



Hudson Is Home

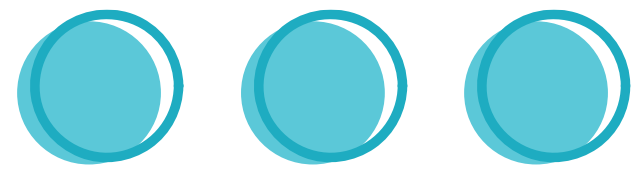
Inspirational Leadership Award

Jing Yang

Jing Yang is an excellent boss who sticks up for her team. She has fought for there to be more coverage so we can open the makerspace for more hours. She has also encouraged her team to be more than they can. She also encourages them to follow what they like and to help turn them into more events for the makerspace.



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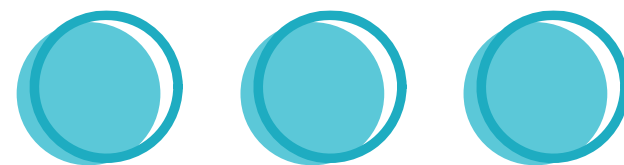


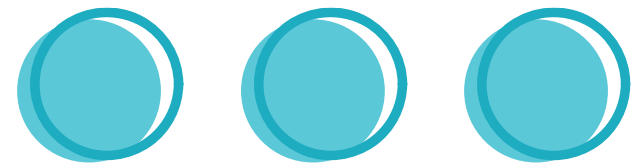
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Part-Time Spotlight Award

Justin Epps

He does a lot for the library. There are shifts where he is left alone mid day during peak hours of the library and doesn't complain. He is strong and has protected some of the library staff from escalating issues with other people. He likes doing things and trying out new programs for the library like his comic book creation event once a month in the library.





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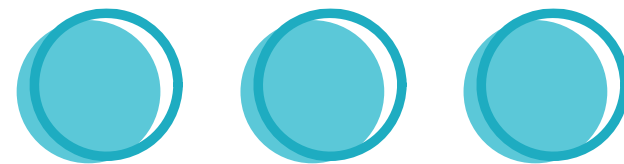
2019 Innovation Award

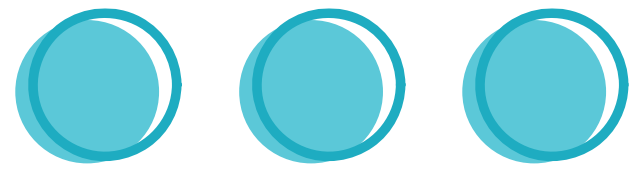
Lotta Sanchez

Lotta Sanchez never lets anything get her down. She is a ball of energy and sunshine to those around her. She never lets anything get to her even if she is mad or disappointed, she shakes it off and helps students, faculty, staff, and community members(the public), to her full ability. She is amazing.



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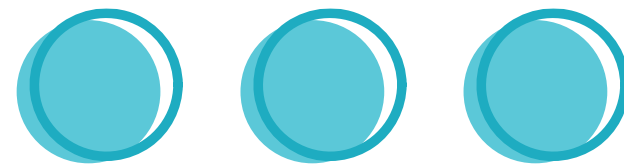


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HfHf Innovation Award

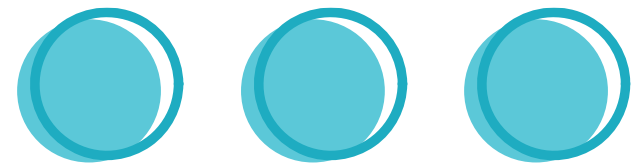
Nydia James

I could list many reasons for asking that Nydia James be honored today for her contributions to HCCC -- but I'll describe her most recent and impactful contribution as reason enough on its own for this recognition. Over the past year, I have challenged Nydia to spearhead our efforts to monitor budgets and spending for our Perkins grant of \$1.4 million annually in order to maximize HCCC's ability to access and use funds for CTE programs across the College. She stepped up the Grants Office's close collaboration with Finance, STEM, Culinary, Humanities, Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, and CEWD, requiring strategic agility, persistence, collegial nudging, and a self-taught grasp of the Perkins program's complex management system, regulations, and protocols. This effort has resulted in recouping \$300K-\$400K this year alone. We are now working to build them into our day-to-day operations to sustain the effort and its results. I could not ask for a more capable, flexible, patient, and diligent colleague. Nydia is an alumna of HCCC, a 20-year veteran staffer, and the crucial nexus of this program. Please join me in recognizing her for the joy, hard work, and commitment she has brought to work, day in, day out.



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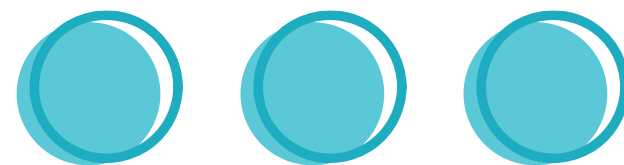


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HHH Inspirational Leadership Award

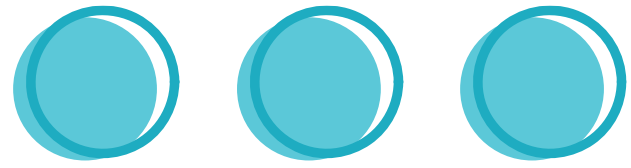
Mary Ellen Piel

Mary Ellen Piel is amazing. She runs technical services, maintaining and ordering books for the library. She helps her team and sets up a safe working environment where everyone can feel safe. She is what a manager should be.



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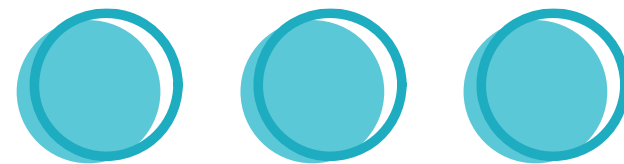


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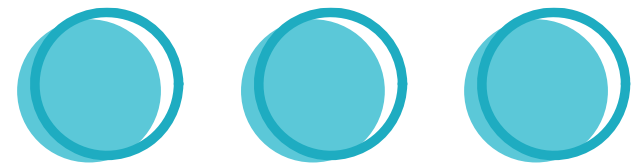
Nouara Oubraham

Nouara Oubraham does alot for the Library. She's always one of the first people here. She also pushes herself even though she is tired and her bosses want something from her. She's one of the only ones who talks arabic and translates for security when needed.



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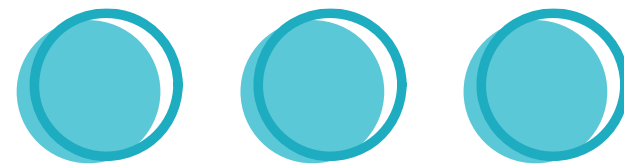


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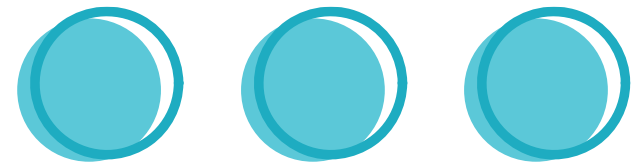
Veronica Gerosimo

Veronica Gerosimo plans so much for the school. She collaborates and listens to people in everything, not just about how to put on a workshop or event but for everyday things. Honestly there's too much to say because she does so much.



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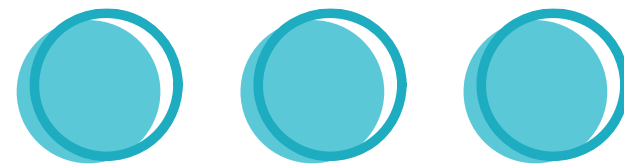


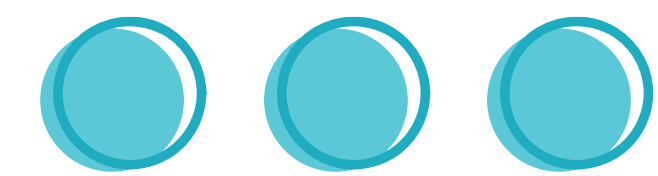
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HTH Inspirational Leadership Award

Alexis Muniz

Alex is always happy and willing to lend a hand to a team member. He is involved in various committees and takes on roles not required of him to provide support wherever possible. He has recently helped in running the Girls in Technology event when the director of the event had to be away. He lead the event and ensured its success.





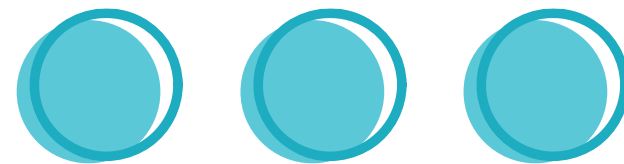
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H1H Inspirational Leadership Award

Ana Moran

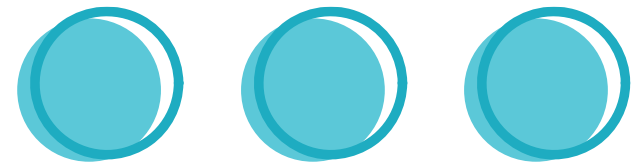
Ana deserves recognition for her outstanding contributions in her new leadership role. She works collaboratively with many departments across the college through her federal work-study program, which has been tremendously successful thanks to her efforts and the support of her team, including Shameka Jennings and Juan Peralta. Although Ana has overseen the federal work-study program for a significant time, she has taken on her new responsibilities seamlessly, ensuring that the department runs smoothly and efficiently. Her dedication to her work is evident in everything she does, showcasing her deep commitment to both our students and the college community. Ana actively seeks out ways to enhance the student experience, providing valuable resources and support that empower students to succeed.

We truly appreciate her contributions, her impact on our team and the college environment is invaluable. Recognizing Ana not only honors her hard work but also highlights the crucial role she plays in our department.



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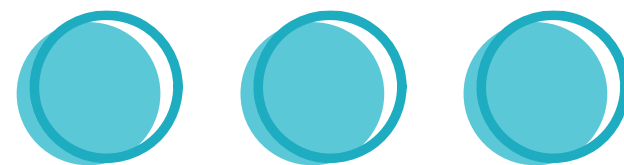
Inspirational Leadership Award

Angela Tuzzo

Angela always inspires others to do their best. She possesses humility, accountability, passion, and the ability to motivate and foster a sense of trust. Angela is always willing to assist others and make the Office of Student Life and Leadership the best it can be in assisting students in growing and developing as leaders.



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Inspirational Leadership Award

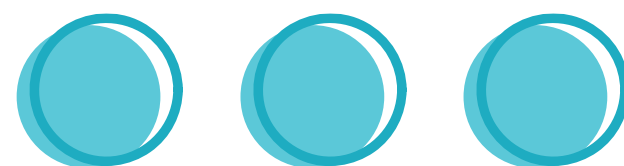
Anita Belle

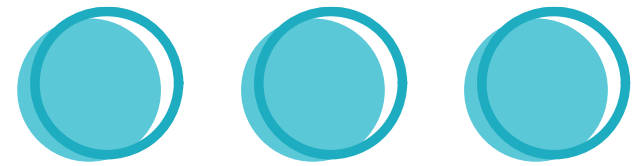
Ms. Anita is such a passionate and hardworking effective leader that comparing her to a Superwoman would be an understatement. :-)

Just look at the number of programs that she handles and manages in CEWD: close to a dozen, the number of staff members: more than 30, the number of events and employer engagement, at least 1 a week, countless meetings, thousands of emails, and it goes on! This is not factoring the family and private engagements, whew! I don't know how she manages. She is a person who truly cares for her team members' wellness and safety. She is transparent with her convictions and integrity, yet remains humble and treats each case with fairness. She is the rock in the department that solidifies everyone which makes the team work harmoniously and effectively.



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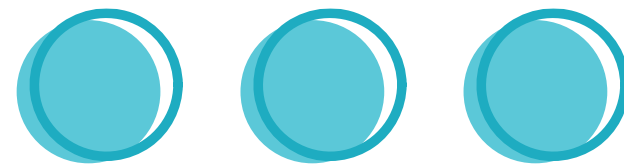


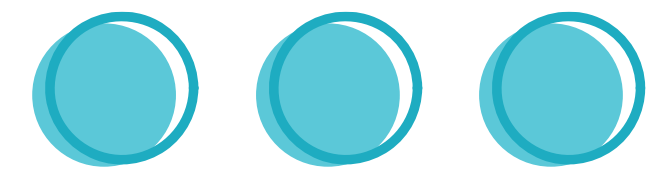
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Inspirational Leadership Award

Ara Karakashian

Dr. K does what he can to lead the School of BCH in every way possible. He has an open door policy and is there for his colleagues, students, and other employees. He is there to provide advice and guidance whenever possible.



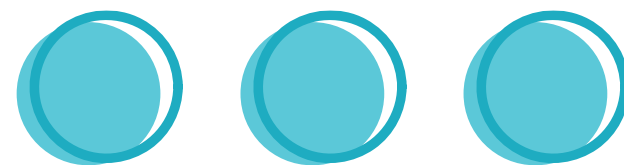


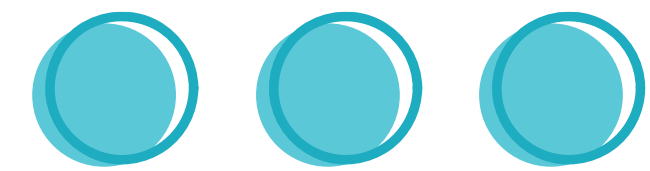
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H1JH Inspirational Leadership Award

Ariana Calle

Ariana has held numerous roles within HCCC since her start in 2021. She was the Career Closet Coordinator as well as an intern for Hudson Helps and the Mental Health Counseling & Wellness departments. Currently, she serves as the Associate Director for Hudson Helps and has showcased her talents in many ways. She is a leader because she puts others first as well as knows how to take on multiple projects at once. She took on the role as Associate Director at a time when the department was in a transitional phase and needed a leader to step up to the role. She has navigated the role with ease and confidence, even at the most difficult of times. She knows has to be a champion for others and advocate for students and her employees in their time of need. Her dedication to the department, and to HCCC as a whole, is demonstrated in her work. Her work includes: coordinating the Career Closet Fashion Show, serving as SAC Committee Chair, implementing new programs/ initiatives, providing students with basic needs and wraparound holistic services, serving as task supervisor to master level social work interns, and much more.





