

2025
ASSOCIATION
OF COMMUNITY
COLLEGE TRUSTEES

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Congratulations to the 2025 ACCT Award recipients!

Thank you for your
outstanding
leadership and
dedicated service
to students.

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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.

The Association of Community College Trustees Board of Directors and President are pleased to announce the 2025 ACCT Regional Awards recipients.

OVERVIEW

Congratulations to the extraordinary community college trustees, programs that improve institutional impact and success, chief executive officers, faculty, and professional board staff members recognized by the ACCT Awards. These awardees demonstrate exceptional leadership and service, and their individual and group achievements have helped to define their institutions as places of outstanding education and achievement.

The ACCT Awards Committee had quite a challenge this year selecting from among the many deserving nominations. We thank all who participated in the awards nomination process, and for those who did not make it into these pages, we strongly encourage you to nominate your most outstanding leaders again next year.

We also express our gratitude to ACCT Corporate Council member Edamerica and the nominees' respective colleges and state associations for their generous support of the ACCT Awards program.

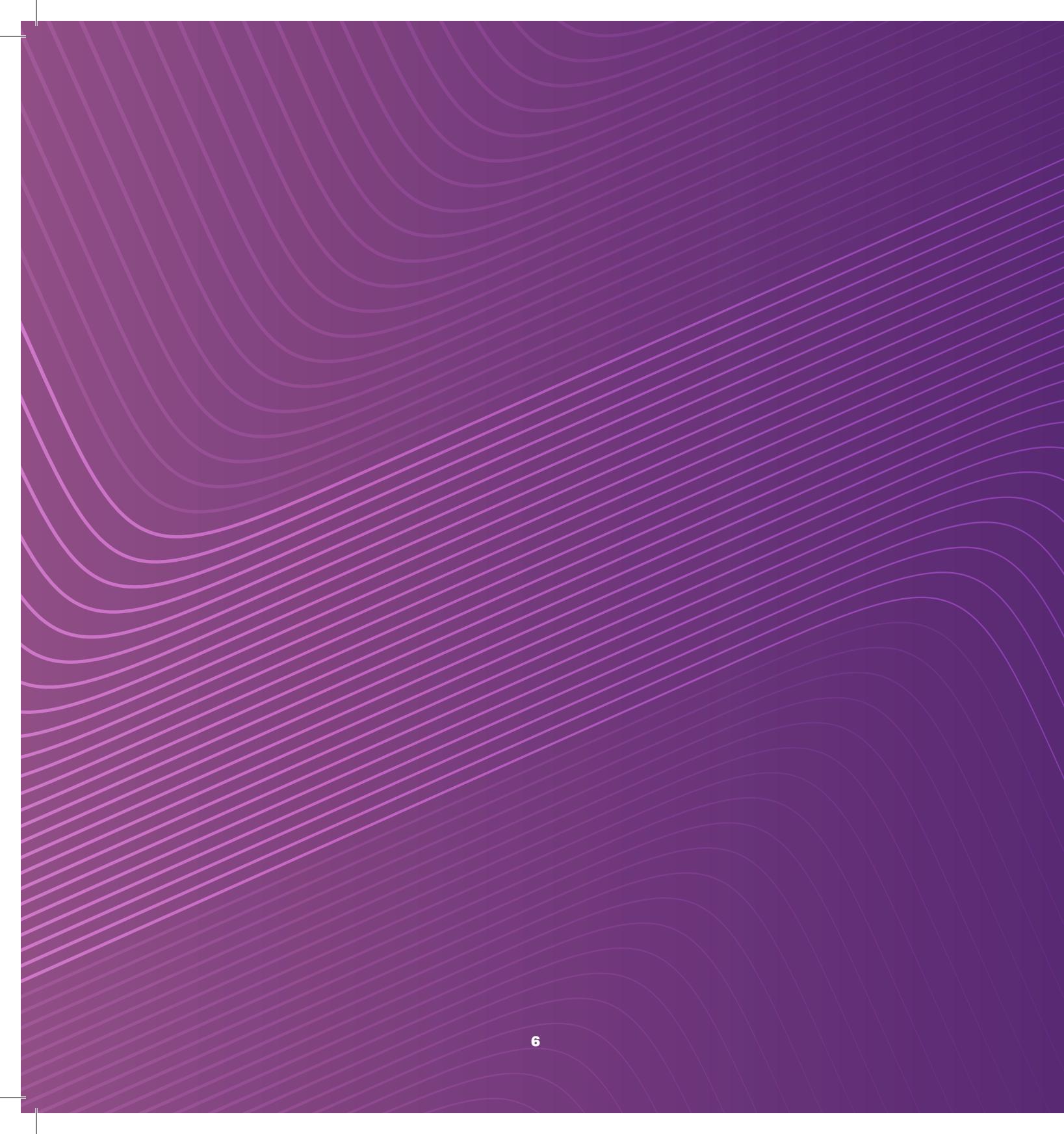
On behalf of the ACCT Board of Directors, staff, and membership, we once again congratulate all of this year's awards recipients. The recognition they are receiving is well deserved, and their contributions will live on in the work being done by their colleges and students.



Rich Fukutaki
Chair, Association of Community College Trustees
Trustee, Bellevue College, Washington



Jee Hang Lee
President & CEO
Association of Community College Trustees



2025

TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP AWARDEES

CENTRAL

DAVID STEFFENS, JR.
NORTH IOWA AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IA

NORTHEAST

VICTOR M. RICHEL
UCNJ UNION COLLEGE OF UNION COUNTY NEW JERSEY, NJ

PACIFIC

KEN HECTOR
CHEMEEKATA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OR

SOUTHERN

JOE E. LEWIS
AIKEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE, SC

WESTERN

THOMAS E. SWISSTACK
CENTRAL NEW MEXICO COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NM

THE FOLLOWING Awardees are
also nominated for the 2025
M. DALE ENSIGN 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.

2025

TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP

CENTRAL REGION AWARD RECIPIENT

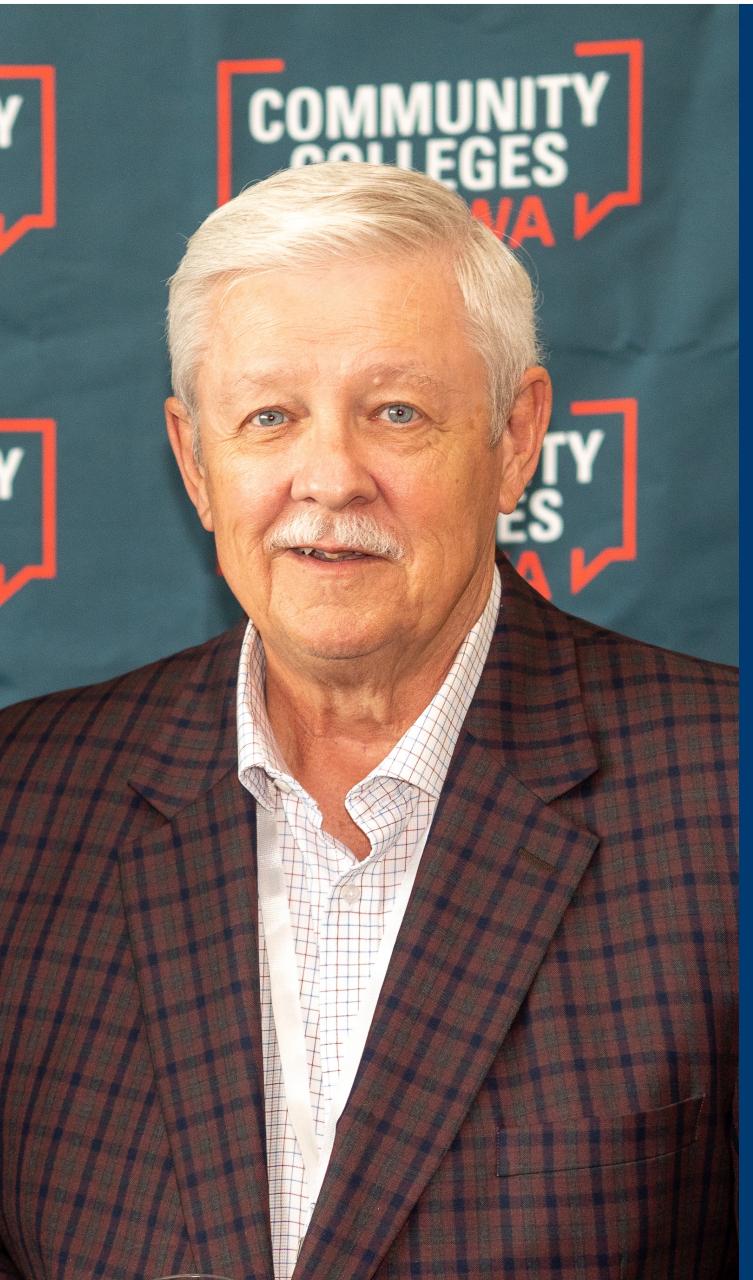


David Steffens, Jr.

NORTH IOWA AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IA

David Steffens, Jr., of Lake Mills, IA, has been an outstanding North Iowa Area Community College Board of Directors member since 2000. He has served as Board President and Vice President, as well as on numerous committees. Steffens has provided strong and steady leadership during board meetings, retreats, and college functions. He has also taken a leading role in legislative advocacy for community colleges. Most recently, Steffens played a crucial part in expanding NIACC's diesel mechanics program and in constructing a 5,800-panel solar project that powers the NIACC campus.

