



GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE

2025-26 FACULTY APPRECIATION & Awards Luncheon

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026

Lunch Service begins at 1:00PM

WELCOME

On behalf of the Academic Senate of Golden West College, welcome to our Faculty Appreciation & Awards Luncheon. We gather to recognize the dedication, leadership, and service of faculty and campus colleagues whose efforts strengthen our institution and support the success of our students each day. We are grateful for the time, talent, and commitment of those we honor today, and we thank all who have contributed to the shared mission of Golden West College.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Presented by Justin Smith, Academic Senate President, and Damien Jordan & Annamaria Crescimanno, Vice Presidents

GWC TEACHER OF THE YEAR
Katherine Green, Chemistry
& 2026 OC Teacher of the Year by OCDE

**ACADEMIC SENATE AWARD FOR
TEACHING EXCELLENCE**
Hailey White, English (PT)
Awarded to a Part-time Faculty Member

FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Presented by Justin Smith, Academic Senate President and Damien Jordan & Annamaria Crescimanno, Vice Presidents

EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP & SERVICE AWARD (ELSA)

Katherine Green, Chemistry
Ed Harris, Drafting (PT)
Jeanette Adame, History

PEER EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

*Recognized by GWC Faculty, Department Chairs, Deans, and Managers
Presented by Kate Green, IPD Chair & Amy Jennings, Faculty Excellence Awards Liaison*

Rachel Zacharia, Business

Tiffany Lao, ELL (PT)

Nominees:

Jeanette Adame, History
AJ Edmonds, Computer Science
Sergio Sanchez, ESL (PT)
Hailey White, English (PT)

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING ~ RECOGNIZED BY CLASSIFIED STAFF

Presented by Kate Green, IPD Chair & Amy Jennings, Faculty Excellence Awards Liaison

Jennifer Bailly, Economics

INNOVATION AWARD

*Recognized by GWC Faculty, Department Chairs, Deans, and Managers
Presented by Kate Green, IPD Chair & Amy Jennings, Faculty Excellence Awards Liaison*

Theresa Lavarini, English

Steve Ruatta, Chemistry (PT)

Nominees:

Michael Tran, Counselor & Transfer Center Coordinator
Jeanette Adame, History
Guy Buker, Business/Computer Science (PT)

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING ~ RECOGNIZED BY ASGWC

Presented by Sharon Fabian, ASGWC President | Kate Green, IPD Chair | Amy Jennings, FEA Liaison

ARTS & LETTERS

Dawn Brooks, Music
Andrew Carrera, Comm. Studies (PT)
Rachelle Chuang, Art (PT)
Keisha Cosand, English
Collette Hausey, Music
Michon Gruber, Theater Arts (PT)
Sacha Moore, English
Tim Mueller, Theater Arts
Teresa Nguyen, ELL
Elizabeth Pappous, English (PT)
Jax Pham, English (PT)
Veronica Pizano, Spanish
Tiffany Ruggeri-Dilello, Comm. Studies (PT)
Abraham Tarango, English

Tara Tavonatti, Art (PT)

Paul Tayyar, English

Tammie Tran, Vietnamese

Rachel Wegter, Comm. Studies

Business & Career Education

Renee Duffy, Cosmetology (PT)

Jon Holland, Cosmetology

Kathy Johnson, Business (PT)

Teresa Roston, Cosmetology

Daniel Whittaker, Automotive Technology (PT)

Counseling

Nancy Fong

Christie Vega (PT)

Criminal Justice

Oscar Aranda (PT)

Hector Madrigal (PT)

Sean Ramos (PT)

Kinesiology, Health Education, and Athletics

Leilani Johnson

Math & Sciences

Gita Alemansour, Mathematics

James Almy, Chemistry

Bud Benneman, Geology

Matthew Carlson, Chemistry

Annamaria Crescimanno, Biology

Joseph Dizon, Mathematics (PT)

Andrew Dunnigan, Biology (PT)

Catherine Egan, Biology

Ronza Husari, Mathematics (PT)

MaryLynne LaMantia, Biology

Annette Park, Mathematics

Steve Ruatta, Chemistry (PT)

Shawn Taylor, Mathematics

Travis Vail, Biology

Social Sciences

Laura Duvall, Psychology

Amy Jennings, Psychology

Joel Powell, Political Science

Jason Sheley, Philosophy

Kyle Smith, Psychology

DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION

COMMITTEE SERVICE AWARD

Presented by Jennifer Bailly, CCI Chair, and Charissa McCord, Curriculum Specialist

Presented in recognition of dedicated years of committee service and meaningful contributions to shared governance and campus leadership

Cristian Racataian

14 years of service - CCI representing Computer Science

Gary Kirby

*8 years of service - CCI representing Mathematics & Engineering,
and served as CCI Chair and Technical Review Lead*

RETIREMENT TRIBUTES

Presented by Justin Smith, Academic Senate President & Damien Jordan, Academic Senate Vice President

With gratitude, we honor our faculty whose years of service have shaped our college, supported generations of students, and left a legacy that will continue to inspire for years to come.