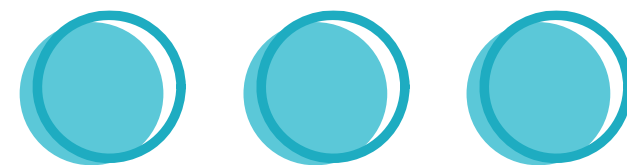
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H1H Inspirational Leadership Award

Brianna Heim

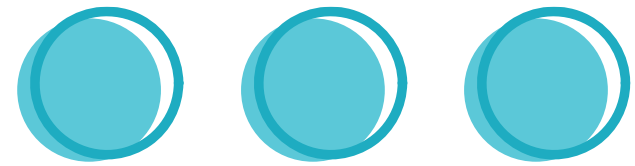
Brianna deserves to be recognized for the inspirational leadership award due to her outstanding leadership qualities as a Customer Service Manager. Her calm demeanor under pressure creates a supportive atmosphere where her team feels empowered to tackle challenges and deliver exceptional service. Brianna's ability to actively listen and empathize with both her team and customers fosters strong relationships and encourages a collaborative spirit. She constantly motivates her team to encouragement and constructive feedback, resulting in improved performance and morale. Her influence not only enhances the customer experience, but also cultivates a cultural of excellence within the team making her truly deserving of this award.

Brianna is our customer service manager for continuing education and workforce development. She goes above and beyond for students and for her team. She always has a positive attitude and knows how to get things done.



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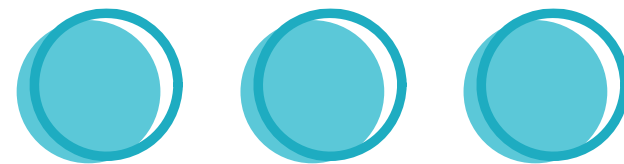


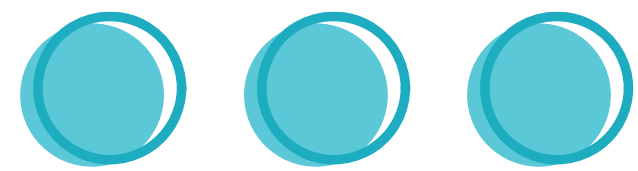
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HHH Inspirational Leadership Award

Burl Yearwood

Dean Yearwood does an excellent job leading the School of STEM and is there when we need him. He always has our best interest and guides us in many ways to help the HCCC community as well as the STEM community as a whole.



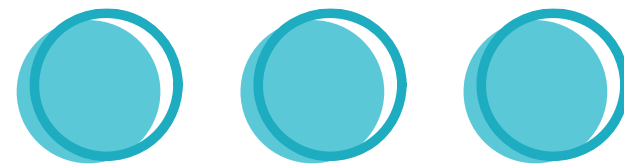


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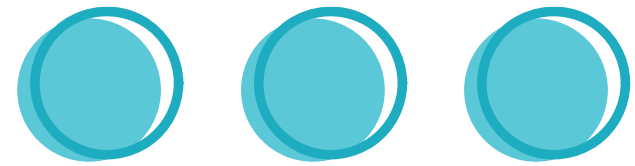
Carmen Guerra

Carmen is a bright light in the School of Continuing Education and Workforce Development. She always seeks to put a smile on anyone and everyone's face and make them laugh. She continuously strives to improve her programs and build a great foundation for CEWD's Youth Program.



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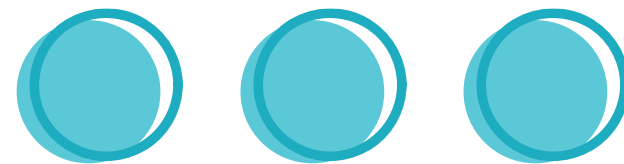


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Inspirational Leadership Award

Catherine Sweeting

I am honored to nominate Catherine Sweeting, interim dean, whose kindness and down-to-earth nature have truly impressed me. Beyond her approachable demeanor, she is also known as an outstanding instructor, highly regarded by her students. I am grateful for her willingness to make time for our team, always checking in and addressing our concerns with care and dedication.





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H1H Inspirational Leadership Award

Chastity Farrell

Chastity is an incredible leader who lead the Continuing Education department to the successes it is currently reaching. She puts in 110% for her staff and their programs. She is always willing to create new relationships and seek innovation to better improve the current departmental offerings.

Chastity deserves to be recognized for the inspirational leadership award due to her exceptional ability to inspire and motivate those around her.

She always empowers her team members to reach their full potential.

Chastity constantly demonstrates visionary leadership through innovative problem-solving and strategic thinking, which have led to significant improvements within our department and the College.

Through her unwavering determination and tenacity, she advocates for those around her, getting outstanding results for all.

Chastity's remarkable achievements and her passion for empowering others make her a truly deserving candidate for this prestigious award.



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Pay It Forward Inspirational Leadership Award

Cheryl Cashell

I am nominating Cheryl Cashell. Cheryl deserves to be recognized because she has been headlining the Radiography Program being included in the recent amazing PAY IT FORWARD program with Achieving the Dream



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HCC Inspirational Leadership Award

Chris Cody

Chris Cody is a great All College Council Leader. He seamlessly brings individuals from all over the college community together in pursuit of shared goals. Chris is collaborative and is open to input from everyone. Chris is a strong communicator, setting a vision and sharing that with the college at each ACC gathering, at the Board of Trustees meetings, and elsewhere on campus. Chris celebrates everyone's accomplishments and contributions, making all feel included and encouraging a strong sense of belonging. Everyone has a voice in All College Council, and all events and initiatives are promoted. Chris's leadership has allowed for multiple governance recommendations to pass, and for intercollege initiatives to have a stage. The entire HCCC college community has benefited from Chris's inspiring ACC leadership.

Dr. Cody continues to inspire and bring voices together in the work that he does for the ACC. Shared governance is a tenet of higher education, and Dr. Cody, despite being knee-deep in the tenure process, continues to sacrifice his time and efforts to something larger than he, or any of us, is.



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Inspirational Leadership Award

Dr. Christopher Reber

Dr. Reber is the anchor of our college and his lead all of us tremendously well over the last several years. We have achieved much success under his leadership and he is a great mentor for many people at the college.



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HH Inspirational Leadership Award

Danitza Espinales

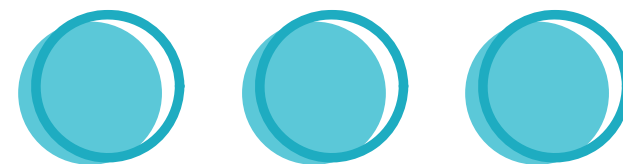
Danitza truly deserves recognition for her incredible contributions to our college community. Since joining the financial aid office in 2007, she has been an important part of the financial aid team, bringing extensive knowledge and expertise to her role. As our NJ Stars Coordinator, Danitza works closely with NJ Stars students, guiding them through the process of securing their state funds. She takes the time to build relationships with each student, making sure they feel understood and supported.

Her team-oriented approach shines through working closely with other departments, where she will provide valuable guidance to help students navigate the program and understand their options. Danitza is always ready to lend a helping hand, whether it's answering questions or providing reassurance during stressful times.

Danitza steps up into a leadership role as needed, seamlessly taking charge to ensure everything runs smoothly in the NHC financial aid operations in the absence of the Associate Director. Her dedication, knowledge, and ability to empower both students and colleagues make her a standout member of our team, and she truly deserves recognition for her contributions.



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HfH Inspirational Leadership Award

Deseree McFarlane

If you know or have ever worked with Deseree McFarlane, you know that she does not seek the limelight but really deserves it! She is Communications “secret weapon,” She keeps the wheels turning behind the scenes – kind of like OZ.

Behind the scenes she works to ensure that the College is represented and highlighted. She works very hard, juggling many items at once always has a smile on her face (not always easy to do when things are busy and hectic.)

On an average day, she may attend an event(s), fields calls from media, proof newsletters, brochures, posters, and fliers, directing departments on materials they need produced and posted, prepare press releases and media advisories, field internal and external calls, send college wide emails for ALL college depts., assist team members with projects, entering and tracking request, scheduling calendars, and so much more! She is always happy to assist in any way she can, working with team members on individual projects and any other project thrown her way. She goes above and beyond and is rarely- if ever thanked or acknowledged for her hard work and dedication to the college.

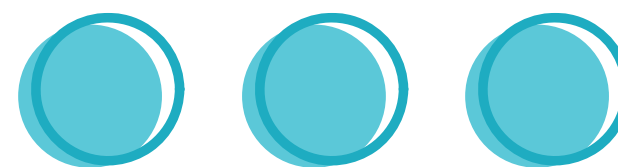
The College has grown significantly since Deseree’s arrival at HCCC 22 years ago, they have added more programs, promotions, departments, buildings, campuses, names to remember, and of course the workload that has increased significantly with this growth -- she has accepted every challenge and met it head-on.

Deseree holds a Master of Business Administration in Marketing which makes her over-qualified for her job. I believe she is the only one on the team with a masters degree. Her knowledge and experience are an integral part of how this Department is a great success we could not do it without her.

She is always willing to roll up her sleeves and support the group effort. She is a huge asset to the College, and is so deserving of this award and recognition. The people behind the scenes that make things function are often forgotten and fall through the cracks instead of being acknowledged and rewarded for their dedication to the College.

Deseree handles all of the behind-the-scenes items that arise and supports ALL College efforts with little to no acknowledgment. Her dedication should be applauded and recognized!

If Hudson Is truly Home and we are a “family” then treat her like a valued family member!



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2019 Inspirational Leadership Award

Hital Patel

Not only is Hital there to assist her team members in the financial aid department no matter how busy she, but she always goes above and beyond for her students as an advisor. She assures that not only do her students have all of the tools in regard to their financial aid to be able to focus on their studies, but that her team members are fully knowledgeable on FA policies in order to assist students in the most beneficial way possible.



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2023 Inspirational Leadership Award

Irma Williams

Irma always helps when needed and does a lot of DEI work as well. She was the HACU administrative representative last year for the mid level career training initiative. She also is a leader is helping others with booking classroom spaces and CourseDog.



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HHH Inspirational Leadership Award

Joseph “Joe” Caniglia

Joe Caniglia runs the entire North Hudson Campus as the executive director. He plans events, attends meetings, makes sure everyone is treated okay, and does what he can for everyone that is involved at the North Hudson campus.

Joe has created a warm and welcoming environment at the NHC. He has initiated many events to build community and student engagement. He responds quickly to any concerns or issues that arise and operates with an "open-door" policy. Since Joe has become the director of NHC, student enrollment is up. Together with his team (Diana, Jason and Aura) there is a true sense of collaboration!

Over the years, I have developed a working and collaborative relationship with Mr. Caniglia. He has consistently championed his team and supported their passions and vision. His supportive nature and dedication to helping his team and others is something I admire. He is a great person to work with.

I greatly admire Joe's authentic leadership.



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HfHf Inspirational Leadership Award

Joseph “Joe” Caniglia

Joe Caniglia is an extremely strong and caring leader. I have worked with Joe for almost 15 years and admire his dedication and attention to detail. Joe inspires students, faculty, and staff to become involved in events, programs, and initiatives at the North Hudson campus. He is actively involved in the planning, recruitment, and logistics of many exciting things at North Hudson, most recently the incredible programming for Hispanic Heritage month, culminating in the completely packed house for the Trustee Jeanette Pena presentation. There is always something exciting, unique, special, and inclusive happening on campus under Joe's strong leadership for students, faculty, staff, and community members. There is no job too small for Joe, as he truly leads by example. I have personally seen Joe help students one on one with personal and academic issues, stacking chairs and desks, greeting community members, and even checking that all holiday displays and decorations are inclusive to all those on campus. Joe is an inclusive leader. He leads by empowering those around him to be innovative and collaborative, and he recognizes everyone's contributions. Joe makes each person he works with feel appreciated and important. He is actively leading the campus to partnerships with external partners and stakeholders in the community, building the college's profile, and providing more opportunities for everyone. Joe is an approachable leader, demonstrating the true meaning of an open door policy. At any time, Joe will provide a warm smile, a listening ear, and a supportive ally to everyone on campus. Joe's leadership style is truly inspirational, and he is taking North Hudson to incredible heights by every metric.



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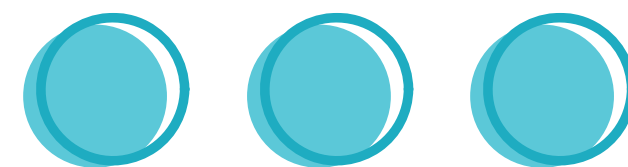
John D. Lin

He is very dynamic love the way he makes me do more at the time when I have to talk publicly. He is a great leader. Also very professional makes me connect a little more with what's going on in my community. Teaching me how to do public speaking and getting me ready for job interviews etc.

Professor John has a remarkable ability to instill confidence in us. During presentations, he fosters an encouraging atmosphere that helps us believe in our own capabilities. He not only motivates us but also offers valuable tips and strategies to enhance our presentation skills, guiding us on how to refine our delivery and improve our stage presence. His constructive feedback empowers us to grow and face our audiences with assurance.



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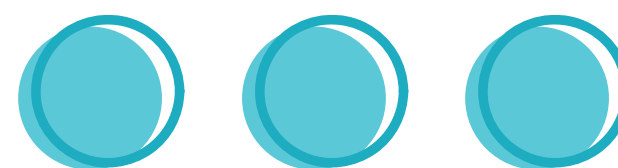
HHH Inspirational Leadership Award

Kathleen Rodriguez

They deserve recognition for continuously going above and beyond their responsibilities of duty. By their creative thinking, perseverance, positive outlook, and ability to overcome obstacles, they have made substantial contributions to the project's or team's success, exhibiting extraordinary dedication and commitment to achieving outstanding results. In other words, their actions have positively impacted the final result and set a high standard for others to follow.



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HIH Inspirational Leadership Award

Kristofer Fontanez

I am proud to nominate Kristofer Fontanez for the HIH Inspirational Leadership Award. As my supervisor, Kristofer has consistently inspired me and others to perform at our best. His leadership is rooted in a genuine desire to see his team and the broader HCCC community thrive. He leads by example, always approachable and willing to provide guidance and support, making those around him feel valued and empowered.

