



CHABOT
LAS POSITAS

COMMUNITY
COLLEGE
DISTRICT

2021-2022

CHANCELLOR'S

AWARD

NOVEMBER 3, 2022

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FROM THE CHANCELLOR



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NOMINATION AND SELECTION FOR THE 2021-22 CHANCELLOR'S AWARD. YOU'VE SHOWN UP FOR OUR STUDENTS AND YOUR HARD WORK AND COMMITMENT IS BEING RECOGNIZED AND CELEBRATED BY YOUR CHABOT-LAS POSITAS COMMUNITY OF PEERS.

Dear Colleagues:



Thank you for joining us for the 2021-2022 Chabot Las Positas Community College District Annual Chancellor's Award. We've experienced so much as a district over the last few years, so it's wonderful to be back to an in-person celebration of our fellow colleagues. This celebration is an opportunity to recognize those throughout our district, whether they directly engage with students or play a supporting role behind the scenes, who make it possible for students to attend our colleges and realize their academic, personal, and professional goals. The recipients of this award are nominated by their colleagues in recognition of their creativity and for promoting excellence." This program book highlights all of our award recipients and provides more detailed insight into why these individuals were selected as this year's Chancellor's Award recipients. I want to thank those that took the time to recognize the work of our awardees and congratulate all of our past and present Chancellor's Award recipients!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald P. Gerhard". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ronald P. Gerhard
Chancellor





CHABOT

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Kathleen Cramsey

Payroll Manager
Payroll

Nominated by:
Jennifer Druley
Wyman Fong



We are pleased to nominate Kathleen Cramsey for the Chancellor's Award. Working with Kathleen as Payroll Manager for the Chabot-Las Positas College District has been a great pleasure. She is meticulous with all her efforts to get people paid, even when processes need to be followed. While this often means additional work for Kathleen and her team, it is evident that she does all that she can to go above and beyond.

We are thankful for her partnership with Human Resources, which includes weekly standing meetings to strengthen communications and resolve issues early on. In addition, we are grateful for the many improvements she has made along the way.

Thank you, Kathleen, for the impact you have and continue to make for the colleges and district sites as our Payroll Manager!"



David Hendrickson

**HVAC Engineer
Maintenance and Operations**

**Nominated by:
Wendy Pinos**



In any technology-related field, the best employees are the ones who quietly and competently do their day-to-day jobs with excellence but also see problems coming up and work to avoid them. In that manner, users continue to get the service they need without disruption, never knowing that the problem occurred and was solved.

The LPC IT Building is a complicated building with many failover systems to protect the computer systems from damage during power outages. It is challenging for the LPC Maintenance and Operations and IT staff to prevent and respond to failures. However, M&O has an outstanding employee who goes over and above to ensure the building keeps running. Dave's primary area of responsibility is the Central Plant and operation of HVAC services to all buildings on the LPC Campus. His days are busy from start to finish with maintenance items to be addressed in many buildings. But for the LPC IT building, Dave keeps his eye on its operation, morning, noon, and night. This is well beyond the typical business day for an M&O employee. Dave is focused on detecting anomalies and abnormal conditions either onsite or through remote connections. He keeps IT informed of irregularities and proactively puts the building on backup systems to prevent failures. When there are IT issues, he's quick to help! He has saved IT from many possible outages and keeps on being vigilant on our behalf.

With great appreciation, the IT staff nominate Dave Hendrickson for the Chancellor's Award."



Kaitlyn Lundell

Human Resources Analyst
Human Resources

Nominated by:
Jennifer Druley
Wyman Fong



We are pleased to nominate Kaitlyn Lundell for the Chancellor's Award. Kaitlyn provides a myriad of services to the colleges and district sites as it relates to personnel actions for full-time faculty, confidential, and supervisory staff. She is also responsible for supporting our recruitment and selection process, which includes postings, screening committee support, training, and employee orientations. Further, Kaitlyn has been commended by our labor partners regarding her communication and support to their members.

Kaitlyn is a graduate of the Classified Leadership Institute for Professionals. Through this effort, we have watched her become more comfortable in her own skin and grow as an HR leader. Whether we are called Personnel or Human Resources, Kaitlyn knows that we work with people, and thus she leads from the heart. She cares about her work and typically goes above and beyond to make things work for our colleges and district sites.

We are thankful to have someone like Kaitlyn as the Human Resources Team member."



Estella Sanchez

**Executive Assistant to the Vice Chancellor
Educational Services and Student Success**

**Nominated by:
Theresa Fleischer Rowland**



I am pleased to nominate Estella Sanchez, a most deserving employee, for the 2022 Chancellor's Award! Estella is a steady presence in the district office, supporting Educational Services through complex projects. The range of Estella's work regularly spans Master Planning and Accreditation coordination and regular tasks across Chabot College, Las Positas College, EDCE, and the district office. In addition, Estella dedicates herself to accuracy and high standards on monthly responsibilities like the District Enrollment Management Committee and coordinating 4.0 and 7.0 Board items. Furthermore, Estella is adaptive to new projects burgeoning out of ESSS, of which there have been plenty in the past three years! (Year to Career, EBCAN, Bay Area K-16 Collaborative).