Steffens is active in his local community as well as in North Iowa overall. NIACC President Joel Pedersen stated, "Dave serves as an exemplary role model for board members at NIACC and throughout Iowa, consistently prioritizing students and regional service as his guiding principles."



The Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and students proudly congratulate **Dave Steffens, Jr.**, recipient of the ACCT Central Trustee Leadership Award! Your exceptional leadership, vision, and dedication uplift our campus and inspire our entire community.

Thank you for making a difference.



2025

TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP

NORTHEAST REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Victor M. Richel

UCNJ UNION COLLEGE OF UNION COUNTY NEW JERSEY, NJ

Victor M. Richel is a respected community leader, philanthropist, and businessman with over 43 years of service on UCNJ's Board of Trustees.

For the past 30 years, he has served as Board Chairman. He is also Chairman of the Board of RWJBarnabas Health Trinitas Regional Medical Center in Elizabeth, NJ. Under his leadership, Trinitas merged with RWJBarnabas Health in 2022, strengthening its position as New Jersey's largest academic health system.

A graduate of Villanova University with a B.S. in economics, Richel furthered his education with executive programs at Columbia University and Harvard Business School. After more than 40 years of unwavering dedication, leadership, and service, Richel will retire from UCNJ's Board at the end of 2025, leaving behind a legacy of deep commitment to education and its power to transform communities.



Victor M. Richel

Chairman, UCNJ Board of Trustees
2025 ACCT Northeast Region
Trustee Leadership Award recipient



UCNJ Union College of
Union County, NJ

CRANFORD | ELIZABETH | PLAINFIELD | SCOTCH PLAINS | VIRTUAL CAMPUS

Congratulations!!
Victor M. Richel

The students, faculty, and staff of UCNJ are proud to honor Victor M. Richel, UCNJ Board of Trustees Chairman, upon receiving the ACCT 2025 Northeast Region Trustee Leadership Award.

We are grateful for your 40+ years of service, leadership, and wisdom. Your vision and support enable UCNJ to continue Transforming our Community... One Student at a Time.

2025

TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP

PACIFIC REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Ken Hector

CHEMEKETA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OR

Trustee Hector exemplifies excellence in governance and a commitment to action in support of students and communities. His leadership roles include serving as Chair and Vice Chair of the Board and guiding the institution through a challenging but ultimately successful bond campaign. He has a long record of public service in the region, including serving as a city mayor and city councilor.

Hector has been a tireless advocate not only for his own institution, but also for the interests of all community colleges and their students across

Oregon — both through his service on ACCT's Public Policy and Advocacy Committee and his work with the Oregon Community College Association. His dedication to creating opportunities for students and supporting innovative workforce development has been a cornerstone of his work.

His impressive career in public service and his role as a champion of community colleges underscores his commitment to transforming lives and strengthening communities.



Chemeketa
Community College

Congratulations

**KEN HECTOR, TRUSTEE
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES
2025 PACIFIC REGION TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP AWARD

Your leadership and public service have helped ensure that Chemeketa Community College and Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley cultivate vibrant communities and strong economies. You have helped create a place where students, faculty, staff and our partners can thrive. Thank you.

2025

TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP

SOUTHERN REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Joe E. Lewis

AIKEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE, SC

Joe E. Lewis exemplifies the qualities of an influential Commissioner. In his 20 years of service to Aiken Technical College, he has used his skills as a community leader to build strong relationships between the college and local businesses and industries. Further, under Lewis' leadership, the college has emerged on both the state and national levels with recognition for the innovative programs and talented employees at Aiken Technical College. Lewis has overseen the transformation of the campus with new buildings and

the development of a new branding strategy that has modernized the institutional culture. Lewis' unwavering support of the development of his fellow Commissioners, administrators, faculty, and staff has led to a student-first culture that addresses the workforce needs of established and emerging businesses and industries in Aiken County and the surrounding region.

Congratulations!

Joe E. Lewis

Chair, Aiken County Commission for Technical and Comprehensive Education

2025 Southern Region Trustee Leadership Award

Thank you for your leadership, service, and dedication to Aiken Technical College's mission to provide educational and workforce development opportunities.



AIKEN
TECHNICAL COLLEGE



2025

TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP

WESTERN REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Thomas E. Swisstack

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NM

Tom Swisstack has been a distinguished leader in New Mexico for 20-plus years, and he keenly understands the critical role Central New Mexico Community College (CNM) serves for its community. As a former mayor and state legislator, he leads with a collaborative approach, and his experience has helped the state's largest community college successfully navigate significant challenges for a decade.

His prolific skills as a leader, problem-solver, and unifier were of great importance when establishing one of CNM's most consequential partnerships. Swisstack helped

CNM and Rio Rancho Public Schools overcome inherent challenges in a major partnership while helping to build support among Rio Rancho School Board members. The result is a groundbreaking education and workforce development partnership that benefits thousands of students, the community, and the regional economy.

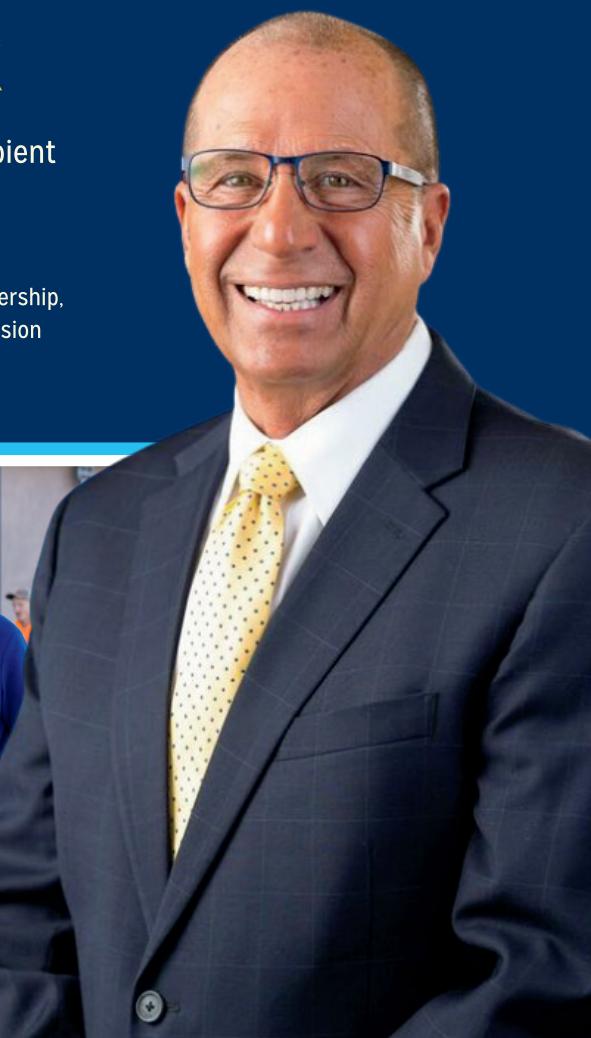
Swisstack's inspiring leadership has helped the Governing Board and College achieve major advances that are benefiting our students, community, and economy.