Kristofer's creativity and problem-solving skills have had a lasting impact on how departments connect and collaborate. He is always looking for innovative ways to bring people together, ensuring that communication and teamwork are at the forefront of every project. His efforts have undoubtedly improved the overall climate and morale within the college, creating an environment where everyone can succeed.

Beyond his role as a supervisor, Kristofer is deeply involved in the community. His passion for volunteering on and off-campus highlights his selflessness and dedication to making a positive impact. His commitment to giving back and his ability to inspire others to do the same makes him an ideal candidate for this award. Kristofer Fontanez is truly deserving of the HIH Inspirational Leadership Award for the profound influence he has on those around him.



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2023 Inspirational Leadership Award

Lauren Drew

Lauren Drew has been an extraordinary asset to the ESL office, stepping up during a challenging time when the director, associate director, and ESL specialist were all on leave. Her dedication and proactive approach in taking on numerous projects have been instrumental in ensuring the office continues to operate smoothly. With her strong leadership and resourcefulness, she has not only maintained the office's high standard of service but also inspired and guided her team through the transition. Lauren's commitment to excellence and her ability to lead with empathy and vision make her an invaluable part of the organization.



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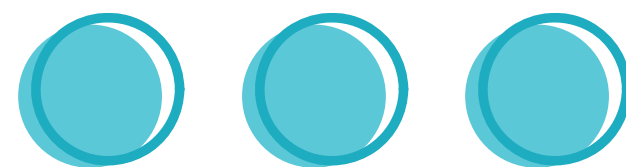
2019 Inspirational Leadership Award

Lisa Ciekiewicz

Lisa is instrumental to the operation of the nursing program. She is the go to person for faculty whenever there is a question as to a student's attendance or a policy issue. As the coordinator of admission and recruitment, Lisa is the first resource for students as they navigate through the nursing program. Lisa coordinates all the nursing information sessions and participates in the Achieve the Dream program. She assists in the orientation of new employees and always chips in and helps with whatever needs to be done at any given time. She is truly an asset to the nursing program and beyond!



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HIH Inspirational Leadership Award

Marolla Youakim

I am honored to nominate Marolla Youakim for the HIH Inspirational Leadership Award. As a part-time academic coach in our Medical Assistance class, Marolla consistently goes above and beyond to help us understand challenging material and assist our professor with hands-on instruction. Her commitment to ensuring our success is remarkable, and she truly deserves more than one award. Marolla excels in her own studies, maintaining high grades as a nursing student, and I believe she also deserves the Student Employee Award and the Part-Employee Spotlight Award for her dedication and hard work. However, I am nominating her for the leadership award because she is a true role model, leading by example and inspiring those around her to strive for excellence.

I read that this award recognizes individuals who elevate the college community through their dedication, creativity, and guidance, and Marolla embodies all of these qualities. She consistently connects students with resources, boosts morale through her positive energy, and has made a lasting impact on both our class and the broader HCCC community. Her leadership extends beyond the classroom, as I frequently see her volunteering on campus and in the community, truly exemplifying the spirit of the HIH Inspirational Leadership Award. Marolla's commitment to helping others and fostering a collaborative environment makes her more than deserving of this recognition.



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HIH Inspirational Leadership Award

Marolla Youakim

I wholeheartedly nominate Marolla Youakim for the HIH Inspirational Leadership Award.

In her role as an academic coach for our clinical class in the Medical Assistance program, Marolla embodies the qualities of an inspiring leader who motivates me and my peers to achieve our best.

Not only this but also she provides guidance and support, helping us navigate difficult subjects while promoting a collaborative and positive learning environment. Her ability to connect students with resources and volunteer opportunities enhances the overall morale of our college community. She consistently tells us about community services and college events and encourages us to be involved in honor societies and clubs and also to apply for scholarships to help us financially. Marolla's passion for helping others and her commitment to fostering a supportive atmosphere make her a deserving candidate for this award, as she exemplifies the spirit of leadership that inspires those around her at HCCC.

I am nominating Marolla for this award because she really helps me be the best version of myself.

She is very talented in managing her time as a student nurse together with working in our medical assistance class helping us and the professor as well as being very involved in campus.

Rolla has a leadership personality that can teach me how to be involved even without saying a single word. Her actions speak louder than words.

I can't see anyone more than her for this leadership award.



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ΨΤΚ Inspirational Leadership Award

Marolla Youakim

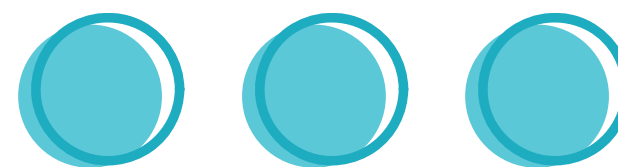
Marolla exemplifies inspirational leadership as the Vice President of Scholarship for Phi Theta Kappa and many other honor societies. She consistently supports her peers and guiding the executive board. Her recent contributions to the PTK induction ceremony, ensuring all preparations were flawlessly executed, demonstrated her dedication to fostering a positive and organized environment. Marolla's ability to unite and motivate her team highlights her impact on the college community.

As PTK's Vice President of Scholarship, Marolla actively inspires her peers and ensures the success of the organization's events.

Yesterday, in the induction ceremony, she was phenomenal. Her leadership performance was a great evidence to her commitment in the ceremony. She diligently assisted each executive board member, ensuring a seamless event that uplifted the PTK community. I nominate her for this leadership award.



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HIH Inspirational Leadership Award

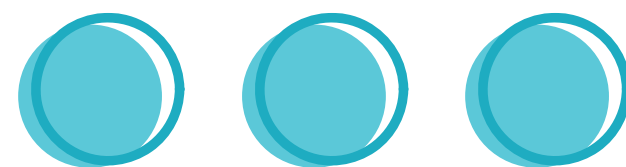
Marolla Youakim

In her role as VP in PTK, Marolla Youakim brings professionalism to every aspect of her work, going the extra mile to make a positive impact. Her thorough preparation of the PTK induction ceremony script and PowerPoint presentation, coupled with her quick problem-solving during unforeseen challenges at the event, exemplifies her commitment to excellence.

Marolla's polished appearance, proudly displaying her PTK pins she got for her dedications, reflected her pride and motivated others, making her a truly deserving candidate for the HIH Inspirational Leadership Award.



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HfHf Inspirational Leadership Award

Michael Ferlise

Michael is good at his role as President of the Professional Association, which is the Union for the full time faculty. He is there for the full time faculty in many ways and he is there to make sure that faculty are treated with dignity and respect.



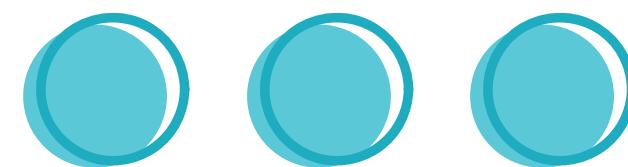
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HIM Inspirational Leadership Award

Patricia Clay

I would like to nominate Trisha Clay, head of the ITS department, for her unwavering support and approachability. She is incredibly kind and down-to-earth and always goes above and beyond to provide assistance. Whenever I reach out to her, she promptly finds solutions, making the process smooth and efficient. Her commitment to helping others is truly commendable.

I am honored to nominate Patricia M. Clay for the HIM Award in appreciation of her outstanding leadership as Associate Vice President and Chief Information Officer at Hudson County Community College. Patricia exemplifies kindness and dedication, consistently striving to resolve issues with empathy and efficiency, making a lasting impact on our college community.





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2024 Inspirational Leadership Award

Patricia Del Piano

It is without hesitation that I nominate Pat Del Piano for the inspirational leadership award. He is the Fire Safety Officer and the acting President of the Support Staff Federation. As the elected Treasurer, I have come to work more closely with Pat regarding our union's concerns and various other College issues that had to be resolved. He is widely respected amongst his fellow employees in the safety department and throughout the College. He extensive experience and knowledge as a retired Jersey City fireman, athletic coach and official who is very generous is helping others in our community. He always has a positive attitude and finds a way to always get the job done. Having grown up and worked in Jersey City, he has used his key contacts with Hudson County officials to assist the College. He also is engaged with the students as he is asked to work many of our events, summits, wellness fairs, speak at HR onboarding sessions, convocation, college service day and hold fire and safety drills. He goes beyond his role to serve the students and our community and is a stellar representative of HCCC.



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HfHf Inspirational Leadership Award

Qua'Fayshia Ransom

Qua has done a remarkable job of transforming the School of CEWD's Non-Credit ESL program to reach new audiences and better support the new influx of students. She is committed to making the program better for the students and assisting them in achieving their educational goals.



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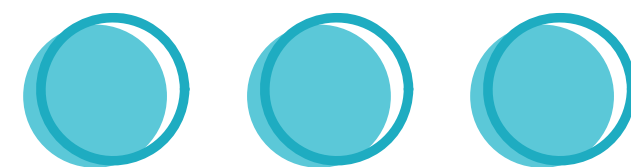
Inspirational Leadership Award

Tahrier Ahmad

Tahrier is instrumental in executing and managing our ESL processes with staff and faculty (and has been since the start of the new directors). She is consistently on top of all faculty developments and is a fabulous support to our students, including our Arabic speakers where she is able to get to the core of their issues quickly. She is detailed oriented and patient in how she handles even the most challenging or complex of tasks. Tahrier contributes greatly to our culture in the office and has helped Dr. Rivera and I in our onboarding at HCCC! Her enthusiasm radiates in the office. What would I do without Tahrier? Now, that's a good question!



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HfHf Inspirational Leadership Award

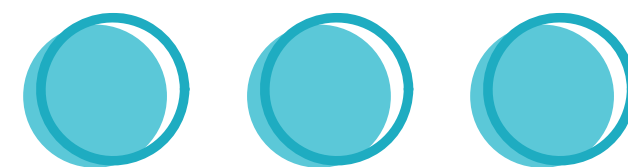
Tara Lyn Dugan

I am honored to nominate Tara Lyn Dugan for the Hudson Is Home Inspirational Leadership Award. As a dedicated graphic designer at the College, Tara Lyn consistently exemplifies the spirit of creativity, collaboration, and community that this award seeks to recognize.

From “A World of Possibilities” to “Close to Home” and now to “Hudson is Home,” Tara Lyn has transformed our College's visual identity through her innovative designs, which not only enhance our brand but also foster a sense of belonging among students, faculty, and staff. Her work on various projects – ranging from promotional materials to event branding – has elevated HCCC’s image and created a cohesive visual narrative that resonates with our community. I have observed other institutions adopting part of our branding!

Beyond her design skills, Tara Lyn is an incredible collaborator. She actively engages with colleagues from different units, ensuring that her designs reflect the diverse voices within the College. Her willingness to listen, adapt and integrate feedback is a testament to her commitment to making everyone feel included and valued. Tara Lyn's positive attitude and unwavering support for her peers have made her a critical member of our College community. She often volunteers her time for student events and workshops, sharing her expertise and inspiring others to explore their creativity. Her efforts have not only enriched our College’s visual landscape but have also fostered a culture of teamwork and encouragement.

In summary, Tara Lyn Dugan embodies the values of the Hudson Is Home Inspirational Leadership Award through her exceptional talent, collaborative spirit, and dedication. I wholeheartedly recommend her for this honor, as she truly makes our College feel like home for everyone.



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HIGH Inspirational Leadership Award

Tara Lyn Dugan

Professor Ted Lai is a great advisor and role model to the students. He has been the PTK advisor for over 25 years, and deserves much respect and appreciation for his time, dedication, and service to the PTK organization and HCCC chapter.



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HfHf Diversity Award

Ara Karakashian

Dr. K has an unwavering commitment to the DEI initiatives at HCCC. He not only is an active member of PACDEI, but contributes to the programming and initiatives of the council. He has been a co-organizer, leader, and planner of the annual Holocaust and Armenian Genocide Remembrance event since its inception. Dr. K makes DEI a strategic priority in BCH. Every monthly meeting has had DEI on the agenda since he became the Dean, and he encourages his faculty to be involved in integrating DEI into the curriculum and helping build accessible classrooms. Dr. K. has supervised the now over 20,000 prepared meals by his culinary department that have been donated to the food pantry since the pandemic, helping serve the college community. He also was involved in the free weekly soup initiative that was made available to everyone on campus. Dr. K. has won the NJ Cannabis Insider 2023 Award in Excellence in Education. He is actively involved in building curriculum and relationships with the community in this growing field, fostering student and industry partnerships that are inclusive to all. Dr. K. has been involved and supportive of programming within BCH such as Women in Business and Best Practices Forums in topics such as DEI in the classroom. He is mindful that class schedules are accessible and inclusive to our diverse student body, offering classes online, face to face, hybrid and remote. Classes are scheduled at multiple campuses, different times of day, and during 15 week, 12 week, and 7 week semesters. He believes in meeting our students where they are, allowing for an inclusive educational experience. Dr. K is a true leader in the DEI space, and is well deserving of this recognition.



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HfHf Diversity Award

Catherine Sirangelo

Since I first came on board in 2017 to support the Division of Nursing and Health Sciences (previously named), Dean Sirangelo was very welcoming to me, and I have learned a lot from her and how the academic programs work. Coming from Continuing Education, I was excited and glad to learn about the academic programs and what I can do to fully support and promote them within our community. She assures that the program offerings are diverse to include all individuals of our community removing any barriers. Also, she has worked closely with the ATD and the College's IR teams to review the admission requirements, retention and success of our programs that allow for licensure upon completion. By looking more closely at our data, it increased our program's completion and success rates. Our staff and faculty are confident in our efforts to continue to increase our enrollment in the changing landscape of what the students want and need.



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HfH Diversity Award

Christopher Rivera

Dr. Rivera is an exceptional leader in championing diversity and inclusion. With a deep commitment to fostering an inclusive culture, he ensures that every voice is heard and valued. Through thoughtful initiatives and a dedication to equitable opportunities, Dr. Rivera is building us as a diverse team where unique perspectives drive innovation and collaboration. His leadership not only embraces differences but also leverages them as a strength, creating an environment where everyone can thrive.



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HfHf Diversity Award

Diana Galvez

Diana is the Co-Chairs of PACDEI. She cares about having HCCC be diverse, equitable, and inclusive. She takes co chairing PACDEI very seriously in trying to make the college a better place to work and serve students.