Estella has steadily served the district through successive executive and executive assistant leadership changes. She contributes detailed knowledge of processes and procedures to keep District Support Centers' work consistent and smooth. Estella often leads peer learning and is motivated to continue to learn to bring her skills to advance team efforts. Many thanks to Estella for her steadfastness and dedication to quality work at the District Office that benefits us all!"



Lucia Teixeira

**Program Coordinator
Economic Development and Contract
Education**

**Nominated by:
Sarah Holtzclaw**



Lucia Teixeira embodies going the extra mile while promoting excellence and unity in her dual role as Coordinator for both the Apprenticeship Programs and Contract Education within the Economic Development and Contract Education Department.

Over her five years with EDCE, Lucia has successfully juggled multiple roles and excellent customer service to all with whom she interacts. As a critical member of a two-member Apprenticeship team, Lucia shares in the recent successes and excellent statewide reputation of the Apprenticeship Programs. She is a primary contact with existing apprenticeship staff and liaison with Admissions and Records at both colleges. She is a team player to give our apprenticeship programs high-quality service in every aspect of our relationship with them. As we bring new apprenticeship programs to each college, Lucia is helping to create and implement customized strategies for the new and increasing needs. Her intelligent, professional, and relevant approach has earned her glowing praise from internal and external stakeholders.

While expertly supporting existing and incoming apprenticeship programs, Lucia coordinates and supports our Contract Education function. This includes working with CE instructors, both external contractors and college faculty, to ensure they are adequately documented and paid; working with our clients on everything from materials to certificates to billing; keeping an eye on our contact page to watch for new prospects, and supporting the CE manager with other needs or strategizing.

With all this, Lucia can also be counted on to support a colleague with a question or concern and use her excellent problem-solving skills for her team members. She represents the commitment, excellence, and creativity expected of a recipient of the Chancellor's Award. I, along with others who have worked with her, am pleased to nominate her."



CHABOT

COLLEGE



Sadie Ashraf

**Counselor/Instructor/Mental Health
Counselor
Counseling**

**Nominated by:
Sean Day**



I am pleased to recommend Sadie Ashraf for the Chancellor's Award. As the International Student Counselor at Chabot College, she has served our College's International students by advising them on academic concerns such as registering for classes, transferring to University, and other personal circumstances.

Sadie is warm and compassionate and excels in making the students feel comfortable. In her appointments, she uses time for completing forms as opportunities for engagement, often being able to address underlying concerns of students and their overall wellness. In addition, she is a strong advocate for international students on campus, recognizing that they are bound to special regulations as a condition of their legal stay in our country, and she supports campus efforts to meet their needs. Over the past year, in particular, Sadie has gone above and beyond her duties to serve these students. With her limited hours dedicated to serving International students being regularly full, Sadie extends her availability to meet with them at other times, including after her regularly scheduled hours. She is also available to help welcome new International students at their New International Student Orientation and help them adjust to their new home and familiarize them with our academic and college procedures.

As a Mental Health Counselor, Sadie has coordinated outstanding student support services, including support sessions for Greif and Loss Week and Suicide Awareness & Prevention Week. She serves students and supports all aspects of their well-being, emphasizing mental health's often misunderstood or unrecognized importance.

The past two years of COVID have been very challenging for all our students, including our International students. They have added concerns about being away from friends and family and familiar healthcare resources. Sadie has reached out to them to offer support through emails, a "check-in video" that was shared with students, and leading Stress Reduction through Relaxation and Meditation sessions for our International Students at our International Club meeting. These efforts have been appreciated in keeping our students connected and aware of the available resources."



Cesar Blanco

**Computer Network Support Specialist
Information Technology Services**

**Nominated by:
Paulette Lino
Liz Oteyza
Sara Ann Woods**



Cesar is a go-to IT person for most departments. Like all other IT staff members, Cesar has reported to work on campus throughout the pandemic. To prepare us for remote services, the Chabot IT team scrambled to put together all the hardware and software for Admissions & Records to function without any gaps. He has stepped up to provide us with our needs and ensure Student Services were not sacrificed.

Cesar always goes about his IT business with a smile and a pleasant demeanor. He never complains, even though how trivial our technology needs are. Instead, he offers to help and is always available and prompt to deliver assistance; he needs to be recognized for the hard work he produces, especially for some who are technologically challenged.”

-

“Over the past year, Cesar has provided exceptional service to Chabot remote users and students’ laptops, above and beyond the average level of support. He has been the primary person responsible for all 1,100 student laptops and maintaining accurate logs on what has transpired.

Because of retirement and difficulty finding a replacement, Cesar volunteers to help support our Audio Visual department when needed. He even volunteered to work at graduation this year to support the college.

Cesar’s ‘can do’ attitude has been a great help to the college and district. In addition, his willingness to learn and expand his knowledge beyond his current level has made the ITS’s job more accessible and versatile.