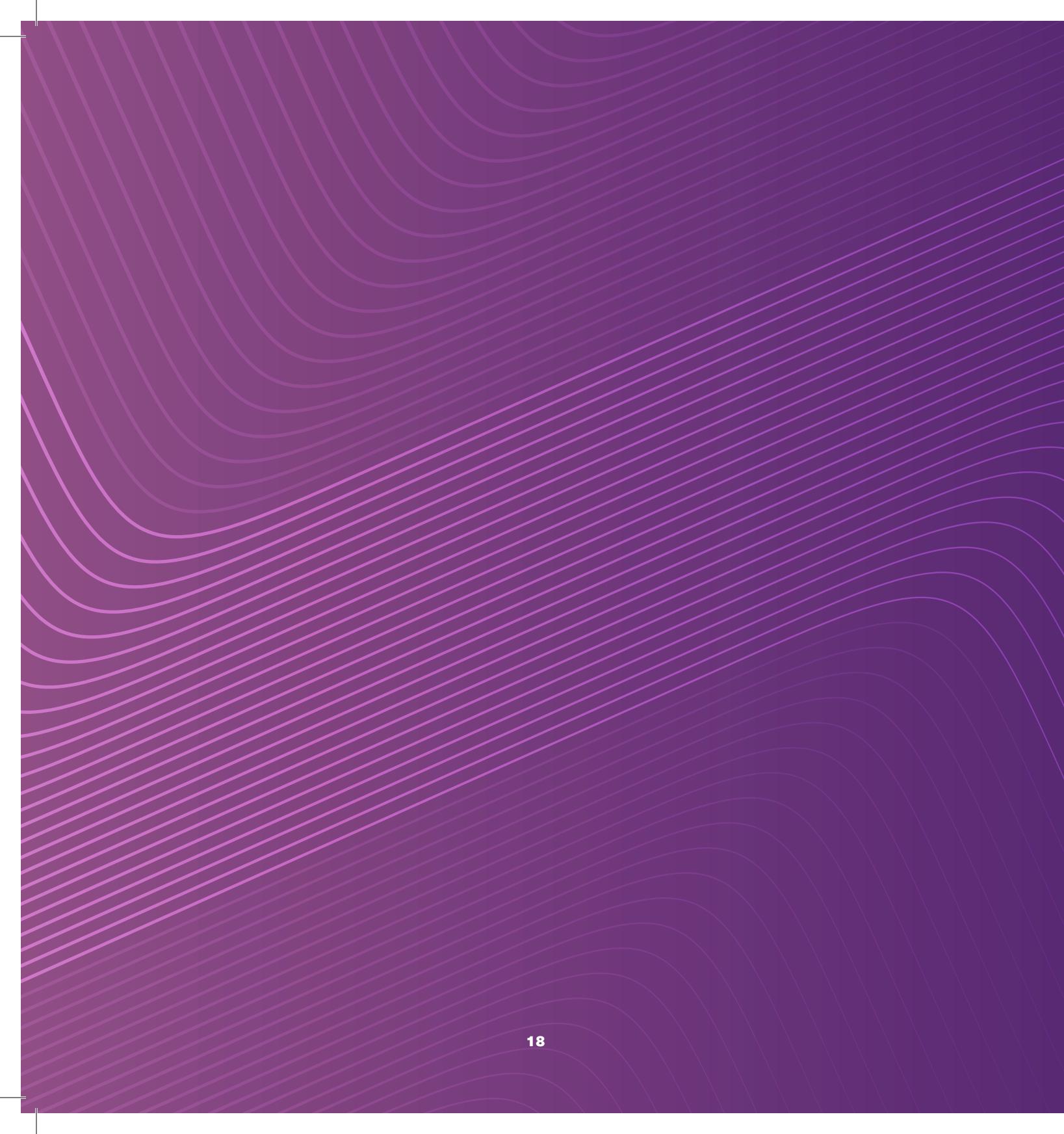
Congratulations

Thomas Swisstack

ACCT Western Trustee Leadership Award Recipient
Central New Mexico Community College (CNM)
CNM Governing Board Chair, District 3

Thank you Chair Swisstack for your years of exceptional leadership, vision, and integrity while being a true champion for CNM's vision of Changing Lives, Building Community. Congratulations!





2025

IMPACT AND SUCCESS AWARDEES

CENTRAL

COLLEGE OF LAKE COUNTY
ILLINOIS

NORTHEAST

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NEW JERSEY

PACIFIC

YAVAPAI COLLEGE
ARIZONA

THE FOLLOWING Awardees are also nominated for the 2025 IMPACT AND SUCCESS AWARD

This award recognizes an exemplary commitment to impact and success within the college's educational programs and services and in the administration and delivery of those programs and services. The Impact and Success Award may be presented to 1) a governing board of an ACCT member institution; 2) a governing board and a president of an ACCT member institution; or 3) an ACCT-member state board.

SOUTHERN

SANTA FE COLLEGE
FLORIDA

WESTERN

ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT
TEXAS

2025

IMPACT AND SUCCESS

CENTRAL REGION AWARD RECIPIENT

College of Lake County

ILLINOIS



College of Lake County (CLC) strives to be a place where every student succeeds, every employee thrives, so that every business achieves and every community grows. Guided by this aspirational statement, the CLC Board of Trustees has steadily allocated resources to support efforts led by the CLC President aimed at improving equitable student success outcomes through strategic efforts and workforce and community partnerships.

With the strategic plan launched in 2019, CLC took an accelerated path toward recognition as an Achieving the Dream Leader College of Distinction in February 2025 for demonstrating sustained, proactive reform efforts to improve student outcomes and reduce equity gaps. "The Leader College of Distinction designation is a testament to the data-informed, whole-college transformation that faculty and staff have activated over several years," said President Dr. Lori Suddick. "It is evidence that implemented changes are making a difference in outcomes for students and the diverse communities across Lake County."

**Congratulations, College of Lake County
Board of Trustees and President Dr. Lori Suddick**
2025 ACCT Central Region Impact and Success Award



Mission

The College of Lake County is a comprehensive community college committed to equitable high-quality education, cultural enrichment and partnerships to advance the diverse communities it serves.

EXCELLENCE | PURPOSE | INTEGRITY | COMPASSION | UNITY | INCLUSION

2025

IMPACT AND SUCCESS

NORTHEAST REGION AWARD RECIPIENT

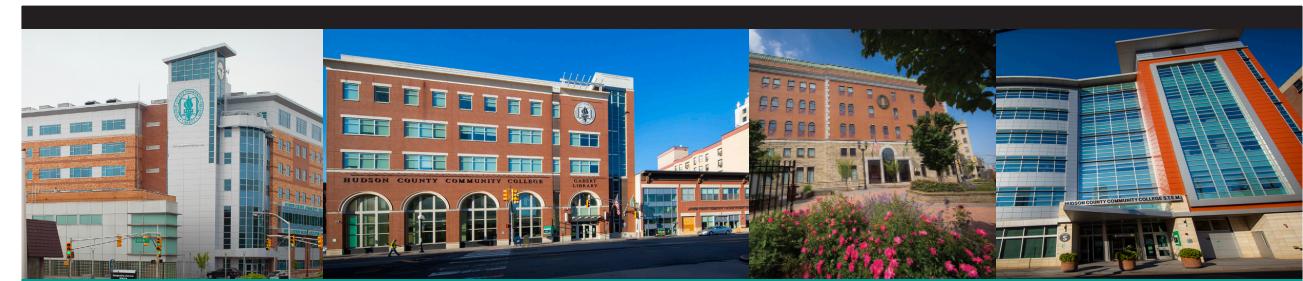
Hudson County Community College

NEW JERSEY



Hudson County Community College (HCCC) is deeply committed to student success and to providing transformational opportunities for the community. More than 90% of HCCC students are eligible for financial aid, approximately half are first-generation students, and about one-third are adult learners (25 years and older). To ensure students persist and successfully complete their studies, the College has initiated several programs and services to address their needs both inside and outside of the classroom. Among others, these include HCCC's nationally acclaimed Hudson Scholars Program — an innovative student support model — and the Hudson Helps Resource Center, which provides a comprehensive range of basic needs services.

The College has also developed several unique, highly successful, and productive partnerships with local and national associations, agencies, businesses, unions, and government departments that provide life-changing opportunities in education, workforce development training, and economic mobility. Proudly, thousands of individuals benefit from these programs.



The Hudson County Community College Family proudly thanks the Association of Community College Trustees for recognizing **Elana Winslow** with the Northeast Region Faculty Member Award, and our **Board of Trustees and President Christopher Reber** with the Northeast Region Impact and Success Award.

Congratulations to All!



JOURNAL SQUARE CAMPUS 70 Sip Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07306
NORTH HUDSON CAMPUS 4800 Kennedy Boulevard, Union City, NJ 07087
SECAUCUS CENTER One High Tech Way, Secaucus, NJ 07094

www.hccc.edu



2025

IMPACT AND SUCCESS

PACIFIC REGION AWARD RECIPIENT

Yavapai College
ARIZONA



With a steadfast commitment to educational equity, Yavapai College has implemented transformative, data-informed strategies that have improved access, persistence, and success for low-income, first-generation, and adult learners. Through its robust Basic Needs Program, 92% of participating students are retained or graduate — nearly double the rate of their peers. The College's investment in flexible course models, wraparound supports, and culturally responsive outreach has driven a 15% increase in Pell-eligible and first-generation enrollment and a 200% rise in students served by support programs. Strategic community engagement has also led to a 3.5% increase in Hispanic enrollment since 2019. By aligning workforce training with regional needs and honoring student lived experiences, Yavapai College has built an inclusive, supportive learning ecosystem that meets students where they are and empowers them to thrive.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Impact and Success Award for the Pacific Region

DEB MCCASLAND
Yavapai College District Governing Board Chair

DR. LISA RHINE
Yavapai College President



YC YAVAPAI
COLLEGE

2025

IMPACT AND SUCCESS

SOUTHERN REGION AWARD RECIPIENT

Santa Fe College

FLORIDA



Santa Fe College continues to be recognized as a national leader in higher education and community impact. We recently earned the prestigious Carnegie Community Engagement Classification, highlighting our commitment to access, student success, and workforce development. Our graduates earn 30% more than the regional average, and we maintain the highest graduation rates in the Florida College System. We've launched innovative programs, reimagined instruction, and expanded professional development and career advancement opportunities. Our new five-year Strategic Plan unifies our institutional vision, while our Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence fosters academic innovation. With award-winning student achievements and a focus on equity and innovation, Santa Fe College remains a model for the future of higher education.

26



27

2025

IMPACT AND SUCCESS

WESTERN REGION AWARD RECIPIENT

Alamo Colleges District TEXAS



The Alamo Colleges District Board of Trustees embodies the core values of the district: Students First, Community-engaged, Can Do Spirit, Respect for All, Collaboration, and Data-informed. With more than 100,000 students served each year across eight counties in Central and South Texas — through credit, non-credit continuing education, and high school programs — our diverse student population in both metropolitan and rural communities requires dedicated and personalized resources to achieve their educational goals.

THE ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT IS PROUD TO RECEIVE THE

WESTERN REGION IMPACT AND SUCCESS AWARD

NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE

NORTHWEST VISTA COLLEGE

PALO ALTO COLLEGE

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE

SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE

FROM COLLEGE TO CAREER

The Alamo Colleges is a family of five colleges offering pathways from a high school diploma to certificates, associate's and bachelor's degrees—leading to high-wage, high-value careers.