Farzane Farazdaghi, Global Studies (10 years)

Derrick Watkins, Criminal Justice (22 years)

Ju-An Broyles, Nursing (24 years)

SPECIAL APPRECIATION AWARDS

Presented by Justin Smith, Academic Senate President & Damien Jordan, Academic Senate Vice President

Presented in special appreciation to those whose extraordinary dedication and willingness to go above and beyond have advanced college initiatives, enriched campus events, and strengthened our GWC community. We appreciate you!

Annamaria Crescimanno, Academic Senate Vice President

Michael Tran, Counselor & Transfer Center Coordinator

Michelle Veyette, Distance Education Coordinator

Lauren Davis Sosenko, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness and Dual Enrollment

Dorsie Brooks, Dean of Business & Career Education

Sean Suter, Facilities Utilization Specialist

Jolynna Dang, Student Success & Equity Specialist

Brian Dauterive, Theater Technical Specialist

Julie Terrazas, Academic Senator

Sheryl Hathaway, Educational Tech Specialist

EXEMPLARY COMMITTEE SERVICE RECOGNITION

*Presented by Justin Smith, Academic Senate President, Damien Jordan &
Annamaria Crescimanno, Vice Presidents*

DISTANCE EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In recognition of your dedicated service on the Distance Education Advisory Committee, advancing excellence in online instruction through your commitment to Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI), accreditation success, quality, compliance, and professional development at Golden West College.

Michelle Veyette, DE Coordinator
Claudia Alcala, Counseling
Krissy Barone, Kinesiology, Health, Athletics
Leslie Bitong, Performing Arts
Dorsie Brooks, Administration
Katie Bruns, Communication Studies (PT)
Tasha Chambliss, Cosmetology
Calvin Fantone, Distance Education
Sheryl Hathaway, Distance Education
Antony Hoang, Large Class Factor
Jennifer Kalfsbeek-Goetz, Vice President of Instruction
Alana Krause, Library
Omar Majid, Psychology (PT)

Mark Meskal, Part-time Faculty At-Large
Jason Moore, History & Education (PT)
Julie Uyen Nguyen, Distance Education
Robert Nguyen, Nursing & Health Professions
Annette Park, Mathematics & Engineering
Shatarupa Ray, Biological Sciences
Amy Runyen, Art
Mike Russell, Automotive Technology, Digital Arts, Drafting
Jason Sheley, Liberal Arts & Culture
Elizabeth Shiroishi, English
Cristina Tiernes Cruz, World Languages & Sign Language
Mark Thomason, Physical Sciences
Cynthia Tran, ELL/ESL/GED (PT)

ACADEMIC SENATE

In recognition of exemplary service on the Academic Senate, demonstrating distinguished representation of departmental perspectives on academic and professional matters, and for your unwavering commitment to the 10 + 1

Jennifer Bailly, CCI Chair
Christy Banales, Classified Professionals
Krissy Barone, Kinesiology, Health, Athletics
Amanda Best, Art
Pete Bouzar, Mathematics/Engineering
Dawn Brooks, Performing Arts
Annamaria Crescimanno, Vice President &
Biological Sciences
Laura Duvall, Psychology
Sharon Fabian, ASGWC
Katherine Green, IPD Chair
Damien Jordan, Vice President & Counseling & EOPS
John Kasabian, Automotive Technology,
Digital Arts, Drafting
Heather Kelley, Communication Studies

Theresa Lavarini, English
Noah Levin, Liberal Arts & Culture
Phuong Nguyen, Nursing & Health Professions
Teresa Nguyen, ELL/ESL/GED
Teresa Roston, Cosmetology
Tiffany Ruggeri-Dilello, Part-time Faculty At-Large
Matthew Shimazu, Physical Sciences
Herman Singh, Social Sciences
Justin Smith, President & History/Education
Julie Terrazas, Library
Tammie Tran, World Languages & Sign Language
Aleksandra Uchlik, Business & Accounting
Michelle Veyette, Distance Education Coordinator
Derrick Watkins, Criminal Justice

CLOSING

As we conclude this celebration, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to all faculty, administrators, and classified professionals whose daily efforts open doors, create opportunities, and support student success.

Thank you for joining us in honoring the dedication, leadership, and service that strengthen Golden West College each day.

Academic Senate Meeting:

Agenda: <https://www.goldenwestcollege.edu/senate/agendas/index.html>