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HfH Diversity Award

Raffi Manjikian

Raffi is the Co-Chairs of PACDEI. He cares about having HCCC be diverse, equitable, and inclusive. He takes co chairing PACDEI very seriously in trying to make the college a better place to work and serve students.

He is the faculty champion for DEI since he is the cochair of PACDEI and is a contributor to all the DEI initiatives at the college. He continues to do his best to make sure that everyone is supported and all initiatives are accomplished.

Raffi's dedication and leadership toward PACDEI is testament to his dedication for diversity, equity, and inclusion here at the college. I recently attended by first PACDEI meeting, and I was surprised, in a good way, as to the members who were present: staff, administration, student, faculty. Bringing these voices together is so important, and Raffi's work is complimentary to this!



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HIH Diversity Award

Tabrier Ahmed

The HIH Diversity Award is proudly presented to Tahirer Ahmad, whose outstanding contributions to the HCCC community exemplify the spirit of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Tahirer consistently demonstrates a genuine interest in fostering an inclusive environment, actively promoting interaction among individuals from diverse backgrounds.

Drawing from her rich Muslim culture, Tahirer brings a unique perspective that enriches the Office of Humanities and Social Science. She often shares homemade food and drinks, inviting colleagues to experience her culture firsthand. These gestures not only offer a taste of her heritage but also create opportunities for connection and understanding among her peers.

Tahirer's kindness and open-mindedness shine through in her willingness to share her experiences and ideas, making her an invaluable member of our community. Her dedication to embracing diversity and fostering inclusivity has left a lasting impact on those around her, and we are grateful for her contributions. Congratulations, Tahirer, on this well-deserved recognition!



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HfHf Diversity Award

Yeurys Pujols

He is the VP of DEI and leads an entire office of DEI. There has been many events and programs that have been legacy events and programs due to his office. Additionally, he helps Dr. Reber advise the cochairs of PACDEI



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HfHf Diversity Award

Alexis Muniz

Alex deserves to be recognized for the innovation award due to his outstanding creativity in addressing challenges that align with HCCC mission and reputation. His forward thinking approach has led to the development of innovative strategies that significantly enhance operational efficiency and effectiveness. By implementing creative solutions, Alex not only streamlines processes, but also elevates the quality of work across our department, resulting in a more impactful educational experience for students and staff alike. His ability to think outside the box and foster a culture of continuous improvement has made a noticeable difference in our college, demonstrating his commitment to the institution's success and growth.



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Hf1Hf Diversity Award

Cielo Cortez

I have witnessed Cielo's hard work and dedication since I started working here a year ago. She consistently helps all students, ensuring their issues are fully resolved. Personally, I have learned a lot from her; she supports us with an open heart, motivates me to do my best, and shares her extensive experience in the financial aid field .



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H1H Diversity Award

Clive Li

I am pleased to nominate Dr. Clive Li for the Innovation Award. Dr. Li's pioneering work in the STEM department has transformed the academic experience for our students, making research and discovery an integral part of their studies.

Recognizing the importance of hands-on experience, Dr. Li established an innovative scientific research program that not only encourages students to explore their fields but also provides them with the tools and mentorship to conduct meaningful research.

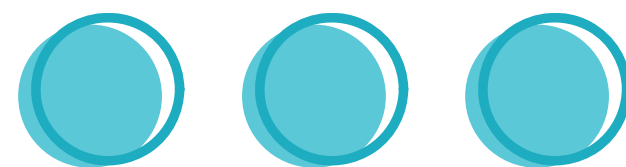


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Hf1Jf Innovation Award

Clive Li

Clive does his best to work with students on specific projects. He then takes the students on conferences to showcase the work that they are doing. He does his best to be collaborative as well with the projects.





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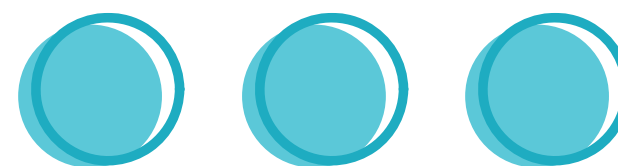
HIF Innovation Award

Elham (Ellie) Kamali

Elham Kamali is a wonderful coworker whose dedication and kindness make her truly special. Throughout difficult times, she has been a steadfast supporter of the ESL office, always ready to lend a helping hand. Her creativity in making the work environment cozy and welcoming, regardless of location, has brought warmth to the team. Elham's sense of humor adds a lightheartedness that lifts everyone's spirits, making even the toughest days easier. I am deeply thankful for her friendship and partnership—her hard work, laughter, and thoughtful presence have made a lasting impact, both professionally and personally.



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HCC Innovation Award

Jay Singh

I would like to nominate my Web Developer, Jay Singh, as he has been a tremendous help in creating new ideas, designs, components, templates, and workflows to help modernize and manage the HCCC public website as a whole. His ideas and new processes has made not only my work much easier, but for himself and for many content owners throughout the college. His innovations deserve to be recognized which brings more of a formal order to our daily workflows while being able to track various issues, providing solutions, and statistics in which all benefit the college as a whole.



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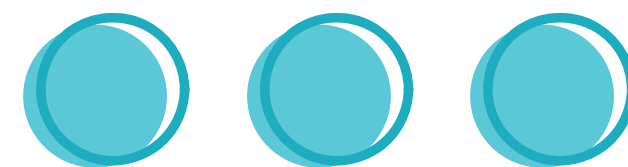
HIH Innovation Award

Kristofer Fontanez

Kris has been an incredible supervisor during my time here, even though it's been brief, I'm constantly impressed by the hard work he puts in and how gracefully he manages so many responsibilities with ease. Kristofer is someone who you can count on no matter what and his hardwork doesn't go unnoticed. Kristofer has consistently demonstrated outstanding creativity by developing innovative processes that address challenges aligned with HCCC's mission. His commitment to fostering an environment of creativity and collaboration exemplifies the spirit of this award, making them a deserving candidate for the HIH Innovation Award.



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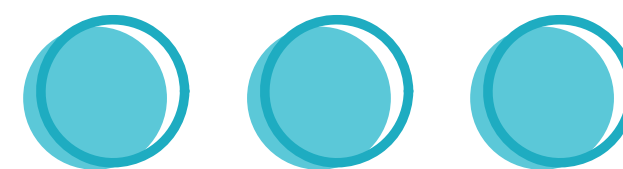
HfH Innovation Award

Sonja Rodiger-Radovic

Sonja has been actively engaging in professional development around Generative AI in teaching and learning, and is pioneering new teaching strategies to provide her students with experience using these tools ethically and appropriately, in the same way they will need to do so in their future careers. She is one of the first instructors at Hudson to create course-level guidance on the use of AI tools in her syllabi, and to build the use of GenAI tools into her curriculum. Congrats Sonja on being a true innovator and ensuring your students are developing crucial AI-literacy skills they will need to be successful in the future.



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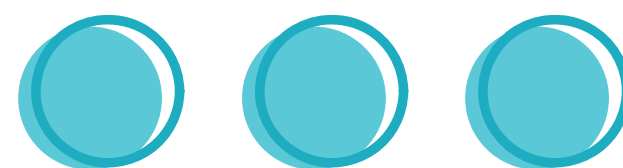


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🏡🏡🏡 New Team Member Award

Akansha Urmaliya

Over the past year, I have actively collaborated with the healthcare team (CEWD) on various projects, directly contributing to our team's objectives. My efforts in guiding students on resume building and interview preparation have not only enhanced their skills but also significantly increased their placement rates. Moving forward, I aim to further refine these resources and strategies to maximize student success and support the team's continued growth.



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🏡🏡🏡 New Team Member Award

Arnoush Abedian

Being a new part timer, she has demonstrated that she is a quick learner. She has shown that her skills and potential has surpassed all of our expectation. I am very grateful to have her as a team member.



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H1H New Team Member Award

Benedetto Youssef

Benny has been a great new employee at HCCC representing the mission, vision, and values of our institution in every committee he is a part of. Additionally, he is great at teaching English and writing courses.



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HfH New Team Member Award

Dr. Christopher Rivera

I would like to take this opportunity to commend Dr. Rivera, our new ESL/AFE Director, for his exceptional contributions since joining our team. He has consistently gone above and beyond to provide support to faculty, staff, and students alike.

Dr. Rivera's proactive approach and initiative in driving projects forward have been truly inspiring. His positive energy and clear vision have created an atmosphere of collaboration and motivation within the office. It's remarkable how his enthusiasm encourages everyone to align with his goals, fostering a sense of unity and purpose.

We are fortunate to have such a dedicated leader, and I look forward to witnessing the continued positive impact of his leadership.

Dr. Christopher Rivera has made a tremendous impact in a short time by showing genuine care for each team member and managing the office with a strong sense of belonging. His leadership style fosters inclusivity, making everyone feel valued and supported. He creates an environment where we not only feel motivated but also connected as a team, ensuring that both individual and collective success are prioritized. His presence has truly elevated the sense of unity in the workplace.



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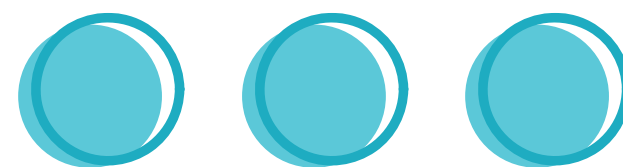
H1H New Team Member Award

Denisse Carrasco

The Gateway to Innovation team has worked tirelessly on the brink of grant closing and uncertainty about the next month of employment, forged ahead for student completion in short term credentialing programs and gainful employment. Due to a USDOL grant awarded the team has overcome the project lead away for maternity leave, returning from maternity leave, evaluating and adjusting the model for the program, and the sudden and tragic loss of their friend, colleague, and team leader. Through support from the entire CEWD team, focused attention on actions to keep the program thriving, employer focused engagement and events to support students success we are actively and continuously enrolling students and expanding the offerings of the program. The Gateway to Innovation team is resilient, focused, passionate, and determined to change student lives, the workforce ecosystem, and provide opportunities for generational change in the community.



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H1H New Team Member Award

Destiny Knowles

Destiny was a work study in spring 2024 and was offered a part time position within our office. She excelled then and continues to excel now. We love having her as part of the office team and look forward to working with her in the future.



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HIH New Team Member Award

Luisa Gomez

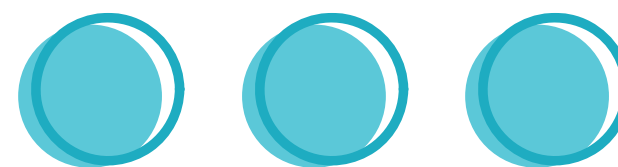
I would like to nominate The HIH New Team Member Award goes to Luisa Gomez, who has made a tremendous impact in the School of Humanities, particularly within the English and ESL departments. Since joining HCCC, Luisa has proven to be an outstanding asset, consistently demonstrating remarkable enthusiasm and energy.

Luisa is a fast learner, effortlessly adjusting to her new work environment while always giving her best effort. Her initiative and self-motivation shine through in everything she does, whether she's tackling new challenges or collaborating with colleagues. Her effective collegial interactions have made her a go-to person for support and ideas.

It's been a delight to work alongside Luisa. She brings not only innovative and useful ideas but also a positive spirit that uplifts the entire team. We are grateful for her contributions and excited to see how she will continue to grow and inspire those around her at HCCC!



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HfH New Team Member Award

Matthew Fessler

Matthew Fessler is fast becoming a key component of our team. In a short period of time, he displayed remarkable collaboration skills, collaborating seamlessly with everyone while instilling a sense of unity in the office. He is clearly devoted to the team's success, and we are tremendously lucky to have them on board.



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HHH New Team Member Award

Matthew Kolbusz

I would like to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation for Matthew's contributions to the ESL department since his arrival. He has been incredibly helpful, proactively meeting with every team member to gain a comprehensive understanding of our processes and needs. This initiative has made him an invaluable asset to our team.

Matthew's optimistic demeanor, infectious energy, and creativity have greatly enhanced our work environment. His ability to lighten the mood with humor while maintaining a strong work ethic makes him a pleasure to collaborate with. I am genuinely grateful for his support and dedication.

Thank you for fostering such a positive atmosphere that allows talented individuals like Matthew to thrive.



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HfHf New Team Member Award

Mike Byrne

Mike is great at writing newsletters and press releases. He attends many events and is a contributing member of the HCCC 50th anniversary planning committee. Without his input and guidance, many things would not get accomplished.



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H1H New Team Member Award

Ruth Abadie

Ruth has recently joined our CS team and immediately was a great help to our office in our time of need. She has taken on the role with much enthusiasm and a beautiful willingness to help the team and myself.



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🏡🏡 Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

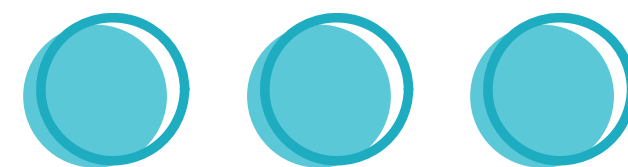
Academic Support Services

Kenny, Omnia, Carlos & Chris have been instrumental in making sure our ESL Resource Center is running smoothly and our ESL students get the attention and academic support they need. They have run two successful back to back ESL Resource Weeks at both campuses that have resulted in A LOT of positive feedback from our faculty. With so much students need to learn in a short period of time during their time in ESL, we are very confident that the students' experiences at the ESL Resource Center have become reference points for any/all support needed in our program and beyond. Kenny and Omnia have led coordination efforts and Chris & Carlos have joined forces in our execution of the onboarding experience. We are forever grateful for the ESL Resource Center (led and managed by Academic Support Services).

AMAZING teamwork between our departments!



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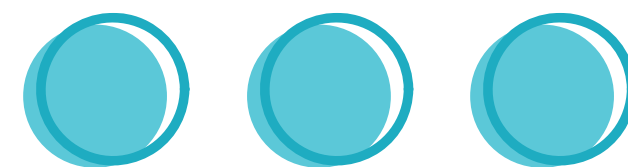
AFTNJ Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Support Staff Federation Officers

Since the newly elected team of Union officers from July 2023, we have been diligent to connect with the College's key leadership, who include President Reber, VP of HR - Anna Krupitskiy and VP of Enrollment - Lisa Dougherty. Along with our local 6026 chapter's AFTNJ representative, Richard Gomes, we brought priority concerns of our union members to the discussion table. Since then, we have seen the improvement for our union employees regarding more effective communication, work from home policy and performance evaluations. Our team of officers have been present and engaged in these conversations to make a difference in our union members work-life balance. They made the time to listen to their concerns and include it in the agenda to the labor management meetings for further discussion. I applaud each of their efforts, time, dedication and commitment to their role as representatives of the AFTNJ Local 6026 Union.