It is with honor that we recommend Cesar for the Chancellor’s Award!”



Paul Chu

**Part-Time Faculty
Architecture**

**Nominated by:
Adrian Huang**



Paul Chu has done so much for the Chabot Architecture program. In 1980, he became a part-time instructor in the Architecture program and has worked cumulatively for 42 semesters since then.

Paul hosted labs for the design studio and supervised students on first-year design projects with many one-on-one desk critiques. In 2019, just before SIP, Paul led 26 students to Chicago to visit the University of Illinois Architecture program and toured downtown Chicago to experience all types of building history and design. Paul also joins many advanced studio project critiques, and he is the long-term program juror and one of the program Advisory Board members. Paul has many great ideas for course development and is a natural creative problem-solver.

When I think of the soul of the Chabot Architecture program, I think of Paul Chu. Architecture students cannot transfer successfully without his guidelines. Paul is one of the advisory board members. His idea of instructional developments, modifying course outlines for articulations, incorporating new digital design tools, and thinking outside the box innovation ideas for the studio is very much welcomed. Commitment is essential, and Paul is nothing short of a committed faculty member. Let me restate this: Paul Chu has been teaching at Chabot College for the past cumulative semesters for 42 years and is still continuously teaching. I can see his passion and how much he cares about our students. There is no doubt that Paul is deserving of this award.”



Sarah Flores

**Graphics Technician
Reprographics Center**

**Nominated by:
Craig Shira**



Sarah has gone above and beyond her job responsibilities. She has served as a mentor to hourly, temporary, and on-call workers within Business Services. Sarah has built connections across the campus service areas collaborating on various projects. She developed friendships with fellow classified professionals from the Foundation to ECD to Academic Pathways and several instructors ranging from science/math to P.E./Athletics.

Sarah participated in professional development opportunities that benefit the college through Senate Gives Back. She has taken on leadership roles in the department/service area by helping develop more streamlined and eco-friendly procedures in Reprographics and addressing technical deficiencies during the pandemic. She is also working on managing campus marketing, brand guidelines, and processes for community outreach.

Sarah contributes to the college community as a whole. She has served on college shared governance committees, including facilities, Classified Senate, hiring committees, SEIU, CLIP, and the Senate planning retreat. Sarah has participated in college events such as commencement photographs and Earth Week. She took a leadership role in the institutional work of Classified Senate Senator, Senate Gives Back, CLIP, 10x10 Villages, and climate action group. In addition, Sarah worked with Arnold in Student Life, the Wing webmaster, the TV studio, and District to figure out how to standardize media outreach requests.

Sarah has participated in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts, including 10x10 Village and AAPI workgroups and PDF accessibility. She is part of a committee to build a workflow for accessible media procedures. In addition, she contributed to efforts to promote an inclusive and diverse campus as part of the Allies With Privilege workgroups.”



Safiyyah Forbes

**Dean
Science and Mathematics**

**Nominated by:
Scott Hildreth**



Dr. Safiyyah Forbes joined Chabot as Dean for our division at the start of the pandemic in 2020, in what had to be the most challenging of circumstances for any new colleague, let alone as Dean responsible for the enormous range of lecture and lab classes we offer. However, despite never having the chance until this Spring, 2022, to meet her entire team of instructors and classified professionals in person, Dr. Forbes has been exceptional in creating a warm, caring, and effective climate for all of us. In addition, she supported the myriad of student and faculty challenges because of COVID. She advocated creative uses for new funds to pay for home lab kits and additional supplies that would allow our students to complete their required work flexibly.

One of the first things Dr. Forbes implemented to help our team was a weekly coffee chat on ZOOM, of course, where our colleagues were allowed to vent, share ideas, and offer support. And while this itself might not be unique, Dr. Forbes made herself available seven days a week for one-on-one ZOOMs. And she did this for students who were facing equally daunting challenges with their classes.

Dr. Forbes has juggled our incredibly complex schedule, adjunct, and full-time hiring, funding, participation in the HSI Stem Grant, launching one new building (3200), and planning for another major building project (2100). In addition, she supported our efforts to improve equity and diversity and managed challenging personnel issues with sincere grace. She has done all of this while also dealing with personal health challenges.

Dr. Forbes is doing a superb job as Dean and deserves recognition for not just surviving these last two years – her first at Chabot – but for helping us all survive these previous two years. We were lucky to find her, fortunate to hire her, and well-off with her by our side.”



Adrian Huang

**Faculty
Architecture**

**Nominated by:
Paul Chu**



I nominate Adrian Huang as a candidate for the Chancellor's Award. During his 15-year tenure, his effective teaching approach to the Architecture and Interior Design programs have contributed to students' successes and positive learning experience. In addition, an early discussion and incorporation of career paths within the field of study with the requisite academic preparations enable students to envision a future in various scenarios to better position their needs for success.