Alamo Colleges District Board of Trustees

Dr. Clint Kingsbery, Chair, District 8
Joe Alderete Jr., Vice-Chair, District 1
Anna Uriegas Bustamante, Secretary, District 3
Gloria Ray, Assistant Secretary, District 2
Dr. Lorena "Lorraine" Pulido, District 4
Gerald Lopez, District 5

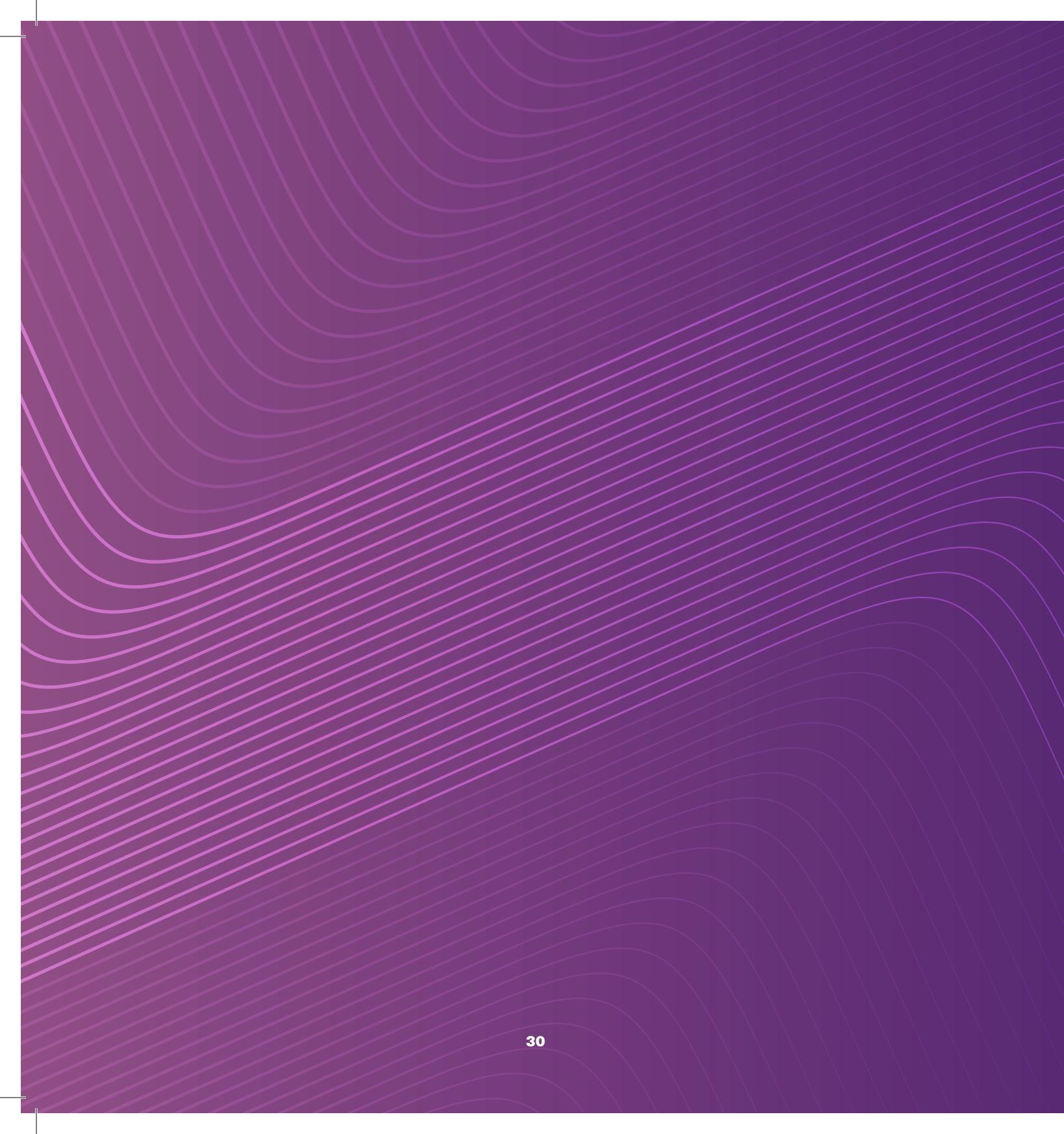
Dr. Gene Sprague, District 6
Dr. Yvonne Katz, District 7
Leslie Sachanowicz, District 9
Josiah Rodriguez, Student Trustee
Dr. Mike Flores, Chancellor



ALAMO
COLLEGES
DISTRICT



alamo.edu



2025

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AWARDEES

CENTRAL

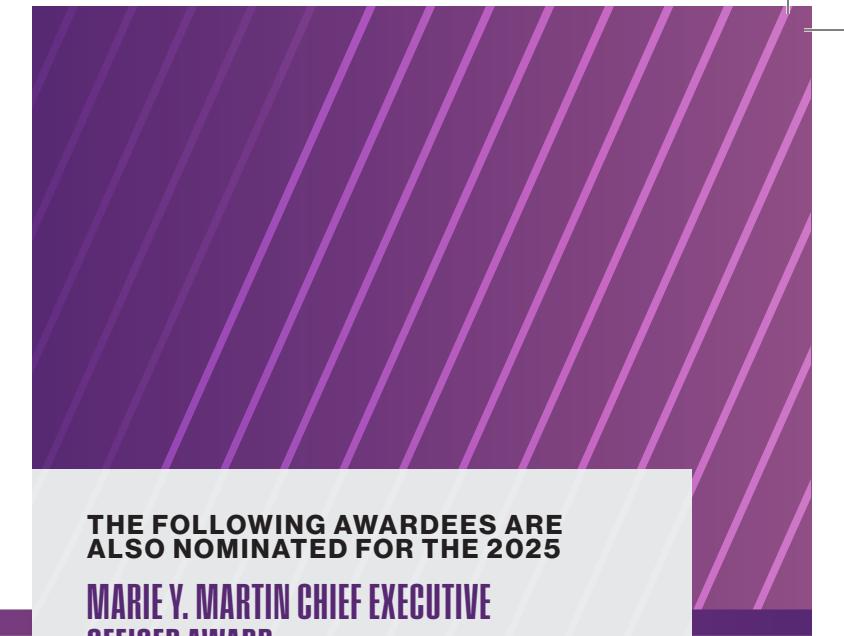
JOE GILGOUR
MINERAL AREA COLLEGE, MO

NORTHEAST

DEANNA R. BURT-NANNA
MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NY

PACIFIC

AMY MORRISON
LAKE WASHINGTON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, WA



THE FOLLOWING AWARDEES ARE
ALSO NOMINATED FOR THE 2025

MARIE Y. MARTIN CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AWARD

ACCT annually recognizes the contributions and tremendous service of 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.

SOUTHERN

JANET N. SPRIGGS
FORSYTH TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NC

WESTERN

MARGARET FORD FISHER
HOUSTON CITY COLLEGE, TX

2025

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CENTRAL REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Joe Gilgour

MINERAL AREA COLLEGE, MO

Dr. Joe Gilgour, President of Mineral Area College (MAC), exemplifies visionary leadership and dedication to community college education. Under his guidance, MAC expanded access by opening the Cape Girardeau Outreach Center and developing workforce programs, including technical training facilities and athletics. As President's Chair of the Missouri Community College Association, Gilgour advocates statewide and participates in national organizations such as ACCT and AACC. He fosters a culture of care through transparency, communication,

and employee support, including salary equity initiatives and student-focused programs. Gilgour's scholarly work on developmental education underscores his commitment to student success. Recognized with the 2025 AACC CEO of the Year Award, he blends personal experience as a first-generation college student with strategic vision to transform Mineral Area College. His leadership has strengthened the institution financially, enhanced educational opportunities, and deepened community impact, making him an outstanding recipient for this prestigious honor.

Thank you for your vision, passion, and dedication to Mineral Area College, our students, and the communities we serve.

Central Region CEO Award
Congratulations!
Dr. Joe Gilgour

President, Mineral Area College



MineralArea.edu

2025

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

NORTHEAST REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



DeAnna R. Burt-Nanna

MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NY

Dr. DeAnna R. Burt-Nanna is the sixth president of Monroe Community College and the first person of color to serve in the role. She began her career in information technology before transitioning to higher education, where she advocates for diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and workforce development. Her honors include the *Rochester Business Journal's* Women of Excellence (2022) and Circle of Excellence (2024) awards, and she is a 2025 ATHENA International Award finalist. She has

appeared on *RBJ's* Power 100 list (2021–2025) and in *City & State New York's* Trailblazers in Economic Development and Higher Education. In 2025, she was named Co-Director of the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council and she joined the American Association of Community Colleges Board. Burt-Nanna holds multiple degrees from Western Michigan University and is a nationally recognized leader committed to advancing equity and innovation in higher education.

MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Congratulates



Dr. DeAnna R. Burt-Nanna
President
Chief Executive Officer Award 2025
Northeast Region



Linda Hall
Executive Assistant to the Board of Trustees
Professional Board Staff Member Award 2025
Northeast Region

The Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and students of Monroe Community College are proud to honor our colleagues who have been recognized by the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT).
Your transformative leadership, outstanding service and dedication to students inspire us all.