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Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Center for Online Learning

The Center for Online Learning team continues to collaborate with faculty across all Schools to scale online courses and programs, leading to steadily increasing online student enrollment. Simultaneously, COL continues to improve the online teaching and learning experience, leading to demonstrated impact on online students' grades. The COL team is fully integrated into college life; participating on committees, collaborating across departments, and supporting initiatives across the college.



Hudson Is Home

HIH Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Copy Room Team

HIH Collaboration and Team Achievement Award: recognizes superior performance by one or more HCCC offices, departments, committees, teams, working groups, units, or divisions in support of enhancing the College's mission, strategic plan, DEI plan, action plans, and priorities; collaboration and partnership with other offices and divisions, and units across the College; and promotes outstanding service and consistently engages in projects that are timely and within budget while promoting a productive, safe, and healthy work environment overall; and displays outstanding leadership qualities through collaboration and partnerships.



Hudson Is Home

HIH Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

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Hudson Is Home

Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

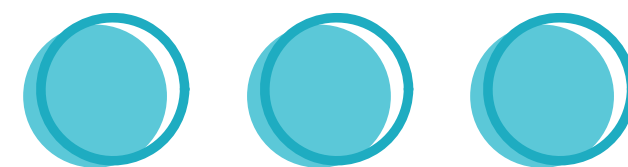
ITS Team

I would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for your outstanding support and dedication. Your expertise and tireless efforts in keeping our technology and internet systems running smoothly are essential to our daily work, and we are truly grateful.

Whether it's resolving technical issues, maintaining reliable internet access, or implementing new tools to enhance our teaching, you consistently provide exceptional service. Your quick responses, problem-solving skills, and willingness to assist at a moment's notice make all the difference in our ability to deliver quality education to our students.

We rely on technology more than ever, and their team's work ensures that our classes, communications, and operations proceed seamlessly. Their professionalism and dedication do not go unnoticed, and we deeply value the critical role they play in our success.

We are fortunate to have such a capable and committed group to count on, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration.



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Hudson Is Home

HIH Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Web and Portal Services

I am pleased to nominate Mr. Kristofer for the HIH Collaboration and Team Achievement Award, recognizing his outstanding leadership and contributions. Mr. Kristofer has demonstrated superior performance by effectively managing and guiding our team of work-study students. His mentorship has provided us with first-hand experience in web administration, a first in HCCC's history. He not only trained us on maintaining the back-end of the HCCC website but also fostered a collaborative and productive environment, improving operational efficiency. His ability to engage students in meaningful, hands-on projects exemplifies leadership aligned with HCCC's mission of innovation and student development.

In addition, his collaboration across departments, ensuring timely updates to the website, reflects his dedication to enhancing service while maintaining the College's strategic goals. Through his efforts, we have been able to contribute directly to the smooth operation of the website, promoting a healthy, innovative, and engaging work environment.

Thank you

Sonam



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Hudson Is Home

🏡 Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Student Life and Leadership

We care about the students we interact with everyday. We collaborate with all departments to execute events for the students, supporting staff and faculty as well. The students visit our department not only for club information, but they come for support as well. Student Life and Leadership is the social department that bring students together. ❤️



Hudson Is Home

ƆɹɹƆ Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Academic Support Services

Rose is a dedicated team member who is always willing to support students, faculty, and staff to the best of her abilities. Over the years, Rose has exhibited professionalism and an unwavering spirit of collaboration across departments at HCCC.

Rodrigo is a team player who actively supports his colleagues and students in achieving the goals of the academic support services department. He consistently goes the extra mile to create a collaborative environment, promoting open communication and teamwork.



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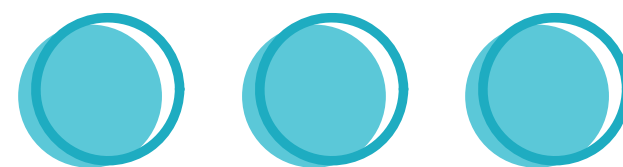
Hudson Is Home

Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

English

Tahrier Ahmad not only does well in collaboration and teamwork, but she also takes her compassion and concern to the next level by consistently preparing excellent food to serve us. Her generosity in offering prepared meals brings warmth and a feeling of community to our crew. It's simply another way she demonstrates how much she cares about her coworkers, making our workplace even more welcoming and pleasurable.

Karen Galli is not only an outstanding instructor, but also a wonderful coworker. She adds warmth and professionalism to all she does, always willing to offer a hand or share her knowledge. Her support extends beyond teaching; she really cares about her coworkers and is dedicated to make the entire department stronger.





Hudson Is Home

ƆɹɹƆ Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

North Hudson Team

The North Hudson Team works effectively together in collaborating with other departments and schools in effectively carrying out the mission of Hudson County Community College. The NH team truly cares about students and diligently works together to promote student success. Students come first. I can truly say that the North Hudson Team makes the North Hudson Campus Home to all students and employees.

The North Hudson Team works together as a team in promoting the mission of Hudson County Community College. The North Hudson Team is constantly collaborating with each other in making the North Hudson Campus a place where students feel at home and receive a quality education.



Hudson Is Home

HfHf Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Gateway to Innovation Grant Team

This hardworking team has been standing strong together for the past 2 years. Working with over 100+ noncredit students to support them while they are working towards their certificate in either the finance or technology industries. As well as assisting them with employment search assistance after completing their certificates.

The Gateway to Innovation Grant (GTI) team has been dedicated to serving healthcare and finance and technology continuing education students. The team has continued to persevere throughout the many unforeseen changes and delivered support to all enrolled students from the beginning of their career pathway, during the course of their program and thereafter.

The GTI team's work has also been recognized and awarded with additional grant funds to continue providing an opportunity to a finance & technology program for residents of the Hudson County Community to continue their education.



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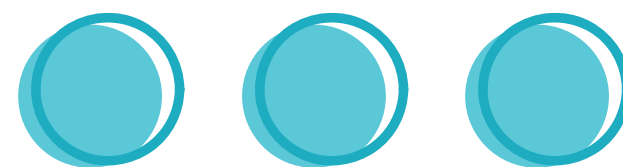
ଞଞଞଞ Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Communication

This office has been nothing but welcoming, accommodating and all around superb with me as I request their assistance with multiple flyers, posters and email blasts each week. I went to their office to thank them in person, but I wanted to publicly thank them as well. I truly appreciate them.

This office has been nothing but welcoming, accommodating and all around superb with me as I request their assistance with multiple flyers, posters and email blasts each week. I went to their office to thank them in person, but I wanted to publicly thank them as well. I truly appreciate them.

The Communications team is great and continues to do amazing things for the entire HCCC community. They are always there for us when we need flyers, programs, newsletters, emails, announcements, etc.





Hudson Is Home

🏡 Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

PACDEI Co-Chairs

Raffi and Diana have been a great and collaborative team since embarking on running PACDEI together. While they both are strong leaders on their own, as a team they set a great vision, and achieve extraordinary things. Raffi and Diana are both very dedicated to our DEI values, and inclusive of the individuals on the council. Together they both planned a highly successful and creative DEI Retreat this past summer, that was well attended and praised by faculty, staff, students, and community members alike. The Retreat was fresh, exciting, and meaningful. Together Raffi and Diana are establishing new goals for PACDEI, and allowing for input and leadership from council members. Most recently they led and planned an impressive number of events for Hispanic Heritage Month, culminating in their extremely impressive event featuring Trustee Chair Jeanette Pena telling her story. Raffi and Diana embody what it means for individuals to have unique, but complementary skills, and collaborate for extraordinary outcomes.



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🏡🏡 Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

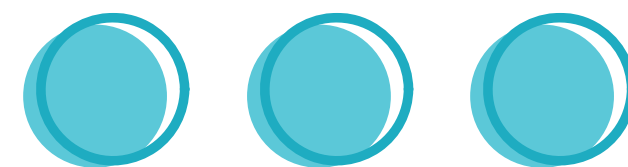
Financial Aid Office

This team deserves to be recognized because of the work they continue to do even under an extreme amount of stress from students and other factors. They are also all so great the journal square and the north hudson campus, together we help each other with completing tasks and assisting students

Financial aid teams partner with admissions, enrollment, advising, and academic departments to create a unified support system, integrating financial guidance throughout the student journey, from recruitment to graduation. Through teamwork, financial aid offices develop creative solutions to complex funding challenges, adapting to regulatory changes, optimizing aid packages, and maximizing resources for students.



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Hudson Is Home

HfHf Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

ACC Steering Committee

The team has worked hard leading the All College Council and has done its best to make sure that the shared governance model is showcased at HCCC. They made a presentation together at NISOD to represent how well the shared governance model works at HCCC.



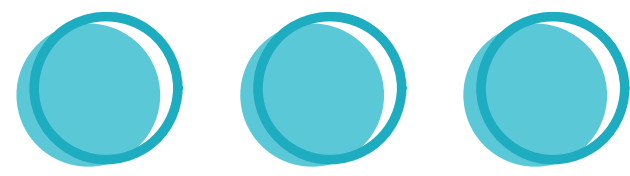


Hudson Is Home

H1H Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Hudson Best Program

The Hudson BEST program is a new program that showcase the finest Business students that HCCC has to offer. The students are provided mentors who help guide the students to transfer and career opportunities.



Hudson Is Home

Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Center for Adult Transition Access Team

This team has gathered together to help the community not only enhancing the numbers of the college but also by supporting students with giving them added confidence in their disabilities not letting them define them. I was part of HCCC as a student graduated 2023 and went to one of the job fairs where I found about ACCESS Program, I was there first every cycle and officially joined them November 1st. I see how hard this teams works for the students and with so much passion to fight for them.

The ACCESS Team has been doing a phenomenal job in servicing the most vulnerable population of Hudson County. These are the young adults ages 17-24 diagnosed with an intellectual or developmental disability. The program offers free (or very affordable tuition that includes laptop use, supplies, materials, lunch, and course materials. Their unique coursework program includes Life and Coping Skills, Work Readiness Skills, and Digital Literacy. Moreover, the Team works hard in offering 1:1 Person-Centered Planning Sessions, Career Exploration, Community Linkages, and Academic and Workforce Pathway. Additionally, the Team brings students to community events and engagements, and a 90-day post-program support services. Several of their completers had enrolled in credit courses in HCCC which makes it more commendable! That's the result made possible by this hardworking TEAM. Their collaboration and commitment to make this program a super success is impeccable!

I am pleased and honored to nominate TEAM CAT-ACCESS for this category as they are truly inspiring and rewarding to the students and community alike.



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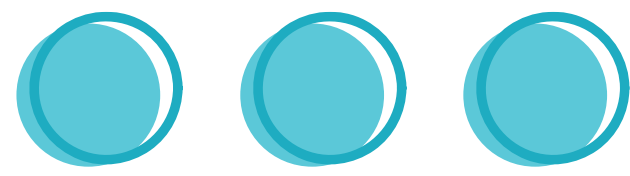
Hudson Is Home

Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

EOF Program

The EOF program is a great program that is revered and admired throughout our institution and the state. It currently has an 88% retention rate and continues to expand its program at both the JSQ and NHC campuses.





Hudson Is Home

HIH Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

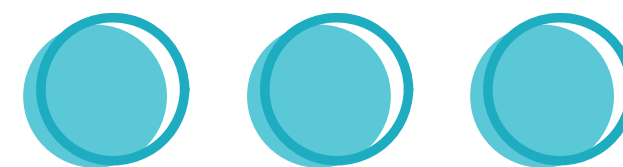
E-Board Officers of PTK Honor Society

Marolla Youakim, in her role as PTK's Vice President of Scholarship, consistently demonstrates a high level of dedication to HCCC's mission. Her leadership in preparing for the PTK induction ceremony showcased her commitment to ensuring event success while supporting her team every step of the way.

Marolla's dedication as PTK's VP Scholarship shines through her meticulous preparation of the script and PowerPoint for yesterday's PTK induction ceremony, going above and beyond to ensure a memorable event. When unexpected issues arose during the ceremony, she acted swiftly and effectively, demonstrating her commitment and resourcefulness under pressure. Her professional appearance, proudly displaying her PTK pins, further reflected her deep pride and investment in her role, inspiring all who attended.

Marolla's proactive approach and dedication make her an outstanding candidate for the HIH collaboration award.

As I was inducted yesterday, Marolla took the time to guide us through every detail before the ceremony began. She explained each step and provided reassurance, which made us feel well-prepared and confident. Marolla's polished appearance, proudly displaying her PTK pins was very motivating to me and to my fellows, making her a truly deserving candidate for the HIH HIH Collaboration and Team Achievement Award and also for Inspirational Leadership Award.





Hudson Is Home

HfHf Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Daisy Baiza and Ronny Canales

These individuals are the ones who help keep the School of STEM running. They go above and beyond and do whatever is necessary for all the faculty and staff in the School of STEM. They always do everything with such joy and always are available just to help and listen.





Hudson Is Home

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Hudson Is Home

🏡🏡 Collaboration and Team Achievement Award

Admission/Testing Offices

I'm immensely proud of our Admissions and Testing teams, whose unwavering dedication and hard work truly merit recognition. Their commitment to supporting students shines through in every interaction, as they consistently deliver outstanding customer service, foster collaboration with other departments, and champion DEI initiatives that reduce barriers and tackle enrollment challenges. Every effort they make reflects their passion to continually enhance services for our students and community.

The Admissions and Testing teams know that this work extends far beyond their own office, and their eagerness to partner with Academic Schools, committees, task forces, and others to develop impactful policies and processes is truly inspiring. Their teamwork—whether it's collaborating internally with Financial Aid or Advising to ensure students navigate the enrollment process smoothly, working externally with high schools and community partners, or leading initiatives like the CONNECT and Restart Scholars programs, Teen Magazine and Hudson Es Tu Casa events, open houses, or developing and implementing procedural and system updates, such as enhancements to student placement—is unparalleled. They're always prepared to go the extra mile.