He continues to forge relationships with the popular transferring institutions in articulation agreements. This is evidenced by students' high success in transfer rates to realize their academic goals; some continue post-graduate studies at UC, Yale, Harvard, and Cornell universities.

Adrian also recognizes that a community college has responsibilities to non-transferring students pursuing early employment. Therefore, he values hands-on training by relentlessly seeking opportunities to secure funding for studio equipment to keep pace with real-life professional practice; it adequately prepares the students entering the workforce.

Adrian's holistic approach to teaching and learning also stresses participation beyond the classroom. He mentors students and fosters the Architecture student club that engages in relevant activities: hosting guest speakers, organizing fact-finding visits to transferring universities, and tours to architectural landmarks and design firms. His exceptional guidance inspires students to achieve their academic goals and career targets beyond.

Through his teaching style, untiring commitment to improving the learning environment, and, most importantly, care for the students, Adrian shows dedication to the Architecture and Interior Design programs in delivering positive student outcomes. His contribution to the college and the teaching profession deserves much recognition!"



Michael Lai

**Counselor
Special Programs**

**Nominated by:
Wyman Fong
Katie Messina-Silva**



Michael has made outstanding contributions to General Counseling, Special Programs, and the overall college campus. He played an instrumental role in creating APIEA (Asian Pacific Islander Educator Association) and continues to serve in a leadership role. His leadership has also led to the development of the MOVEMENT learning community, which focuses on supporting API students, and currently serves as the counselor for that new learning community. Additionally, he has been involved in the CIN (Change it Now) learning community, where he serves as counselor. Michael is a dedicated counselor who always keeps the needs of his students as his top priority. He recently published his first book, “From a Counselor: The fastest and most affordable way to a college degree.”

Michael recognized the need for more employee-initiated programs to serve the many diverse faces of the AAPI community and has been a significant leader in making this happen. Thank you, Michael, for the movement and impact you have made and continue to make with the APIEA program.”



Caroline Morrison-Pegg

**Audience Services Technician
Performing Arts**

**Nominated by:
Dale Wagoner**



I am nominating Caroline this year for her exceptional work over and above. Of course, all the PAC folks have performed outstanding work in challenging times. However, I want to single out Caroline for her efforts that have exceeded what is required in her job description.

As Audience Services technician, she is the outward face of shows for the college to our vendors and the inward behind-the-scenes classified professional who helps facilitate our “shows” as a member of the PAC leadership team.

I specifically selected her for this award due to her exemplary work with a challenging client, creating issues for the PAC staff and PAC leadership. The client was a very connected community member who needed special handling. Unfortunately, neither Bernadette nor I could deal with this person in a manner that satisfied her “needs.”

Caroline stepped up as a direct liaison between the college and the client, delivering a “show” without a hitch, and the client was ecstatic with the outcome. Caroline should be recognized for her persistence and tenacity. She is highly deserving of a Chancellor’s award nomination.”



Ariel Nelson

**Financial Aid Advisor II
Financial Aid**

**Nominated by:
Kathy Medina**



Ariel Nelson has been with Chabot's Financial Aid Office since August 2017, when she filled in as an hourly Financial Aid Advisor I. She became permanent in that position in February 2019 and was promoted to Financial Aid Advisor II in November of that year.

She brings so much to the college, our office, her students, and her colleagues, all with a contagious smile and enormous heart - handling financials is not easy for either students or faculty.

Ariel has significantly impacted our efforts to proactively reach out to students in various cohorts and learning communities on campus, including Umoja and taking on Punte Spring 2022. A significant benefit of her work is that she models best practices to her peers in contacting students via email, text, and phone, fine-tuning a process that has resulted in more enrolled students receiving financial aid.

Ariel, thank you for being an integral part of our Financial Aid Office team!"



Heather Oshiro

**Counselor/Instructor
Counseling**

**Nominated by:
Michael Lai**



No one deserves the Chancellor's Award more than Heather Oshiro; she is a huge contribution to the CLPCCD community. We often use terms like "student-centered," "students firsts," "equity," and "pathways," but Heather lives it and centers all her work around creating a smooth transition from high school to Chabot College for students. In addition, Heather has the unique background of having experience as a high school counselor and community college counselor.

When the college talks about low enrollment and how we can help high schools enroll for college, Heather is at the base, setting communication channels with all our area high schools and networks. Heather is the link between Chabot College and our area high schools. That is how important her work and her role are to our college.

Heather experienced some personal and health challenges at the end of the last academic year, but despite everything she was going through, she handled it all with strength and grace. In addition to focusing on her own challenges, she could still devote part of her energy and heart to the student's needs and experiences. However, when her personal and health challenges became too much, and she was forced to take a step back, our college immediately felt the impact.

Heather is so central to our relationship with high schools and overall enrollment. Without her advocacy, I am afraid to imagine our enrollment and relationship with our high schools. For example, Heather shared how much she cared for our students during the pandemic and showed empathy for students transitioning from high school to college through unprecedented times. She went out of her way to provide resources to high school counselors and students. In addition, she brought people from Chabot College to collaborate on projects supporting matriculation and enrollment. Heather is such an asset to our college and a fantastic person."