Monroe Community College
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

585.292.2000
www.monroecc.edu

2025

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PACIFIC REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Amy Morrison

LAKE WASHINGTON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, WA

Dr. Amy Morrison has been a transformative leader in Washington's community and technical college system since 1999 and has served as president of Lake Washington Institute of Technology (LWTech) since 2013. For over a decade, she has led with purpose, vision, and heart — fostering a culture of innovation and excellence. When LWTech became the first college in the nation directly impacted by COVID-19, Morrison's steady, strategic leadership became a national model. As chair of the WACTC Presidents,

she continues to lead with courage and compassion through complex statewide and national challenges. Her unwavering commitment to student success has shaped the future not just of LWTech, but of the entire system. Respected, trusted, and deeply admired, Morrison's impact is felt in every corner of the college and community. The LWTech Board of Trustees proudly honors her legacy of leadership, transformation, and hope for a stronger, more equitable future.



2025

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SOUTHERN REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Janet N. Spriggs

FORSYTH TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NC

Dr. Janet N. Spriggs is a nationally recognized leader who exemplifies innovation, compassion, and bold vision in two-year postsecondary education. As President of Forsyth Technical Community College, she has led systemic transformation centered on student success, equity, and workforce alignment. Her leadership has yielded an 11-year high in enrollment, a 14% increase in completion, and national recognition through the Bellwether Award and Achieving the Dream Leader College designation. Signature initiatives such

as College Lift and the Reimagining Community Colleges Design Challenge reflect her commitment to redesigning education with empathy and purpose. Spriggs is also a respected voice on state and national committees, a mentor to emerging leaders, and a prolific thought leader whose writing influences higher education policy and practice. She leads with integrity, listens with empathy, and inspires lasting change. Her exceptional leadership is transforming lives at Forsyth Tech and shaping the future of community colleges nationwide.

Congratulations, Dr. Janet Spriggs,
ACCT CEO Award for the Southern Region!



 **Forsyth Tech**
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

A place of promise.
Un lugar de promesa.

2025

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

WESTERN REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Margaret Ford Fisher

HOUSTON CITY COLLEGE, TX

Margaret Ford Fisher, Ed.D., Chancellor of Houston City College (HCC), has more than 40 years in higher education; she began as a classroom instructor and rose through the ranks because of her tenacity, strategic vision, professionalism, and passion for student success. Though only in her second year as HCC's Chancellor, she has left an indelible mark, overseeing a college that has grown through six consecutive semesters. In a time of unparalleled competition from outside institutions, Ford Fisher has developed

innovative partnerships, launched in-demand workforce programs (including HCC's first baccalaureate programs), increased retention and graduation rates, and elevated the reputation and regard for the 54-year-old institution by renaming Houston Community College to Houston City College. She has earned the respect of her leadership team and inspired the college's 5,000 employees with her call to action: "We are going to the moon!"

Congratulations

Margaret Ford Fisher, Ed.D. (Chancellor, Houston City College) on being selected as the recipient of the 2025 Western Regional CEO Award by the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT).

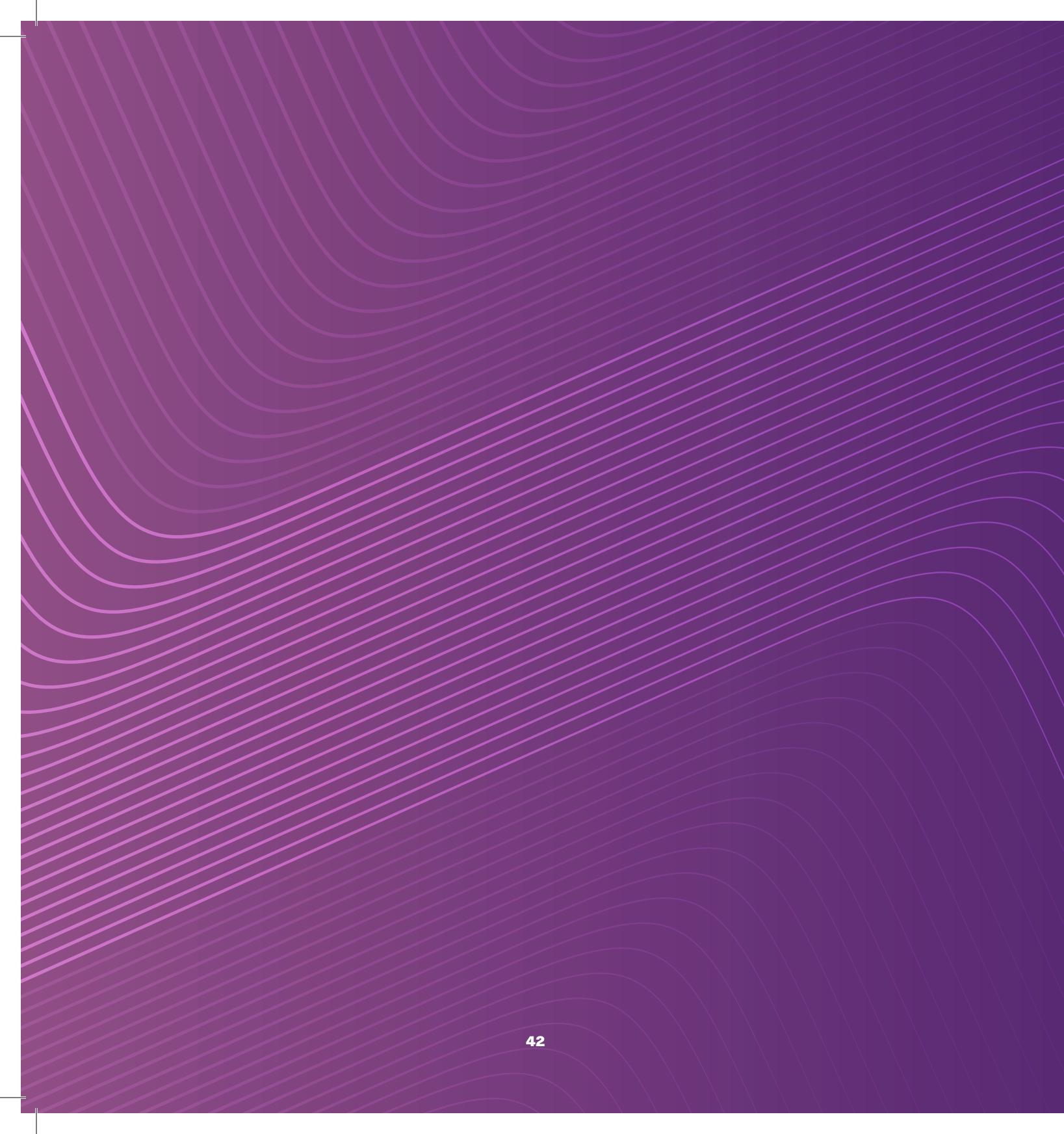
Your visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to Houston City College continue to inspire and uplift the community.



Margaret Ford Fisher, Ed.D.
Chancellor, Houston City College

2025 ACCT Western Regional
Chief Executive Officer Award





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2025

FACULTY MEMBER AWARDEES

CENTRAL

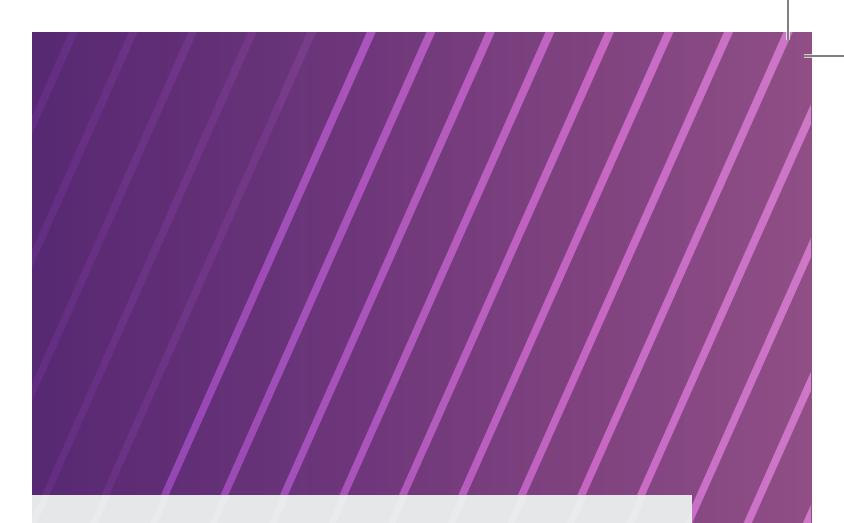
MERRI FEFLES-DUNKLE
MORaine VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IL

NORTHEAST

ELANA WINSLOW
HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NJ

PACIFIC

MARK WONG
CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT, CA



THE FOLLOWING Awardees ARE
ALSO NOMINATED FOR THE 2025
WILLIAM H. MEARDY 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. Mearly, who championed the concept of faculty excellence as the foundation of success in the community college movement.

SOUTHERN

LINDSAY M. WEATHERS
MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE, SC

WESTERN

BRANDON E. KELLER
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NE

2025

FACULTY MEMBER

CENTRAL REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Merri Fefles-Dunkle

MORaine VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IL

Merri Fefles-Dunkle, professor of history and political science, has demonstrated excellence in teaching since joining the faculty at Moraine Valley in 2003. She engages students in hands-on, practical learning experiences, including service-learning opportunities, trips to local sites, as well as panels and discussions and guest speaker visits to supplement classroom education.