Their dedication has led to significant success, with enrollment steadily rising since the pandemic. And each team member would tell you that their work is far from over—they're ready to support the next student in line. Admissions and Testing, you are exceptional—thank you for all that you do!



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Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Annie Barran

Professor Annie Barran is a dedicated Nursing educator who excels in creating a nurturing and inclusive learning environment for her students. She combines practical clinical experience with innovative teaching techniques to ensure that nursing concepts are clear and applicable to real-world healthcare settings. Professor Barran goes beyond her role as an instructor by offering mentorship and personal guidance, helping students navigate both academic challenges and career development. Her commitment to fostering compassionate, skilled nurses makes her an invaluable asset to the nursing program and the broader healthcare community.



Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Azhar Mahmood

Dr. Mahmood is an outstanding professor whose passion for teaching and dedication to his students set him apart as an exceptional educator. With a unique ability to engage students and foster an inclusive classroom environment, Dr. Mahmood encourages open dialogue and critical thinking, ensuring that every voice is heard. His innovative teaching methods, which often incorporate real-world applications and interactive learning experiences, inspire students to explore complex concepts with enthusiasm. Beyond his impressive academic credentials, Dr. Mahmood is known for his unwavering support and mentorship, guiding students through challenges and celebrating their successes. His commitment to their growth and development truly embodies the essence of a great educator, making him a deserving nominee for this event.

Dr. Mahmood is an exceptional Chemistry professor who is deeply committed to student success and academic excellence. His approach combines a thorough understanding of complex chemical concepts with clear, accessible teaching methods, making challenging material easier for students to grasp. As an academic coach working alongside him, I have witnessed his dedication to individualized support, always going the extra mile to ensure students excel. His passion for chemistry, paired with his commitment to student growth, makes him a highly influential educator in both the classroom and the wider academic community.



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Hudson Is Home

HIH Outstanding Teaching Award

Carrie Rong Xiao

I am very pleased to nominate Professor Carrie Rong Xiao for the HIH Outstanding Teaching Award. Professor Xiao is a passionate and caring professor who goes above and beyond to ensure her students understand accounting. Many of us, including students who have previously taken accounting courses, agree that Professor Xiao's teaching approach is very effective. Personally, I found her explanations clearer and more engaging, making complex topics accessible and even enjoyable. I look forward to taking more classes with her. Beyond the classroom, Professor Xiao works actively to connect us with internship, scholarship, and transfer opportunities, demonstrating her commitment to our success both academically and professionally. Her dedication truly makes a difference in our academic journeys.

It is an honor to nominate Prof. Carrie Rong Xiao for the Outstanding Teaching Award.

Professor Xiao is such a great professor! She is always there to support us, explain things clearly, and make even the hardest stuff interesting. I can't wait to take more of her classes! She's super caring, too. We have a classmate with a hearing disability, and Professor Xiao is always patient and works with her and the sign language interpreter. Plus, she's researching ways to help community college students succeed. That's so cool!

To help us out even more, she spent her time connecting us with New Jersey CPAs to learn about scholarships and job opportunities. She set up a date to bring the Dean and professors from Saint Peter's to talk about transfer opportunities. With her help, accounting students will soon smoothly transfer to a program, prepare to sit for CPA exams, and start a career in accounting.



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I find it inspiring to have Prof. Carrie Rong Xiao, who understands her students and works actively to support them all the way. Professor Xiao's teaching style works well. She explains things in a way that's easy for us to understand and makes tough topics way more interesting. I'm actually looking forward to taking more classes with her. She is a caring professor. For example, we have a student with a hearing impairment in the classroom. She works patiently with that student and sign language interpreter. Also, I learned she is researching how to foster student success in community college. To support us even more, Prof. Xiao introduces students to the NJCPA (New Jersey Society of CPAs) to explore the accounting field and learn about new opportunities. She also brings in the Dean and professors from Saint Peter's University to discuss transfer options with us. It feels like she's building a bridge to help us move forward. Prof. Carrie Rong Xiao is an outstanding professor who cares about every single one of her students.



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Hudson Is Home

HIH Outstanding Teaching Award

Carrie Rong Xiao

I nominate professor Rong Xiao for 2024 HIH Outstanding Teaching Award. I was very saddened to hear that my professor did not win the nomination last year. Professor Xiao is truly outstanding not only did I have her, but my brother had her as well. We both enjoyed class with her, one of the most understanding and helpful teachers in the building. My brother now is in Montclair and still states he wishes every professor is like Xiao. She has always been there for her students. She is kind and respectful to the rules of Hudson County Community College. She respects diversity and maintains a healthy and safe place for her students. I know that my professor 100% deserves the award because of her outstanding effort to be a wonderful professor to all of her students. She explains accounting in a very easy way she motivates her students to be better. She puts so much confidence in us, and helps us through every second we have with her in class. I am so lucky to have her as my professor, and she will always be my number one professor. She truly deserves this award please make it happen. I always use it out myself and my abilities, but after taking class with Professor Xiao now I believe in myself thank you to my professor Rong Xiao.

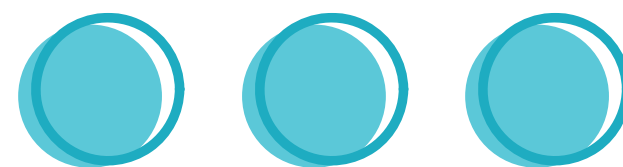


Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Claudia Delgado

Amazing at teaching. Breaks hard concepts down into easy to understand concepts. She is the example of how all professors should be. She organizes her lectures very good. She takes her time talking and provides many examples. She ensures her students understand the material she teaches. She is patient. Thank you Professor, truly.



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Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Courtney Payne

Chef Payne is talented, patient, and goes above and beyond as a teacher. She inspires my classmates and I to keep learning and do better. She is a role model. She guides us whenever we need. The extra time she puts into being there for the students and school deserves to be recognized.



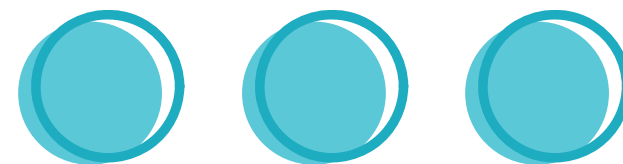
Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Elana Winslow

Elana is a professor who treats each student as a person, not just another number; she does not only know her material well but knows how to teach it; Elana understands students' needs and does all that she can in meeting their academic needs. Most importantly, Elana has the passion to teach and does all she can to help her students succeed. She is the model professor.

Elana works tirelessly for her students; she also is a teacher of new faculty, like myself, always open to phonecalls, emails, and texts for any and all questions that newer faculty may have. Moreover, her dedication to her students is apparent by all of the hard work that she puts in, day in and day out!





Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Eric Adamson

This individual deserves to be recognized because of the way they teach and help students. He makes learning fun. He is always caring and understanding to his students. He takes his time to explain and give insight. He is thoughtful and makes learning fun and worth it. Great professors always leave impacts on students.



Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Eva Kozlenko

Eva is a passionate professor who always goes the extra mile to help her students. She is the Level IV ESL Coordinator and is always willing to provide the people she supervises with techniques and tools to be successful. She truly cares about her student's well-being.

Eva is an excellent instructor and Level 4 coordinator who cares for her students and colleagues. She has created innovative programs that are geared for student success and participates in school wide initiatives.



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Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Fatma Tat

I am writing to nominate Professor Fatma Tat for the Outstanding Teaching Award. As a dedicated member of the Chemistry faculty, Professor Tat exemplifies exceptional teaching practices that inspire and engage students in their learning journey. Professor Tat's commitment to fostering a dynamic classroom environment is evident in her innovative teaching methods. She consistently incorporates real-world applications of chemistry into her curriculum, making complex concepts accessible and relatable. Her enthusiasm for the subject matter is contagious, motivating students to explore and appreciate the beauty of chemistry.

In addition to her engaging lectures, Professor Tat provides invaluable support to her students. She is always available for guidance, encouraging students to ask questions and seek help outside of class hours. Her approachable nature and willingness to mentor students contribute significantly to their academic success and personal growth. Furthermore, Professor Tat actively promotes collaborative learning through group projects and hands-on experiments. She creates opportunities for students to work together, fostering teamwork and communication skills that are essential for their future careers.

Professor Tat's dedication to teaching extends beyond the classroom. She regularly participates in professional development workshops to enhance her teaching strategies and stay current with advancements in the field of chemistry education. Her continuous pursuit of excellence reflects her passion for teaching and her commitment to student success. For these reasons, I believe that Professor Fatma Tat deserves the Outstanding Teaching Award. Her exceptional contributions to our department and her unwavering dedication to her students make her a truly deserving candidate.



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Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Professor Raza

Best teacher and help students even after class or before the class starts always on time teaching is an art One should be qualified but how to make someone understand at any level that counts a lot.



Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Issam Elachkar

This is the best professor I Have ever had in all my entire student career, he is always there to help you to understand, he never regret you when you are backed up in the class, he finds solutions for any situation related with his students, he explains the courses in an excellent and understable way, this professor deserve more than an Award to me. The thing is that when he is on class, he is more than a professor, he is a friend, he is a father, he is a brother. And I have a lot more to say but If I can make something to recognize him I would do it 1000x...



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Hudson Is Home

Outstanding Teaching Award

Dr. Jihan Nakhla

I am writing to nominate Dr. Jihan Nakhla for the Professor of the Year award. As a dedicated educator and an inspiring mentor, Dr. Nakhla has made a profound impact on her students and the academic community.

Dr. Nakhla's teaching style is both engaging and innovative. She employs a variety of teaching methods that cater to diverse learning styles, fostering an inclusive environment where all students feel valued. Her enthusiasm for the subject matter ignites curiosity and encourages students to explore beyond the curriculum.

Moreover, Dr. Nakhla's commitment to her students extends beyond the classroom. She takes the time to provide personalized guidance, helping students navigate academic challenges and achieve their goals.

Dr. Jihan Nakhla is a passionate Medical Assistance professor who prioritizes hands-on learning and student engagement in every aspect of her teaching. She blends her in-depth medical expertise with real-world examples, allowing students to gain practical skills that are crucial for their future careers. Dr. Nakhla is deeply committed to her students' overall development, offering personalized guidance that empowers them to overcome academic challenges and excel professionally. Her dedication to shaping skilled, confident medical assistants ensures that her students are well-prepared to make meaningful contributions to the healthcare field.



Hudson Is Home

Outstanding Teaching Award

Dr. Jihan Nakhla

They deserve to be recognized for their accomplishments and achievements and their experiences of teaching students of the medical assistance program. And absolutely encouragement for their efforts that is a great achievement for their community of the college

Dr. Jihan Nakhla is an excellent professor, She always goes the extra mile to assist students. Encourages students in every aspect of education, careers and life. Is available for extra help even if it is not the time of office hours. She deserves to be nominated for this award because she is an asset to Hudson County Community College.

because she is an outstanding teacher and very patient with students takes her time and has a lot of office hours she sits with everyone and explain it until the class understands also makes her class very fun so that each student looks forward to attending it 2 times a week

She is an amazing teacher and truly cares for her students. She goes above and beyond to make sure her students are becoming the best they can be. Her methods of teaching always change depending on how her students learn.

Because she is nice and understanding. She wants us to be very knowledgeable with what we do and say. She is very strict on us to help in the long run. She wants us to succeed in our perspective field.



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Outstanding Teaching Award

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Because she is nice and understanding. She wants us to be very knowledgeable with what we do and say. She is very strict on us to help in the long run. She wants us to succeed in our perspective field.

She is the right person that this community needs to recognize, where she inspires her students with exceptional teachings, patience and above all, what she does, she does it with a lot of passion. She truly loves what she does and that should be recognized.



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Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Kade Thurman

She makes everything make sense she teaches in a way you understand. She always makes sure that we understand and if we don't she makes herself available so she can discuss with us. The most important thing is she is very active with us and allows us to participate without judgement. She definitely deserves to be recognized for excellent teachings at HCCC.



Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Karen Galli

Karen Galli is a remarkable English professor whose warm and approachable presence makes her an exceptional colleague. Her genuine kindness, collaborative spirit, and willingness to support others create a positive and welcoming atmosphere in the workplace. Karen's professionalism and expertise are matched by her thoughtfulness, making her a valued member of the team and a pleasure to work alongside.



Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Mohan Khoukhi

He truly cares that the students understand and learn the material he is teaching. If he has to he will explain over and over until it is understood. He sends emails reminding students to do their homework. I learned a lot in his class.



Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Monika Chappilliquen

Monika is a passionate professor who is observant, attentive, empathetic, and always has a positive attitude. She always invests the time into understanding each student and how their strengths can make a big difference in their learning. Monika is very caring and understands what is needed to be an outstanding professor. I have heard many students say that Monika truly cares about their success and well-being. Kudos to you, Monika.



Hudson Is Home

H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Peter Cronrath

Professor Cronrath is a hardworking, innovative, and dynamic educator. He has transformed our online Economics courses into high level, high tech learning experiences for the students. He has an excellent rapport with his students, utilizing humor and real world examples to connect and engage. Professor Cronrath has been collaborating with me on the HCCC BEST program, and has been meticulous with his attention to detail, high level of innovation, and adaption of technology for the program. He is very committed to assessment, ensuring that our courses meet high standards and our students are receiving an excellent foundation in their business studies. Professor Cronrath has worked on out of the classroom initiatives with our students such as the Goldman Sachs College Collaborative, Mission 50 Pitch Competition, and the Bloomberg Challenge. Our students are fortunate to have his subject matter expertise infused into the variety of courses that he teaches.



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H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Rafaella Pernice

The best A&P teacher that the college has. Dr. Pernice is helpful and organized and delivers the information and content in such an understandable way that all her students praise her and how good she is.



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H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Raffi Manjikian

Professor Raffi is an outstanding educator known for his innovative teaching methods, passion for student success, and commitment to inclusivity. He consistently creates engaging, supportive learning environments that cater to diverse learning styles, making complex subjects accessible to all students. Beyond the classroom, he provides invaluable mentorship, offering guidance on both academic and career development. His dedication to education extends to community outreach, where he promotes STEM education among underserved populations, further demonstrating his impact.