Melissa Patterson

**Faculty
Business**

**Nominated by:
Lynn Klein
Catherine Pinkas**



Melissa Patterson has made extraordinary efforts to make our online classes better. She is co-chair and spent countless hours helping ensure our courses met the standards during the pandemic. Melissa never says no when asked to help a colleague. She is a true teacher and an inspiration to other faculty members.”

-

“In addition to being an outstanding instructor who is always taking on newly developed classes and other departmental projects that support our students, such as OEI, Melissa has become the department champion for ADA compliance issues. She is one of the COOL committee tri-chairs, always volunteers for new projects, and goes above and beyond to support the division and the campus.”



Cresali Roldan-Sun

**Senior Financial Aid Advisor
Financial Aid**

**Nominated by:
Kathy Medina**



Cresali Roldan-Sun has almost 20 years of financial aid experience and has been with our college and Financial Aid Office for over ten years, starting January 2012. In our office, she is a quiet leader who stays on top of federal regulations and shares her knowledge and experience with colleagues. These are a few of the qualities that earned her the promotion to Senior Financial Aid Advisor last fall.

Cresali has an excellent grasp of student needs and ways to improve our services. For example, during this last year, when we were so short on staff in the office, she managed not only the Student Loan Program but also took the Cal Grant program back, both of which are very regulated and labor-intensive.

Cresali was awarded the coveted Financial Aid Office Apple, handed down each year by a colleague. Inside the hollow, wooden red apple, a message read: “Cresali, we’ve seen you flourish over the years, and you are perfect for your new role. You are caring, loving, and kind, a caretaker of your office family, feeding us snacks!”

I’m super pleased to nominate Cresali Roldan-Sun for the Chancellor’s Award for excellence and contributions to the college and district!”



Lisa Ulibarri

**Faculty
English**

**Nominated by:
Najla Abrao
Christy Davis**



Lisa does the work, and she does it well. She is an extraordinary instructor. Her students will attest to that. In addition, she is on countless committees - COOL, POOCR, and Faculty Senate, just to name a few. There is even a running joke in Senate meetings that we cannot form a subcommittee without Lisa being on it.

On top of that, she has successfully run the WRAC Center, an essential resource for students in all disciplines across campus, for the past two years, which was particularly difficult given the shutdown. Lisa is also the OER/ZTC Division Lead for Language Arts. In this capacity, she mentors faculty in their search for OER materials.

I admire her dedication to our students the most, especially in distance education. Lisa is a leader in this ever-growing field and has been a staunch supporter of quality online classes that are accessible to all of our students. She goes to workshops for best online teaching practices; she runs workshops for best online teaching practices; she works with the FA to help negotiate the best online teaching practices. She is highly committed to this work, and I am grateful that our online students have such an outstanding advocate.

It is the rare colleague and friend who will continually check in to see how you are doing, drop anything to help when you ask it of her, and bring back delicious treats from her Disneyland trip dropped right at your doorstep. Lisa Ulibarri is generous with her time, shares her deep knowledge freely, and does so with a smile on her heart. Lisa is one of the reasons that the Chabot community is a second family to many who work here. I hope my words serve her justice and illuminate why she has earned a Chancellor's Award for creativity and the embodiment of excellence."



LAS POSITAS

C O L L E G E



Howard Blumenfeld

**Faculty
Mathematics**

**Nominated by:
Nan Ho**



Howard Blumenfeld has demonstrated excellence and an extraordinary work ethic in his service to the largest academic department (Mathematics) at Las Positas. Howard helped to encourage and support his colleagues in the many efforts that math has undertaken. This includes internal math responsibilities such as schedule development, enrollment management, program review, curriculum, hiring, and budgeting.

He has also worked with STEM colleagues in science, engineering, and computer science to cross-check a matrix of STEM course offerings so that students have the best opportunity to reach their academic goals. The math program has recently hired many new talented part-time faculty; Howard was involved in many of those interviews and is interested in getting to know our part-time faculty. He is meticulous in his review of complex documents, especially since there are significant numbers of cross-listed classes and a rapid expansion of noncredit and mirrored sections. Howard spent countless hours with reviews and revisions and is always prompt, accurate, and utterly committed to getting the work done right.

When a large department is involved in campus, district, community, and state initiatives and projects, it is crucial for the coordinator to see all the pieces and leverage colleagues' strengths. Howard has done this very well. Math department meetings have rich agendas that are co-created by Howard and colleagues and highlight the expertise other math faculty have in various initiatives and invite others into the conversation. One recent outstanding contribution has been the successful launch of a geometry program during the summer to meet the needs of our local high school students.

Howard exemplifies going above and beyond in service to the math department, the College, and all of our students."



