & -  
Dr. Karen Palmer  
*Yavapai College, Arizona*

### SOUTHERN REGION

Benji McCollum  
*Midlands Technical College, South Carolina*

### WESTERN REGION

Brian Anderson  
*Northeast Community College, Nebraska*

## PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER AWARD RECIPIENTS

### CENTRAL REGION

Heidi Soodsma  
*Lakeshore Technical College, Wisconsin*

### NORTHEAST REGION

Monica Rausa Williams  
*Anne Arundel Community College, Maryland*

### PACIFIC REGION

Mary Lou Hernandez  
*Central Arizona College, Arizona*  
- & -  
Yvonne Sandoval  
*Yavapai College, Arizona*

### SOUTHERN REGION

Michael Zanfardino  
*Midlands Technical College, South Carolina*

### WESTERN REGION

Sharon Wright  
*Houston Community College, Texas*

# AWARDS

## NOMINATING PROCESS

### **WHO MAY NOMINATE**

Regional Awards nominations may be made by a two-year postsecondary institution board, a state board for community colleges, a board of a state trustee association, or a university board of regents that controls the two-year postsecondary institutions in that state. All boards submitting nominations must be ACCT members.

### **WHO CAN BE NOMINATED**

All nominees must be on the board of or employed by an ACCT member institution at the time of nomination. **For more information regarding eligibility, please refer to the FAQs page.**

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

Each awards committee is composed of trustees and presidents from states throughout each region. The ACCT Regional Chair serves as committee chair. *Any awards committee member whose college submitted nomination(s) will refrain from voting within that category.*

### **RULES**

Only the **first complete set** of nomination materials received for a nominee will be forwarded to the committee. Only one nomination (nominee) per category will be accepted from any institution board.

### **PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS**

In order for a nomination to be considered, all of the following items must be included. **The total length must not exceed six pages.**

1. A cover letter from the board outlining board support.
2. Answer the questions under the "Criteria" section in the order listed. A response covering each question is required.
3. A nominee's resume of no more than two pages may accompany the official nomination (not required); however, a resume will be considered part of the six-page total.
4. A narrative statement not to exceed 150 words that explains the nominee's qualifications and is suitable for use in ACCT publicity materials. This is not included in the six-page nomination packet, but it is required for a nomination to be considered.

### **PHOTOS**

**No photo is required at the time of submission.** If a candidate is selected to receive an ACCT Regional Award, he or she will be required to submit a photograph for ACCT publicity materials.

### **HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION**

**ONLINE** – Visit [www.acct.org/awards](http://www.acct.org/awards) and click on the awards link to submit a nomination online.

**E-MAIL** – Download the nomination form at [www.acct.org/awards](http://www.acct.org/awards). Submit the complete nomination packet to [awards@acct.org](mailto:awards@acct.org). Emailed nominations must be submitted by June 5, 2023.

**MAIL** – Nominations will also be accepted via mail (return receipt requested). Download the nomination form at [www.acct.org/awards](http://www.acct.org/awards). Mail complete nomination packet to: ACCT Awards, 1101 17th Street, NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20036. Shipping costs are the responsibility of the sender. Materials must be received by June 5, 2023.

*Note: An ACCT staff member will contact you within three business days (not including weekends) of receiving your information. If you do not receive a confirmation within 72 business hours, please contact the ACCT Awards Department at [awards@acct.org](mailto:awards@acct.org) or call (202) 775-4667.*

*It is the responsibility of the member institution to ensure that the submitted award nomination is verified.*

# FAQS + CHECKLIST

## FAQs

### **MAY I NOMINATE SOMEONE WHO WON A REGIONAL AWARD LAST YEAR?**

No. Awardees are ineligible for consideration for a period of three years after receiving an award. *In other words, 2022 awardees are not eligible for nomination until the 2026 awards year.*

Additionally, Charles Kennedy Equity awardees are ineligible for consideration for a period of ten years after receiving an award. *In other words, 2022 awardees are not eligible for nomination until the 2033 awards year.*

### **WHO ELSE IS INELIGIBLE TO BE NOMINATED?**

- a. Current ACCT Board of Directors members
- b. Past and present ACCT Board of Directors Executive Committee members \*
- c. Current ACCT Professional Board Staff Network President and Vice President
- d. Non-members

*\* Note: Past ACCT Board of Directors Executive Committee members are eligible five years after their ACCT Board of Directors term ends. In other words, if their term ends 2022 then they are not eligible until 2028 awards year for the M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award.*

### **WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE AWARDS PROGRAM?**

Visit **[www.acct.org/awards](http://www.acct.org/awards)**. The following items are listed there:

- 1. Awards Brochure and Program
- 2. Awards FAQs
- 3. Current and Past Regional and Association Awardees
- 4. Judging Criteria
- 5. Sample Nominations

**If you have additional questions about the awards process, please contact the ACCT Awards Department at [awards@acct.org](mailto:awards@acct.org) or call (202) 775-4667.**

## CHECKLIST

To ensure that your awards nomination is processed without delay, check off the following items before submitting nominations:

- ☐ Packet is NO MORE THAN 6 pages (excluding narrative statement)
- ☐ Cover letter of support from the board
- ☐ Responses to each criteria question
- ☐ Resume (optional; no more than two pages — if included, remember that the resume counts in the six-page limit)
- ☐ Narrative statement (no more than 150 words)
- ☐ Submit nomination by June 5, 2023 deadline



# NOTES



**ASSOCIATION OF  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES**  
1101 17th Street NW, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20036  
[www.acct.org](http://www.acct.org)

 [twitter.com/CCTrustees](https://twitter.com/CCTrustees)

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Washington, DC  
Permit No. 8841

**NOMINATIONS DUE:**

**JUNE 5, 2023**