Fefles-Dunkle also serves as coordinator of Study Abroad and faculty exchanges at Moraine Valley. In 2024, she led 11 students on a trip to Greece. Beyond the classroom, she has partnered with peers on campus to plan events, celebrations, podcasts, and staff development opportunities. Her engagement as a faculty member is exemplary of Moraine Valley's commitment to excellence in teaching, learning, and service.

MORaine VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CONGRATULATES



MERRI FEFLES-DUNKLE

2025 Faculty Member Award
Central Region



2025

FACULTY MEMBER

NORTHEAST REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



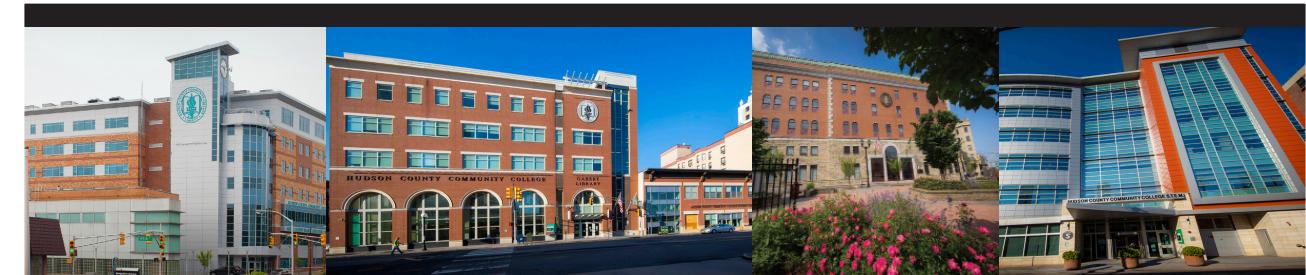
Elana Winslow

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NJ

Elana Winslow is a masterful teacher, creative mentor, and generous colleague. She sets high standards and is dedicated to ensuring students have the resources and opportunities needed to succeed. In her dual role as instructor and coordinator for all business programs in the College's School of Business, Culinary Arts, and Hospitality Management, Winslow provides relatable, current, and personalized instruction; arranges for relevant guest speakers and field trips to area businesses; mentors students; builds local business relationships and secures internships; and discreetly

connects students to resources for their basic needs outside of the classroom. She is also dedicated to promoting tolerance and compassion for all, and she organizes commemorative forums and field trips to keep unspeakable tragedies in the community's consciousness.

Winslow serves on the All-College Council, General Education Committee, Curriculum and Instruction Committee, and the President's Advisory Council on Institutional Engagement and Excellence, and she spearheads best-practice events for all faculty.



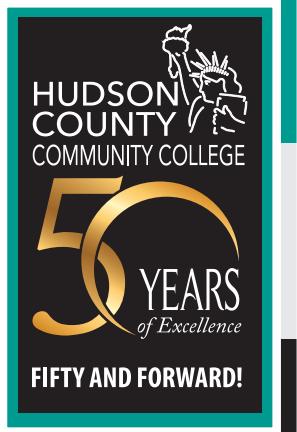
The Hudson County Community College Family proudly thanks the Association of Community College Trustees for recognizing **Elana Winslow** with the Northeast Region Faculty Member Award, and our **Board of Trustees and President Christopher Reber** with the Northeast Region Impact and Success Award.

Congratulations to All!



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SECAUCUS CENTER One High Tech Way, Secaucus, NJ 07094

www.hccc.edu



2025

FACULTY MEMBER

PACIFIC REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Mark Wong

CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT, CA

Professor Mark Wong is a kind, generous, and extraordinary educator whose care for students extends far beyond the classroom. He exemplifies teaching excellence through his ability to adapt instruction to the diverse needs of students and his unwavering commitment to nurturing their goals. Whether supporting confident learners or those whose previous educational

opportunities have been shaped by systemic inequities, he meets each individual where they are, offering a learning environment that is both rigorous and deeply supportive. He holds high expectations for all students and pairs those expectations with the consistent guidance, encouragement, and resources they need to thrive.

CONGRATULATIONS!

MARK WONG

PACIFIC REGION FACULTY AWARD RECIPIENT

With deep gratitude and admiration, the Governing Board, Chancellor, and colleagues across the Contra Costa Community College District **congratulate Mark Wong on receiving the prestigious ACCT Pacific Region Faculty Member Award.** We thank him for his many years of remarkable service, enduring leadership, and unwavering commitment to students.

Mark, your dedication has left a lasting impact on our colleges, our students, and our **world.**

Congratulations on a career that exemplifies integrity, vision, and heart!



**CONTRA
COSTA
COLLEGE**



2025

FACULTY MEMBER

SOUTHERN REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



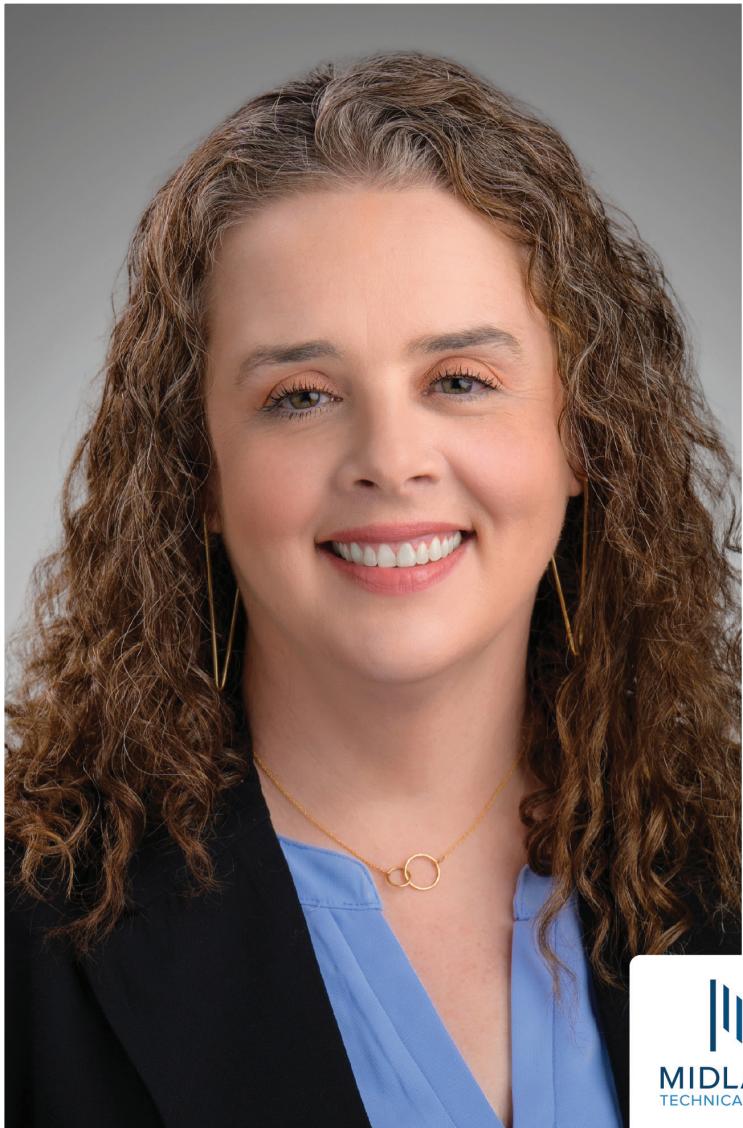
Lindsay M. Weathers

MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE, SC

If you ask the average person what makes a great history teacher, they would probably say someone who makes "history come alive."

In Professor Lindsay Weathers's classes, history does come alive — but perhaps in ways students don't expect. While entertaining lectures, documentaries, and even museum visits can make history feel more relevant, those things alone don't help students fully understand the realities of what they are learning. Weathers excels in the

classroom by helping students develop the historical thinking skills needed to process events of the past, see connections to the future, and grow in ways they might not expect. She is a major proponent of this type of active learning, and she even developed her own Open Educational Resources (OER) textbook that integrates this philosophy into everyday practice. Her textbook is used by other faculty, and because it is OER, it is offered at no cost to students.



2025 ACCT
FACULTY MEMBER
AWARD RECIPIENT
SOUTHERN REGION

LINDSAY WEATHERS

HISTORY PROFESSOR

On behalf of Midlands Technical College, we proudly congratulate you. Thank you for your dedication, expertise, and exceptional service to the MTC community and beyond.

CONGRATULATIONS, LINDSAY!

2025

FACULTY MEMBER

WESTERN REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Brandon E. Keller
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NE

Brandon E. Keller is a professional educator who helps to make the world better. Keller was a key player in helping Northeast obtain a US National Science Foundation Advanced Technology Education grant, which involves several faculty and staff working together. Keller represents Northeast when he presents at state and regional conferences, and he is currently working on attaining his doctoral degree.

He is a Northeast Teacher Association officer representing the Northeast faculty. Keller is also involved in many activities outside of his college life that show his commitment to the betterment of people's lives. He is a personal trainer at the YMCA, a Boy Scouts' summer camp counselor and Scout leader, and an actor who serves on the Norfolk Community Theatre Board.