Kenneth Cooper

**Executive Director
Las Positas College Foundation**

**Nominated by:
Dyrell Foster**



Through Ken's leadership, the LPC Foundation has secured outstanding support and resources for the community to support the students, faculty, staff, and various programs at the college. Ken excels in his role because of his passion and commitment to our students and our college. In addition, Ken has significantly impacted our college this year by achieving institutional/department goals. These included successfully implementing the inaugural LPC Alumni Webinar event, adding three new members to the board of directors, awarding over \$300,000 in scholarships to Las Positas College students, and successfully partnering with the College President's office on the President's Speakers Series.

Ken also serves on several boards and college committees, including the Network of California Community College Foundation Board, the Foundation for Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board, Tri-Valley Community Foundation Board, CASE Center for Community College Advancement Advisory Committee, Member, Brotha 2 Brotha Mentor Committee, and Member, Black History Month Planning Committee, and Member, College Emergency Task Force. Ken's leadership, engagement, and participation on campus and in the community demonstrate why he deserves our collective "thank you" for going above and beyond for the Colleges and District."



Gabriela Discua

**Counselor/Instructor
Counseling**

**Nominated by:
Michael Schwarz**

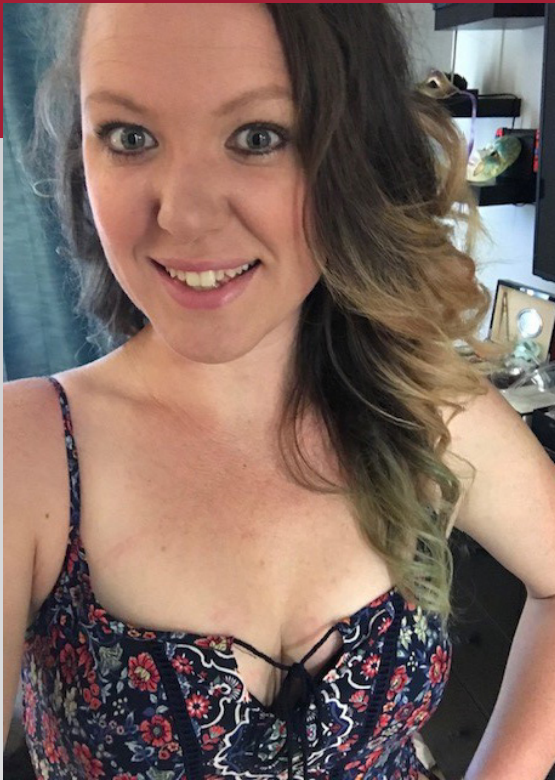


I am writing to nominate Gabriela Discua for a well-deserved Chancellor's Award. Over the past several years, Gabriela has been one of the most vital members of our Counseling Faculty team at Las Positas College. Having collaborated with Gabriela in the oversight of our Counseling Faculty Internship Program, I have observed firsthand the high level of mentorship Gabriela provides to our interns while ensuring a high level of professional success. Due to Gabriela's efforts, many past interns have earned full-time and part-time counseling positions at California Community Colleges.

Gabriela is also an instructional colleague in our Psychology-Counseling program. Through our collaboration, I have observed Gabriela's high level of empathy and care for students enrolled in her College Success course sections. Students and interns who participated in her course have repeatedly cited her excellence as an instructor and counselor as having a significant impact on their personal success. Although Gabriela has consistently demonstrated a high level of excellence over the years, what specifically prompted this nomination was her willingness to step into a leadership role for our Counseling Department this academic year.

After our previous Department Coordinator was hired as Dean, Gabriela agreed to add department coordination responsibilities to her already-full plate. She provided seamless faculty leadership over the process of current and future counselor scheduling while navigating the ever-changing landscape of how to serve students in a multi-modal environment most effectively.

Gabriela's dedication, hard work, leadership, and effectiveness in facilitating equitable opportunities for the success of students and colleagues deserve the recognition a Chancellor's Award would provide. Thank you for your consideration."



Christine Hornbaker

**Instructional Systems Technician
LPC Technology Department**

**Nominated by:
Kelly Costello
Stephen Gunderson**



When considering a deserving candidate for this year's Chancellor's Award, Christine Hornbaker is incredibly deserving of this recognition. Her dedication to the college and the district can exemplify others. Christine's expertise is in technology, audiovisual and sound engineering. Her talents have been seen through the professionally produced productions she has brought to online events for Las Positas College and the district over the past few years. These events have allowed the district and the college to keep our staff and students engaged and connected through the pandemic.

Christine has produced online streaming events for the veteran's programs, college commencement, the president's office, student clubs, the theater, awards ceremonies, convocation, and many other events. Anyone who has participated in any of these online streamed events has experienced the skill set that Christine brings to the table. She is a fantastic employee that any manager would be lucky to have on their team. Her leadership has allowed our college to stay connected through online events when unable to come together on-site. Christine continues this work by providing both on-site and online events.

Christine's work in instructional systems is also awe-inspiring. Christine makes sure classroom systems are working correctly, provides support for faculty and students, and works on reviewing line diagrams and RFIs for instructional systems related to construction projects at the LPC campus. Her work and contribution have enhanced the betterment of students, the colleges, and the district. She has enhanced support services for students and faculty and brings innovative ideas to the technology department.

