



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

PRESS RELEASE

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California Community Colleges Board of Governors honors five with 2012 Classified Employees of the Year Awards

Annual event showcases dedication and hard work of thousands of college support staff

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The California Community Colleges Board of Governors named Doris Brinkley-Hankins, Kim Christiana, Scott Ludwig, Patricia Murray and John Welch as 2012 California Community Colleges Classified Employees of the Year and honored them at the May 8 board of governors meeting in Sacramento.

The award has been given annually since 2009 to community college classified employees who demonstrate the highest level of commitment to professionalism and the community colleges. Recipients are nominated by members of their college or district community and endorsed by local boards of trustees. Award recipients are selected by representatives of the California Community Colleges Board of Governors, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, and the Foundation for California Community College. Recipients must have a record of outstanding performance on the job, as well as a record of active participation on campus and in their respective communities.

Brinkley-Hankins has been the staff assistant to the vice president of instruction at Merritt College in Oakland for 11 years. Christiana has been a senior application support analyst for 14 years for the Contra Costa Community College District. Ludwig has been a multimedia operations coordinator for 12 years at West Valley College in Saratoga. Murray has been a health science lab technician for 13 years at El Cajon's Grossmont College, and Welch is a physics laboratory technician at Cabrillo College in Aptos, where he's worked for 13 years.

"I want to congratulate each of our winners, who represent the backbone of our community college system," said California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott. "Without the important work of these employees nothing would work on campus. These five people are exemplary examples of the dedication and professionalism that our classified employees show every day."

Here is some background information on each winner:

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Doris Brinkley-Hankins, Merritt College, Peralta Community College District

Brinkley-Hankins is the Vice President of the California Community Colleges Classified Senate and serves on several committees including the Merritt College Graduation Committee and Merritt Awards Committee. She volunteered for the Chancellor's Leadership program and is an active participant of Life Skills 411, a program that prepares young people to become leaders at home and in their communities. She also prepares and serves meals for approximately 400 people at her local church.

Kim Christiana, Contra Costa Community College District

Christiana may not have direct contact with students but her dedication to their success is recognized throughout the district. When a grade-changing scheme was discovered at one of the colleges, she gathered data that helped convict several individuals. Kim serves on several committees and is a board member of the California Community College Datatel Users Group.

Scott Ludwig, West Valley-Mission Community College District

Ludwig works to help faculty and staff explore and experiment with technology in the teaching/learning process and across the service and support programs. His expertise in multimedia and instructional technology has served the campus well with his work helping to design new buildings and upgrading existing ones. Scott is a member of the classified senate and has served two terms as president

Patricia Murray, Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District

Murray is a member of the classified senate, chair of the Kudos Award program, which recognizes outstanding staff, and has assisted in coordinating the Students of Note awards program, which recognizes students who have overcome obstacles. She helped the classified senate raise money for scholarships and has assisted with the college foundation's gala fundraiser. She volunteers with a local Catholic high school youth group and is the adult leader for the "Justice and Service" youth group that organizes charitable activities.

John Welch, Cabrillo Community College District

Welch has worked with the Spanish-speaking community to meet its personal development goals and he runs a bilingual math tutoring program. John created an online demonstration database so instructors can access information on the entire demonstration inventory and created Cabrillo College's "Nobel Prize" program to reward students for making contributions to the labs. He's also built high-quality equipment from recycled materials, saving the college thousands of dollars while teaching students environmentally responsible practices.

The California Community Colleges Classified Employee of the Year Award is supported through a grant from the Foundation for California Community Colleges. Each recipient received a \$500 cash award and a commemorative plaque.

A photo gallery of the awards presentation can be viewed [here](http://bit.ly/tstohT). (<http://bit.ly/tstohT>)

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.6 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor's Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges, please visit <http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/>.