NCCA
NEBRASKA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

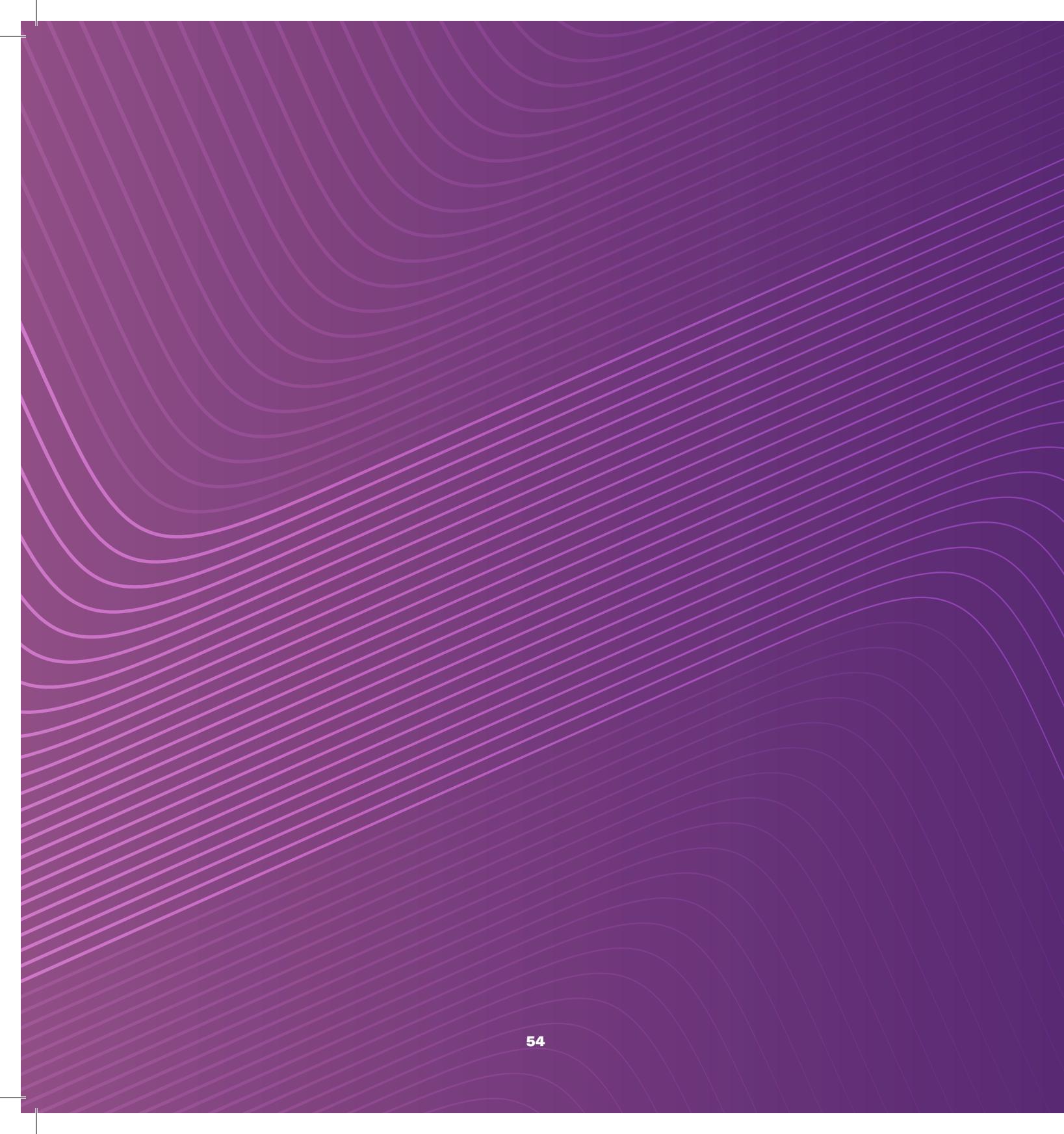
N NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Congratulations
BRANDON KELLER

ACCT Western Regional Faculty Award Recipient
Northeast Community College
Agriculture Instructor

Your commitment to student success and excellence in teaching embodies the true spirit of Northeast and serves as an inspiration to us all. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor—here's to continued success.

Onward. Upward.



2025

PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER

CENTRAL

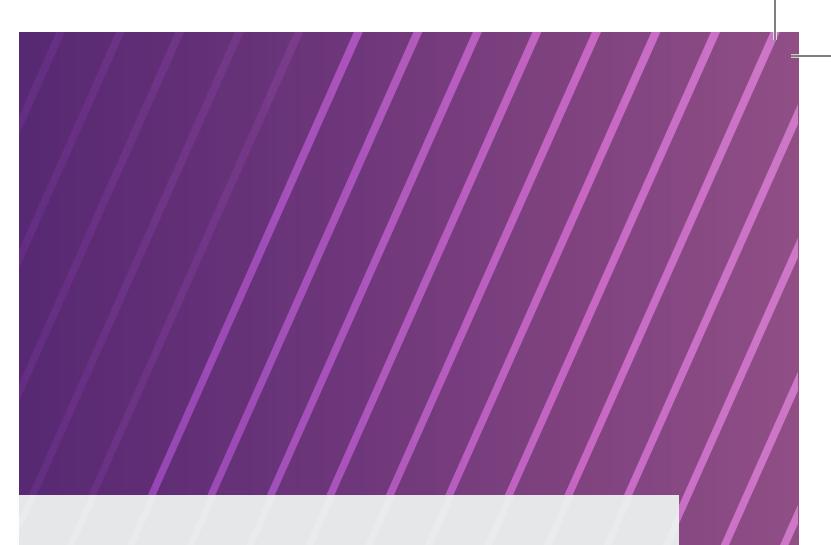
BENITA A. DUNCAN
LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MI

NORTHEAST

LINDA HALL
MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NY

PACIFIC

MYRA LOMAHAN
SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT, CA



THE FOLLOWING Awardees are
also nominated for the 2025

ASSOCIATION PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER AWARD

The Professional Board Staff Member Award recognizes a board staff member for exemplary service to the board.

SOUTHERN

STACEY B. SHOLAR
WESTERN PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NC

WESTERN

MANDI REILAND
SAN JACINTO COLLEGE, TX

2025

PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER

CENTRAL REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Benita A. Duncan

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MI

Benita Duncan has been a driving force at Lansing Community College for 30 years and is a highly deserving winner for the Professional Board Staff Member Award. Throughout her tenure, she has played a key role in shaping policy and leading meaningful change. Her unwavering dedication has been evident in her service to four college presidents and 23 trustees, consistently demonstrating the highest

standards of public service. Beyond her contributions on campus, Duncan actively mentors and inspires young people in the community, encouraging them to pursue higher education and adopt a lifelong learning approach. Her exceptional work ethic, integrity, and commitment have earned her deep respect and admiration from colleagues and community members alike.

A photograph of Benita A. Duncan smiling, resting her chin on her hands. Overlaid on the image is a large, bold white quote: "EXCELLENCE IS NEVER AN ACCIDENT." Below the quote is a smaller text: "It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution." attributed to "ARISTOTLE". Further down, a congratulatory message reads: "Congratulations to Benita Duncan, recipient of the ACCT Central Region Professional Board Staff Member Award. Lansing Community College and the Board of Trustees proudly recognize her achievement and dedication to excellence." At the bottom left of the image, there is a small legal notice: "Lansing Community College prohibits sex discrimination in any educational program or activity that it operates. Individuals may report concerns or questions to the Title IX Coordinator. The notice of nondiscrimination is located at lcc.edu/consumer-information/equal.html." The bottom right corner features the Lansing Community College logo, which includes a star and the text "LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE".

2025

PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER

NORTHEAST REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Linda Hall

MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NY

Linda Hall is the backbone of effective governance at Monroe Community College (MCC), setting the gold standard for board service. She ensures seamless operations, fosters transparency, and strengthens the Board/CEO partnership through innovation, professionalism, and strategic alignment. By leading trustee onboarding and advancing digital governance systems, Hall has made an impact that is both operational and visionary. Her contributions to MCC's Middle States self-study, executive assistant training, and national engagement through NAPAHE reflect her deep commitment to

continuous improvement and operational excellence. More than a trusted advisor, Hall is a catalyst for cross-campus collaboration and institutional effectiveness. Widely respected for her integrity, professionalism, and poise, Hall elevates the work of the Board and MCC through her engagement across campus, state, and national networks. Her humility and service-centered leadership inspire all who work with her. She embodies the spirit of the ACCT Professional Board Staff Member Award: dedicated, principled, and profoundly impactful.

MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Congratulates



Dr. DeAnna R. Burt-Nanna
President
Chief Executive Officer Award 2025
Northeast Region



Linda Hall
Executive Assistant to the Board of Trustees
Professional Board Staff Member Award 2025
Northeast Region

The Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and students of Monroe Community College are proud to honor our colleagues who have been recognized by the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT).

Your transformative leadership, outstanding service and dedication to students inspire us all.



Monroe Community College
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

585.292.2000
www.monroecc.edu

2025

PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER

PACIFIC REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Myra Lomahan

SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT, CA

Myra Lomahan is a national leader in board governance and a transformative force at Southwestern College. As Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/President and Governing Board, she blends strategic vision with a deep commitment to equity and service. In 2024, she led Southwestern College to become the first U.S. community college to transition from BoardDocs to Diligent Community, managing the entire process from data migration to training, resulting in improved transparency and efficiency.