Christine joined the technology department in 2018 and has brought a wealth of expertise and skill to the college. I trust her without question. She is hard-working and dedicated to staff and students, and I am sure she will move far beyond her current position. I applaud her for her work, commitment, and contribution to the college and the district."



Andrea Migliaccio

**Curriculum and Scheduling Specialist
Academic Services**

**Nominated by:
Dyrell Foster**



Andrea was truly an unsung hero of the COVID-19 pandemic. As change after change impacted the college, these, in turn, affected the class schedule in countless ways. Andrea is the only Curriculum and Scheduling Specialist for LPC, so this massive lift rested squarely on her shoulders. One of the first significant changes was the quick transition of the summer and fall 2020 schedules from pre-pandemic schedules into almost entirely online schedules. This had to happen quickly and with little information about the future related to the pandemic. There were many swirling ideas, conversations, and concerns, but ultimately Andrea always made things work with her usual poise, grace, and kindness.

As each semester approached, uncertainty around enrollment resulted in relentless course modifications. For Andrea, the work never stopped. Yet, she remained calm, professional, and focused, patiently working with Division Deans and Program Coordinators when needed. She was our rock and the person we relied on most to make sure the schedule reflected accurately for students.

In early spring 2021, a member of the Academic Services team left, and despite her own challenging work, Andrea temporarily assisted with other tasks as needed. She has an endlessly gracious “can do” attitude. She goes above and beyond to support students.

Andrea participated this year on the LPC Accreditation Steering Committee. In that role, she helped write the college’s response to Standard 2A, one of the more arduous and complex ACCJC standards to document. She also continued participating in CEMC and Curriculum Committee, always ready to share helpful insights whenever her expertise is called upon. There are so many examples each of us could share and so many more ways Andrea is phenomenal, but suffice it to say we think the Chancellor’s Award is one small way we can begin to say “thank you.” We are so fortunate to have her on our team.”



Drew Patterson

**Business Faculty
Business Studies**

**Nominated by:
Rajeev Chopra
Mary Lauffe**



In a short time, Drew Patterson has gone the extra mile to develop and lead initiatives that help move students to the finish line of their academic goals.

He developed the first LPC Business Studies Program Symposium, which helps students commit to an academic pathway. Hundreds of our students attended multiple sessions of the symposium to learn about business careers and educational options. In addition, all full-time business faculty were on hand to share their career stories. Finally, a counselor participated and helped students complete and submit their forms declaring their business major.

He took the lead in helping design an innovative business program for women inmates at the Federal Corrections Institution in Dublin. Through the program, women inmates learn the basics of business and business management, leading to career certificates and helping them prepare for employment after prison—thereby decreasing their chances of recidivism.

He also participated in a grant-funded program to increase access to quality online classes. The Business Access and Quality grant included faculty training in preparing online classes to meet California community colleges' highest online learning standards. These courses are now part of the completely online Supervisory Management Certificate. Drew also pioneered noncredit business courses at LPC, writing a curriculum in record time and providing additional business education opportunities for our community."

Drew brings his professional sales, marketing, and entrepreneurial expertise to marketing and recruitment efforts for the Business Studies Program, helping produce student videos and enhancing the program website. His students consistently write positive comments about him in anonymous surveys, describing him as knowledgeable, fun, and engaging.

In his short time at LPC, Drew has gone full throttle to enhance the Business Studies Program, contribute to our community, increase access, and steer students toward their goals. We are fortunate to have this winning instructor on our team."



Kali Rippel

**Librarian
Library**

**Nominated by:
Angela Amaya
Justin Garoupa**



Kali Rippel stepped forward to help Las Positas College and the District serve the students taught in the Women's Federal Prison at FCI Dublin. The students in the facility need direct access to the library resources necessary to complete college-level research and writing coursework. She researched the best practices of other community college libraries that support programs in state prisons and adapted those library resources so that our students could meet their course requirements. In addition, throughout the semester, she has managed and coordinated the students' resource requests and provided the needed materials to be brought in for each student.

Her initiative has been exemplary; her work has ensured that the students have had the opportunity of real college-level research experiences that involve preparation, evaluation, and integration of sophisticated library resources. Her talents know no bounds. She creates high-quality, engaging instructional resources and teaches with compassion, equity, and inclusion. In addition, Kali innovates and collaborates with colleagues college-wide and maintains a fantastic sense of humor."

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"Is there no end to her talents? Thankfully for the library and LPC, there doesn't seem to be! We are lucky to have her among us – as an educator, colleague, and friend."



Aubrie Ross

**Senior Administrative Assistant
Business, Social Science, and Learning
Resources**

**Nominated by:
Dyrell Foster
Kiley Zieker**



I am nominating Aubrie Ross because of her extremely hard work and the countless hours she puts into the campus and everyone on it. She goes above and beyond her job title and goes out of her way to help people. She participates in various committees and always offers help for events.”