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H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Saliha Yagoubi

Saliha is an excellent ESL instructor and goes above and beyond for her students and in the classroom. She also is extremely dedicated to HCCC and has presented at many different conferences across the world.



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H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Salim Bendaoud

I am excited to nominate Dr. Bendaoud for this award. He is an outstanding teacher who always thinks about student success. He finds great ways to help us learn and grow, creating a positive classroom environment. Dr. Bendaoud's dedication makes a big difference in our lives and inspires us to do our best.



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H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Sebastian Pieciak

Professor Pieciak goes above and beyond in the classroom, often turning himself to mentoring students. And when he doesn't have the answers for how to advise a student he will send them to the person who does. I know this because he has referred several students to me to discuss the History program. Taking an interest in these students demonstrates his commitment to student success.



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H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Shannonine Caruana

Shannonine is an excellent professor. She has the passion for always doing her best to help her students be successful. She is always available to assist her students even if it is not part of her work hours. Shannnone is a model professor and deserves to be recognized for all she does in promoting student success.



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HIH Outstanding Teaching Award

Sovi Pujols

I would like to nominate Professor Sovi Pujols for the HIH Outstanding Teaching Award.

In her ENG 102 classroom, Sovi introduced 'erasure poetry' as a unique way to help students engage critically with texts. By carefully selecting words from existing texts to create new pieces, students practiced distilling meaning, identifying key themes, and finding personal connections to the material. This method encouraged creative interpretation, reduced writing anxiety, and deepened their understanding of literary techniques.

Sovi reported that the student feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Many expressed that the exercise gave them a fresh perspective on reading and analyzing texts; others appreciated the freedom of expression and the collaborative aspects of sharing their poems. Through this activity, Sovi witnessed increased student confidence and a newfound enthusiasm for composition, confirming the impact of this innovative approach.



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H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Tanya Gilliam

Professor Gilliam is clearly here for her students. She goes above and beyond to teach and encourage us. I truly enjoy learning from her. She is one of the best teachers that I have ever had. Professor Gilliam makes learning fun while at the same time making sure we learn something in every class.





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H1H Outstanding Teaching Award

Theodore Lai

I am nominating Professor Lai for this award because he is so helpful and supportive not only in teaching but also in keeping us on the right track. He is a good role model to learn from his 28 years of leadership in the PTK. He keeps sending us emails about the scholarships trying to help each student. He is the best fit for this award.



Hudson Is Home

HIH Outstanding Teaching Award

Yavuz Birol Guner

I would like to nominate Yavuz Guner for HIH recognition for his outstanding contributions as an instructor in cyber security. Yavuz consistently puts his students first, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to their success and well-being. His ability to simplify complex concepts and engage students in meaningful discussions fosters a supportive learning environment. Yavuz's dedication to staying current with industry trends ensures that his students receive relevant, practical knowledge, equipping them with the skills necessary to excel in their careers. His passion for teaching and genuine care for his students make him a deserving candidate for this recognition.

I am pleased to nominate Professor Yavuz Guner for the HIH Outstanding Teaching Award. As a great educator in Cyber Security, he demonstrates excellence through innovative teaching and dedicated mentorship. Given his commitment to student success and community engagement, I believe he deserves this recognition. Thank you for considering this nomination.

I'm committed to creating a dynamic, supportive, and inclusive learning environment in computer science and cybersecurity. I use hands-on projects, real-world scenarios, and emerging tech to make lessons engaging and relevant. I also focus on personalized mentorship, particularly for women in cybersecurity and high school students earning early college credits. My approach aims to develop students' technical skills, critical thinking, and confidence, helping them succeed academically and professionally.



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Hf1Hf Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

Albert Velazquez

Albert has made a direct, positive impact on Information Technology Services since joining HCCC. He is curious, intelligent, and dedicated to solving problems. He is particularly attentive to solving student technology issues in a timely manner. Albert asks pointed questions about processes to improve them for all. Albert embodies the HCCC mission in ITS, and helps us all to improve.

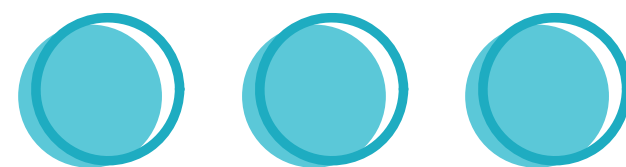


Hudson Is Home

HfHf Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

Daniel Kelly

Professor Kelly goes above and beyond every semester to deliver high quality history education. While here as an adjunct, he has completed both his PhD in history and his Masters in Library Sciences. He is focused on student success and lifelong learning. Hudson is lucky to have him!



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H1H Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

Dany Tunque

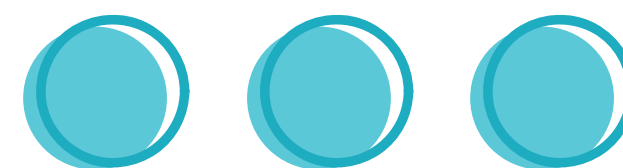
I am writing to highly recommend Professor Tunque Dany, who has been an exemplary educator and mentor at Hudson County Community College since 2013. Over the past decade, Professor Tunque has dedicated himself to helping English Language Learners navigate their academic challenges while also serving as a middle school mathematics teacher. His dual role in both public and higher education highlights his deep commitment to empowering students of all backgrounds and academic levels. Professor Tunque's impact extends far beyond the classroom. For over 19 years, he has run after-school programs, including the Scientific Research Club and the Coding Club, at Title 1 schools in Jersey City and Union City. These programs provide invaluable opportunities for students who may not otherwise have access to such resources, fostering a love for science, technology, and research in underserved communities. Most recently, his middle school Coding Club was entered into NASA's App Development Challenge for 2025, a prestigious opportunity where students can apply their coding skills in an exciting real-world competition. Professor Tunque has gone beyond supporting his students, offering after-school help, and seeking external guidance. He found me and requested mentorship of NASA project, and I gladly accepted.

At the public-school level, Professor Tunque consistently makes himself available for his students. He consistently offers extra help during lunch breaks and after school, ensuring that each student receives the personal support they need. His college students at Hudson County Community College also benefit from his dedication as they work toward achieving their academic goals. Professor Tunque's journey has not been without challenges. For example, during an evaluation by his coordinator, he quickly took control of a situation in which a pregnant student nearly went into labor, prioritizing her safety and well-being. Beyond such events, he consistently meets with current and former students before and after class, helping them with questions and supporting their transition into higher levels of writing and grammar. His unwavering support builds a community where students feel safe to learn and seek help.

Throughout his career, Professor Tunque has shown remarkable passion, patience, and a tireless work ethic. His ability to inspire and guide students, no matter their age or level, is truly commendable. I have no doubt that he will continue to positively influence many more students in the years to come.



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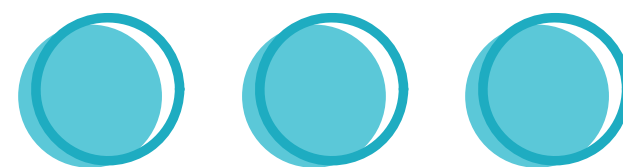
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HfHf Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

Diana Galvez

In addition to Diana's role as the new Associate Director of the North Hudson Campus, Diana teaches CSS. Diana is doing an outstanding job in her new role, but she also does an excellent job teaching CSS. She is a very caring instructor who is always to meet students where they are in helping them be successful. I am very proud of Diana, as she truly cares about each student she comes in contact with.



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H1H Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

John D. Lin

He has been the most creative professor I have ever encountered in my academic journey. Professor John Lin has been a breath of fresh air in the academic sphere. He has been an inspiration and has taken the time to truly connect with his students. I would whole heartedly recommend him for this award.

It has been both a privilege and a joy to teach online Public Speaking and Speech Communication at Hudson County Community College for the past two years. My journey in education has been profoundly shaped by my own experiences, particularly my struggles with mental health during my time as a college student. After dropping out, I persevered and ultimately became a college professor. By sharing my vulnerabilities with my students, I have created an environment where they feel empowered to confront their own fears and aspirations.

This openness has inspired my students, leading to more poignant and powerful speeches that resonate on a personal level. Many have bravely shared their own mental health challenges, fostering a supportive community. Their courage motivated me to apply for my first TEDx talk, aiming to break the stigma surrounding mental illness among college students. I am proud to share that my talk, delivered this past April, is now in the top 1% of all TEDx talks in terms of engagement and inspiration.

From day one, I strive to be humble and transparent about my journey—from community college to my current role as an educator. I teach an evening class from 6 to 9:30 PM, and often keep the Zoom meeting open afterward because students want to keep connecting and bonding. This has cultivated a close-knit atmosphere where diversity in age, major, and ethnicity thrives. I take great pride in creating a safe space that empowers all of us to become stronger and more resilient communicators.

Having traveled to 124 countries and navigated my own mental health challenges, I leverage my experiences to uplift and inspire my students. If necessary, I am confident that both my former and current students would be willing to share their experiences and growth as part of this nomination. In previous institutions, I was honored by the National Communication Association for Exemplary Teaching and named Professor of the Year at St. John's University.

It brings me immense pride to be part of Hudson County Community College, and I remain dedicated to bringing out the best in all of us, just as my students do for me. Thank you so much for considering my nomination.



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H1H Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

John D. Lin

I am pleased to nominate Professor John D. Lin for this award. Throughout my Eng-112 course, I have been consistently impressed by Professor Lin's unwavering dedication to helping his students reach their full potential. His genuine passion for teaching shines through in every interaction, even in the remote learning environment we have been navigating.

What sets Professor Lin apart is his remarkable ability to foster a supportive and understanding atmosphere. He takes the time to understand each student's unique challenges and aspirations, offering guidance in such a unique and insightful way. His commitment to our success is evident, and he goes above and beyond to ensure that we feel and supported.

Despite the distance of our remote classes, Professor Lin's engaging and witty approach has made a significant impact on our learning experience from day 1. He skillfully incorporates humor and relatability into his teaching, making complex concepts more accessible and enjoyable. In a time when connection can feel limited, Professor Lin has managed to create inclusive and dynamic learning environment that inspires us to strive for excellent and builds our confidence in our abilities. His passion for teaching and dedication to his students are truly commendable, and I believe he is exceptionally deserving of this recognition.



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H1H Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

Lawrence Lichtenfeld

Prof. Lichtenfeld specializes in teaching Technical Writing. He uses a wide variety of current cultural insights to connect to students. While he teaches online classes, he takes extra consideration for the use of live lecture WebEx meetings. He engages the students in breakout groups, peer review and lively discussions.



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HfHf Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

Lilisa Williams

Professor Williams is a highly regarded member of our faculty, by both her colleagues and students. Professor Williams is always willing to teach in each and every modality, and enjoys delving into different subject areas to teach. She is a passionate and enthusiastic adjunct faculty member, seamlessly relating her career experience to the course material. Professor Williams goes above and beyond for her students, serving as a professional mentor for the HCCC BEST program, overseeing students for their poster presentation as part of a Learning Community Cohort, participating in on-campus events such a Women in Business, as well as many other initiatives. Professor Williams always has a smile on her face and truly teaches with joy. She is well deserving of recognition.



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HfHf Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

Meredith Gibson

Meredith was awarded a scholar award to join a cohort of 15 adjunct faculty in an Overseas Faculty Development Seminar in Mexico City, Puebla, and Tosepan, Mexico where she studied Indigenous art, language, and culture. This competitive award, sponsored by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers and the Americas Research Network, supports community colleges and minority-serving institutions, help faculty and administrators gain the requisite first-hand experience needed to improve courses connecting international issues with domestic concerns, thereby underscoring global interconnections through the creation of new and innovative curricular and teaching materials. Meredith will create a story map depicting Mexican Indigenous culture and traditions that will help inform the Culture, Diversity, and Healthcare course in the School of Nursing and Health Professions.



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H1H Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

Nancy Lasek

She is the president of the Adjunct Faculty Federation and she does her best to make sure that all the adjuncts are treated fairly and with respect. She also makes sure that the adjunct contract is negotiated properly.



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Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award

Nas Ennasraoui

I am writing to nominate Professor Nas Ennasraoui for the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award. As an adjunct instructor in 2D and 3D CAD design engineering courses, Professor Ennasraoui has made a remarkable impact on our students and the overall learning environment. Professor Ennasraoui's passion for design engineering is evident in his teaching. He not only covers the technical aspects of CAD design but also emphasizes the importance of creativity and innovation. His ability to connect theoretical knowledge with practical applications enhances student understanding and engagement.

One of the standout aspects of Professor Ennasraoui's teaching is his dedication to hands-on learning. He actively assists students with 3D printing projects, providing guidance and support throughout the design and printing process. His approachable demeanor encourages students to seek help and ask questions, creating a supportive atmosphere that fosters learning.

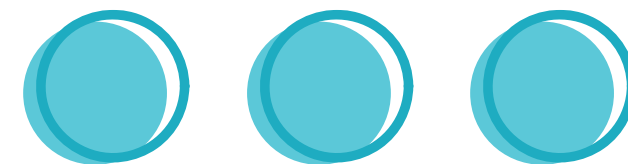
Additionally, Professor Ennasraoui collaborates with students on various projects, allowing them to apply their skills in real-world scenarios. This mentorship not only boosts their confidence but also prepares them for future careers in design engineering. Many students have expressed gratitude for his guidance, citing their improved skills and knowledge as a direct result of his support.

Beyond the classroom, Professor Ennasraoui is committed to professional development. He stays current with advancements in CAD technology and incorporates the latest tools and techniques into his curriculum, ensuring that students are well-prepared for the evolving industry.

For these reasons, I strongly believe that Professor Nas Ennasraoui deserves the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award. His dedication to teaching and his commitment to student success truly set him apart as an exceptional educator.



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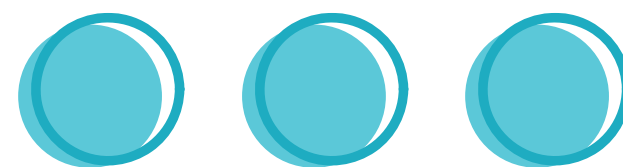


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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Awa Gueye

Awa Gueye first joined our team in 2021 as a work study student. She was shy and not very expressive when she began. However, as she became more comfortable with our workplace and trusted our staff and faculty, she has blossomed into a confident young woman. In a busy work environment, she has always remained calm to answer questions from students, staff and faculty. She continues to support us as she pursues her degree in business at Rutgers Business School. She is mentoring our work study students and generously offering her knowledge and expertise towards their development as a professional. With her continued hard work, pleasant and professional demeanor, I know she will continue to promote success for herself and those around her.