A national advocate, Lomahan supports colleges making similar transitions and collaborates with Diligent to tailor solutions for community colleges. Within the district, she revolutionized board policy systems and founded the "A-Team," a professional learning community for executive assistants. Lomahan's behind-the-scenes leadership has had a profound, lasting impact. She is a servant leader, systems thinker, and visionary deserving of the ACCT Professional Board Staff Member Award.



Southwestern Community College District
would like to congratulate:

Myra Lomahan

Professional Board Staff Member
Pacific Region Award Recipient



2025

PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER

SOUTHERN REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Stacey B. Sholar

WESTERN PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NC

Stacey Sholar is highly deserving of the ACCT Professional Board Staff Member Award. She has significantly improved the technology, management, and service of the board. She always brings a positive attitude, serving everyone with a smile and making them feel that they are the most important person at WPCC. Sholar is incredibly skilled, organized, and able to handle multiple responsibilities at the same time. She has sought

to improve her service to the board through professional development and maintain high standards even during difficult personal times for her and the President. She does this without seeking recognition and with a humility that is inspiring. Her ability to treat so many different members of our community as individuals and tailor her work to their needs is a great representation of the President's Office and our Board of Trustees.

CONGRATULATIONS

Stacey Sholar

On behalf of Western Piedmont Community College, we proudly recognize Stacey Sholar, recipient of the ACCT Professional Board Staff Member of the Year – Southern Region award.

Stacey's contributions to WPCC are immeasurable. Her leadership, compassion, and tireless work ethic embody the spirit of our institution. We celebrate Stacey's achievements and thank her for her unwavering commitment to our mission.

Congratulations, Stacey. You were truly made for this role, and we are honored to have you as part of the WPCC family.

— WPCC PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES



WESTERN PIEDMONT
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2025

PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER

WESTERN REGION AWARD RECIPIENT



Mandi Reiland

SAN JACINTO COLLEGE, TX

An accomplished, goal-oriented leader, Mandi Reiland has over 13 years of experience in management, office administration, project management, customer service, and event planning at the College. Having worked in business and industry and served as a volunteer in community projects, she excels in problem solving, strategic thinking, organizational skills, and communication. She provides direction and support for two other administrative assistants in the CEO's office and is an integral part

of operations for the Board of Trustees and for the College as a whole. You will see Reiland frequently at student events and campus functions, visibly showing her support for our students and her colleagues. As a role model for integrity, inclusivity, collaboration, and accountability, she earns respect and admiration from across the College and among our community partners for her steady leadership and collaborative demeanor. Reiland is a valued colleague who cares deeply about students and the community.

**CONGRATULATIONS
MANDI!**

San Jacinto College
congratulates
Mandi Reiland
on receiving the
**2025 ACCT Western
Region Professional
Board Staff Award.**

**SAN JACINTOSM
COLLEGE**
sanjac.edu

An Equal Opportunity Institution



AWARD

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Congratulations to Illinois'
2025 ACCT Central Region Award Winners

**COLLEGE OF LAKE COUNTY
IMPACT AND SUCCESS AWARD**

MERRI FEFLES-DUNKLE
Moraine Valley Community College
FACULTY MEMBER AWARD



CONGRATULATIONS

2025 NORTHEAST REGIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS



Victor M. Richel

UCNJ,
Union College of Union
County, New Jersey

**TRUSTEE
LEADERSHIP
AWARD**



**Hudson County
Community
College**

**IMPACT
AND
SUCCESS AWARD**



Elana Winslow

Hudson County
Community College

**FACULTY
MEMBER
AWARD**



NJCOMMUNITYCOLLEGES.ORG



CONGRATULATIONS SANTA FE COLLEGE

2025 ACCT IMPACT AND SUCCESS AWARD FOR THE SOUTHERN REGION

Congratulations to Santa Fe College on receiving the inaugural 2025 Impact and Success Award for the Southern Region! The Association of Florida Colleges celebrates institutions that, like Santa Fe, are always cutting through to new possibilities and opening doors to student success. On behalf of Florida's college trustees, presidents, faculty, and staff, this recognition is well earned.



CONGRATULATIONS

BENITA DUNCAN

Central ACCT
Professional Board
Staff Member
Award Winner

Lansing
Community
College



Congratulations

Thomas E. Swisstack
Board Chair,
Central New Mexico Community College

2025 ACCT Trustee Leadership Award

Thank you for your continued service to our students, to New Mexico.



*Congratulations to our remarkable
colleagues on winning the
Professional Board Staff Member
Regional Awards!*

Central Region

Benita A. Duncan

Northeast Region

Linda Hall

Pacific Region

Myra Lomahan

Southern Region

Stacey B. Sholar

Western Region

Mandi Reiland

Lansing Community College, MI

Monroe Community College, NY

Southwestern Community College District, CA

Western Piedmont Community College, NC

San Jacinto College, TX

*Your dedication, leadership and
excellence inspire us!*

CONGRATULATIONS

ACCT Western Region winners from Texas

Alamo Colleges District

Impact & Success Award

Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher

Houston City College

Chief Executive Officer Award

Mandi Reiland

San Jacinto College

Professional Board Staff Member Award



Community College
Association of Texas Trustees

Washington State Association of
College Trustees Congratulates

Amy Morrison

Lake Washington Institute of Technology
Chief Executive Officer Award



LAKE WASHINGTON
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



Washington State
ACT
Association of College Trustees



**South Carolina Association of
Technical College Commissioners
would like to congratulate:**



Joe E. Lewis

Aiken Technical College
Trustee Leadership Award
Southern Region



Lindsay Weathers

Midlands Technical College
Faculty Member Award
Southern Region

Congratulations

**California Community College
2025 ACCT Regional Awardees**



MYRA LOMAHAN

Southwestern Community
College District
Pacific Region Professional Board
Staff Member Award



MARK WONG

Contra Costa Community
College District
Pacific Region Faculty
Member Award



COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA

PAST ASSOCIATION Awardees

2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

M. DALE ENSIGN TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP RECIPIENTS

2024: Judy Chen Haggerty, Mount San Antonio College, CA
2023: Bakari G. Lee, Hudson County Community College, NJ
2022: Deborah Ikeda, State Center Community College District, CA
2021: George Little, Sandhills Community College, NC
2020: Lydia Santibañez, Temple College, TX
2019: Gladys Christensen, Central Arizona College, AZ

MARIE Y. MARTIN CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECIPIENTS

2024: Christy Ponce, Temple College, TX
2023: Jo Alice Blondin, Clark State College, OH
2022: Christine Johnson, Community Colleges of Spokane, WA
2021: Monty E. Sullivan, Louisiana Community & Technical College System, LA
2020: Margaret M. McMenamin, Union County College, NJ
2019: William Serrata, El Paso Community College, TX

WILLIAM H. MEARDY FACULTY MEMBER RECIPIENTS

2024: John Sands, Moraine Valley Community College, IL
2023: Christine Pegoraro Schull, Northern Virginia Community College, VA
2022: Patricia Maloney-Titland, Rockland Community College, NY
2021: Kenneth Walz, Madison Area Technical College, WI
2020: Latoya Reid, Tacoma Community College, WA
2019: Amelia Phillips, Highline College, WA

ASSOCIATION PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER RECIPIENTS

2024: Perla Molina, Dallas College, TX
2023: Pamela Payne, El Paso Community College, TX
2022: Mary Lou Hernandez, Central Arizona College, AZ
2021: Sara Landreneau Kleinpeter, Louisiana Community & Technical College System, LA
2020: April Sandoval, Coconino Community College, AZ
2019: Karen Campbell, Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, WI

RICH FUKUTAKI

Chair
Bellevue College, WA

CAROL DEL CARLO

Chair-Elect
Nevada System of Higher Education, NV

PRETTA VANDIBLE STALLWORTH

Vice Chair
Houston City College, TX

OSCAR VALLADARES

Secretary-Treasurer
Rio Hondo College, CA

JAY NARDINI

Immediate Past Chair
Hawkeye Community College, IA

AMANDA HOWLAND

Central Regional Chair
College of Lake County, IL

SHEILA IRELAND

Northeast Regional Chair
Community College of Philadelphia, PA

NAN GOMEZ-HEITZEBERG

Pacific Regional Chair
Kern Community College District, CA

YVONNE BARNES

Southern Regional Chair
Trident Technical College, SC

CAROL SCOTT

Western Regional Chair
Del Mar College, TX

STEVEN ANDERSON

Northeast Community College, NE

TERRY W. ATCHLEY

South Florida State College District Board, FL

SHAWN BOLDT

Highland Community College, IL

KATHLEEN BRUINSMA

Grand Rapids Community College, MI

CRISTHIAN A. CANSECO JUÁREZ

Clark College, WA

ANTHONY COLÓN

Mohawk Valley Community College, NY

TIM HARDY

Louisiana Community and Technical College System, LA

DEBORAH IKEDA

State Center Community College District, CA

H. ALLEN LANGLEY

Cleveland Community College, NC

DOUG MAH

South Puget Sound Community College, WA

VIVIAN MALAUULU

Long Beach City College, CA

DIANE NORIEGA

Mt. Hood Community College, OR

JERMAINE REED

Metropolitan Community College, MO

ARTURO REYES

Mott Community College, MI

SHARMILA SWENSON

Impact and Success Committee Chair
Highline College, WA

ALLEN K. WILLIAMS

Monroe Community College, NY

NOTES