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“In addition to her outstanding work as the Senior Administrative Assistant for the Business, Social Science, and Learning Resources division, Aubrie has contributed to the college in many other ways. Through her leadership as a member of the Classified Senate, Aubrie not only contributes positively to college governance, but she also took the initiative to help create a campus community and culture of care for her fellow classified colleagues by creating informal opportunities for classified professionals to connect with one another throughout the year. Most recently, on behalf of the Classified Senate, Aubrie coordinated a couple of spring break events for classified professionals to support their mental health and wellness, which included Yoga and Tai Chi Wellness days and LPC Rocks (inspirational rock painting). Aubrie also serves on the college Professional Development Committee and the Commencement Committee. Aubrie deserves our collective thanks for consistently going above and beyond to serve our college community.”



Hermina Sarkis-Kelly

**Instructional Assistant
Computer Studies**

**Nominated by:
Nan Ho**



Hermina is a creative, collaborative, and forward-thinking professional. She has been at the forefront of piloting efforts to support students as they return to campus. Working as a team with other instructional assistants, she helped prepare the Computer Center to welcome students back safely for all. Hermina sought out and shared best practices with other departments, such as the tutorial center and the library, and then helped implement those strategies in the computer center. This included working with our Vice Chancellor's office, Maintenance and Operations, and the industrial hygienist. Together, they have made the Computer Center a welcoming space for students.

Since the pandemic, Hermina proudly served as the sole staff when the center re-opened in the Summer of 2021, providing the first face-to-face services in a general student support space. As a result, the team has developed a rhythm of seamlessly switching from helping students in person to responding to drop-ins via Zoom with expanded hours to serve our students.

Hermina's many contributions to campus life are serving on the scholarship and technology committees, hiring committees, and participating in Guided Pathways work. In addition, she was instrumental in helping many faculty engage in the Online Course Development Program (OCDP). Her technical expertise as an Instructional Assistant is vast--Canvas, Adobe, Microsoft, Mac or Windows, Google, Splashtop, NetLab, OmniUpdate, Hypothesis, ClassWeb, and Zonemail--whether you are a student or employee, Hermina will help you with kindness and patience.

We are very fortunate to have Hermina at Las Positas College!"



Todd Steffan

**Former Veterans First Supervisor
Veterans First Center**

**Nominated by:
Evelyn Andrews**



Todd consistently goes the extra mile to help veterans and military families. This past year he exemplified the true meaning of collaboration, caring, and advocacy. In terms of collaboration, he has worked with community veterans service organizations as part of their leadership in fundraising for scholarships and emergency relief funds for student veterans.

He has communicated to local veterans' service organizations about a high need for emergency relief funds for last-minute unexpected financial debt, such as car repairs, medical bills for emotional support pets, gas money, and rent. In addition, during the pandemic, we have worked with students facing homelessness due to loss of employment. Todd Steffan would collaborate and advocate for student veterans in removing those unexpected barriers. This past year, he has recruited and identified student veterans to share their stories at the local Rotary Club meetings, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and American Legion meetings to bridge the gap and inform organizations about student veterans' challenges while juggling school and family responsibilities.

Despite not being a veteran himself, Todd's father was a US Army veteran, and he proudly shares his family's military history. In the Veterans Resource Center, we present a challenge coin to those who complete a mission with exemplary results. Todd deserves a challenge coin reflecting his creativity and excellence for Las Positas College. Talking with LPC alumni, student veterans will always say that the Veterans Center at Las Positas College helped their transition from military to college life.

The Veterans Center offered a home away from home, a place where camaraderie is a core value – a feeling of belonging to the mission at hand. The mission of education and excellence. Todd helped create an environment that is welcoming and inclusive, and this is what Todd is all about. So I would present a challenge coin to him to say “thank you, Todd” for all you do for us, and with a humble heart, he would ask for nothing in return but to see student veterans succeed and achieve their goals.”



Kristina Whalen

**Vice President
Academic Services**

**Nominated by:
Dyrell Foster**



Kristina serves with the utmost passion, integrity, and professionalism in her role as VP of Academic Services. She has been highly successful and effective in her role. She has been instrumental in leading our college and instruction through the pandemic, from curriculum addendums, professional development support, enrollment management, and all of the unexpected and ongoing issues that have emerged during this time.

Kristina led the development of the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report, which was successfully submitted to the ACCJC on December 17th. As a result of her leadership, this process went much more smoothly than past ISER work. In addition, she has strengthened our partnership with LVJUSD through her involvement in Youth Build. She has also led significant gains on a CCAP agreement with LVJUSD in computer science. Finally, Kristina also led substantial growth in our high school credit program through her work with Pleasanton Unified and Dublin Unified, particularly in developing the course offering in Geometry for students that need to recover credit.”

Kristina has also worked to bring professional development around HyFLEX teaching to the campus. She has also worked hard and provided effective leadership in the college, providing an adaptive class schedule as we continue to find ways to meet students where they are. Kristina deserves our collective “thanks” for exceeding in service to our Colleges and District.”



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