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HIH Part-Time Spotlight Award

Darshaine Ramdat

I nominate Darshaine for the both the HIH Student Employee Award and HIH Part-time Spotlight Award. As a co-worker of Darshaine in my capacity as her supervisor, I have had the pleasure of witnessing firsthand her impressive capabilities, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to excellence.

Darshaine has consistently displayed an extraordinary ability to balance her academic responsibilities while excelling in their role as a Part Time Office Assistant for the Radiography Program.

She joined our department in the Fall 2023 Semester as a FWS Student. Immediately, her strong work ethic and dedication to both her studies and job were commendable. It is rare to find someone who can maintain such a high level of performance in both areas simultaneously. Her academic achievements speak volumes about her ability to manage time effectively and prioritize tasks efficiently. She achieved her Pre-Nursing Associates Degree at H.C.C.C this past Summer II Semester!

What sets Darshaine apart is not only her remarkable attendance, enthusiasm and energy but also their initiative and self-motivation. She approaches every task with a positive attitude and a determination to succeed, which is contagious to those around her. Darshaine thrives in collaborative environments and demonstrates effective collegial interactions, particularly when faced with new or challenging tasks. This trait not only fosters a supportive atmosphere among colleagues but also leads to the development of innovative and useful ideas that they eagerly share with others. In conclusion, I am thrilled she transitioned from FWSS to a Part-Time Employee and proves daily to be a valuable asset to our team!



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Destiny Knowles

Destiny was a work study in spring 2024 and was offered a part time position within our office. She excelled then and continues to excel now. We love having her as part of the office team and look forward to working with her in the future.



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HIH Part-Time Spotlight Award

Diego Gonzalez

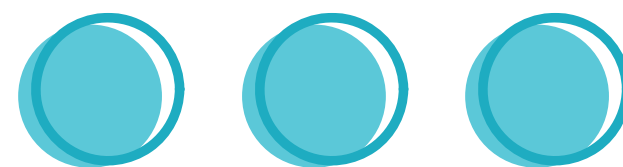
Diego Gonzalez is a dedicated and hardworking PT for English and ESL, whose commitment to excellence is evident in everything he does. His passion for teaching and helping students succeed shines through in his meticulous approach and his ability to connect with learners of all backgrounds. Diego's tireless efforts to provide quality instruction and his attention to detail make him a standout in his field. His work not only enhances the learning experience but also contributes greatly to the success of the English and ESL programs.

Diego Gonzalez is an outstanding choice for the HIH Part-time Spotlight Award! Over the past two years, he hasn't just met expectations; he's consistently exceeded them in remarkable ways. His infectious enthusiasm and energy can brighten any room, motivating everyone around him to elevate their efforts.

Diego's initiative and self-motivation shine through in all his endeavors, whether he's tackling a challenging project or simply offering a helping hand to a colleague. He has a unique ability to transform daunting tasks into collaborative adventures, and his friendly demeanor makes him the go-to person for support, whether during events or day-to-day interactions.

When it comes to events, Diego is like a Swiss Army knife of volunteering—always ready to jump in and share his time and talents to ensure success. His innovative ideas and unwavering dedication have truly made a positive impact on our college community.

Throughout his time here, Diego has blossomed into an even more remarkable individual, growing in both his professional capabilities and personal development. His commitment to excellence is genuinely inspiring, and we can't wait to see how he continues to shine. We're fortunate to have him on our team!



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Eva Quezada

Eva Quezada first joined my team in 2023 as a work study student. She was very shy, and it was her first experience working in an office, but she was eager to learn to help our students, staff and faculty. As she became more familiar with our programs, class offerings, office procedures and know our team members, she has become more confident and became a key point of contact for our School. She is quite talented in her major, studio arts and has offered her creative abilities in preparing for events, meetings and postings. I nominate her because she has stepped up with her abilities, has continued to hone her skills and has become a key contact for our School.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Franklin Estrada

For their continued efforts as a work-study and now, Customer Service Representative in assisting the School of Continuing Education and Workforce Development in multiple areas: Customer Service, Student Support, Course registrations, and office work.



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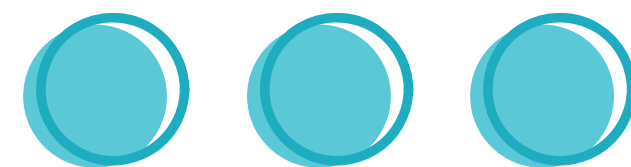
H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Gabriela Hoffman

I admire Gabriela's patience and her approach to tutoring, ensuring understanding on the student's end. She breaks down complex concepts by providing examples. I enjoy how she makes tutor sessions very interactive by asking students questions. This challenges us to think and solve problems on our own, ultimately helping us develop our knowledge. I feel welcomed by Gabby and don't feel embarrassed to ask questions. Thanks Gabby!



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Jose Rivera

I want to nominate Jose Rivera for the following reasons. Firstly, his exceptional ability to engage with students in a nonjudgmental manner sets him apart. He prioritizes giving students his undivided attention and is always approachable for conversations and support. Supporting the students is his top priority.

I am particularly impressed by his character. Over the past year, we sadly lost two valuable team members. When they decided to leave, they confided in him about their reasons for departing. Despite this emotional burden, he remained not just empathetic but also supportive, demonstrating his exceptional interpersonal skills. His ability to objectively assess the situation from his own perspective while maintaining his supportive nature is truly commendable.

Finally, I want to underscore Jose's unwavering commitment to our community. He does not see his part-time role as temporary but as a stepping stone to further growth and contribution. His dedication to the community and desire to take on additional responsibilities are commendable.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Julie Rosario

For their continuous effort to assist in improving the CEWD office and students' experiences. Julie has been apart of our team for as long as I have been Customer Service Manager and she has played an integral role in helping me transform Customer Service and lead us to more successful outcomes.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Kamelyn Santos

Kamelyn has taken on additional responsibilities this semester that have been outside of her primary role. She has been proactive and responsive, which has been a tremendous help! I appreciate her flexibility and professionalism.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Keischa Taylor

This person deserves to be recognized because they are a hard-working person and is always willing to help anyone. She has a very caring with a gentle spirit. She will go out of her way to get things done. I honor and admire her for everything she does.




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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Luisa Carranza

I would like to take a moment to express my appreciation for Luisa as a colleague. Her energetic and positive attitude makes her a pleasure to work with, and her strong work ethic is truly commendable.

Luisa possesses a deep knowledge of our ESL department, and her insights have been invaluable to our team. She consistently goes out of her way to assist others, and her willingness to share her expertise is greatly appreciated.



We are fortunate to have Luisa as part of our team, and I look forward to our continued collaboration.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Luisa Gomes

We are delighted to recognize Luisa, a young and enthusiastic woman who joined our English and ESL department in January 2024. Luisa has continually impressed us with her extraordinary patience, both with her colleagues and students. She is always respectful, well-mannered, and a true professional in every sense. Her warm demeanor and ability to provide clear, helpful information make her a joy to work with. It is truly a pleasure to have her in the office, and her presence brightens our work environment. Luisa's dedication to her work, combined with her positive attitude, has been an inspiration to us all. We are incredibly fortunate to have her on our team.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Manuel Preciado

Manny has been a part of our financial aid team since 2019, and his impact on our team and students is truly remarkable. He approaches his work with genuine dedication and takes great pride in helping students navigate their financial options. Manny's extensive knowledge of financial aid processes allows him to offer clear and compassionate guidance, ensuring students feel supported and empowered to reach their educational goals.

Manny is the kind of person you can always rely on. He consistently meets deadlines and goes out of his way to lend a hand. Recognizing Manny would celebrate not just his hard work, but also the heart and soul he brings to our financial aid office every day.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Marco Scherillo

This individual has been working at the campus as a tutor for a year. Before this, he had dedicated his time working at the mailroom where he assisted faculty with making copies. He goes to work while also studying full time at NJIT. Even though he may be tired from his studies in computer science, he always does tutoring with a smile for each student who comes into the tutorial center at North Hudson.



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HIH Part-Time Spotlight Award

Najwa Essaki

I am nominating Najwa for the HIH Part-time Spotlight Award because of her contributions to the Enrollment Services team. Despite being a part-time employee, Najwa approaches her work with full-time dedication and enthusiasm while managing an academic load at Rutgers Newark. She consistently demonstrates a high level of professionalism, efficiency, and a genuine desire to assist students through what can often be a stressful enrollment process. Her ability to handle multiple tasks precisely while maintaining a welcoming and supportive demeanor sets her apart. Her knowledge of the Arabic language helps her to manage students at enrollment services as her bilingual ability is very much appreciated when dealing with students.

I see that Najwa Essaki deserves this award because she is demonstrating professionalism, initiative, and a strong work ethic while excelling in her academic pursuits. She's always trying to support all students and help them through their academic journey.

Najwa deserves the Part-Time Spotlight Award because she consistently demonstrates exceptional enthusiasm and energy in all her work. Najwa maintains a positive attitude and excels in collaborating with her colleagues, making her a valuable team player.

Najwa works extremely hard in the Enrollment Services department. She brings a great deal of knowledge and varying perspectives from many students and alumni. Without her, many objectives of the office would not have been met.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Najwa Essaki

Najwa didn't just help me organize my class schedule. She introduced me to different college services that will help me as I go forward. Her support made a real difference in my approach to the semester.

Najwa Essaki walked me through each step to plan my schedule, making the process simple and stress-free. She also shared much information on college resources I never knew existed, helping me feel much more connected, confident, and ready to make the most of what the college has to offer.

Najwa showed me how to plan the class schedule that truly works best for me, ensuring it aligns with my goals. She also introduced me to numerous college resources I had not considered, giving me a strong head start and valuable support as I prepare for the fall semester. Her guidance has made a lasting difference.

I felt completely lost with class planning, but Najwa was there to guide me through it all. She helped organize my schedule to make it more manageable and introduced me to valuable college resources I had not heard about before. Thanks to her, I now feel more prepared and confident as I will start the next semester.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

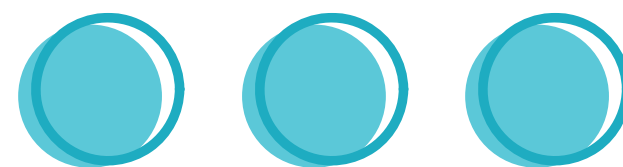
Najwa Essaki

Thanks to Najwa, I built a balanced class schedule that aligns perfectly with my academic goals and personal commitments. She also introduced me to a range of college resources I can access whenever needed, which has made me feel much more secure and confident about my journey ahead. Her support has been truly invaluable in setting me up for success.

Najwa helped me plan my classes in a far more straightforward process, walking me through each step with clear explanations and breaking down everything in a way that was easy to understand. She also introduced me to several essential college resources I would not have known otherwise, giving me extra support as I prepare for the semester ahead. Her help has been precious to my academic journey.

Najwa was incredibly supportive throughout my fall class planning, offering detailed guidance that made the process much easier. She also shared a wealth of information about college resources, which has left me feeling more equipped, supported, and ready to succeed in the following semester. Her assistance has truly set me up for a great start.

I struggled to put my schedule together, feeling overwhelmed by all the options, but Najwa stepped in and helped me organize everything easily. She made the scheduling process manageable and introduced me to various college services I could use along the way. This extra support has boosted my confidence and made me feel more prepared for the upcoming semester.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

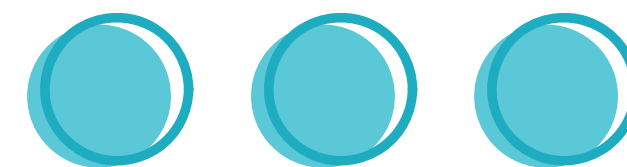
Najwa Essaki

Najwa helped me arrange my fall classes in a way that perfectly aligns with my needs and academic goals, making the process feel much less daunting. Additionally, she introduced me to helpful college resources, which opened my eyes to the incredible support available. Her guidance has left me feeling more empowered and prepared as I enter the next semester.

When I felt confused and overwhelmed about scheduling, Najwa clarified everything during class, making the process straightforward and manageable. She also introduced me and my other classmates to valuable college resources, so now we feel better equipped and more confident to handle any challenges that come our way this semester. Her support has been a game-changer for my academic journey.

I have compiled a well-organized fall schedule that aligns with my academic goals thanks to Najwa. She also introduced me to various college resources I can rely on for additional support. Her guidance and encouragement have been invaluable, leaving me more prepared and confident about the semester ahead.

Najwa was great in helping me plan my fall semester. She took the time to understand my needs and preferences. She also provided comprehensive information on various college resources, making me feel more prepared and confident for the year ahead. Her support has truly made a positive impact on my academic journey.





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Part-Time Spotlight Award

Najwa Essaki

Najwa was not only a student in HCCC but also was the Valedictorian for 2024 class.

Even she graduated and transferred to Rutgers, she came back as a part-time staff in the enrollment services to give back to her support system, Hudson County Community College.

HCCC is always resembling her home, where she loves to study, work and help a lot of students thanks to her knowledge of everything in the college.

Not only this, but she speaks more than 3 languages and she usually walks an extra mile to assist students especially newcomers with the language barrier .

Ms. Essaki deserve to be recognized for the PT-spotlight award.

Najwa Essaki guided me through my fall class schedule, helping me understand how to plan for success. She also shared valuable college resources I didn't know existed, which made me feel more prepared.

Najwa went out of her way to help me plan my fall semester, taking the time to understand my goals and needs. She introduced me to information about various college services and support resources I had previously overlooked, ensuring I felt better prepared and equipped to dive into my courses confidently as the spring semester began!



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Part-Time Spotlight Award

Najwa Essaki

I struggled to put my schedule together, feeling overwhelmed by all the options, but Najwa stepped in and helped me organize everything easily. She made the scheduling process manageable and introduced me to various college services I could use along the way. This extra support has boosted my confidence and made me feel more prepared for the upcoming semester.

Najwa provided incredible guidance on planning my class schedule, walking me through each step to ensure it fit my goals. However, she did not stop there; she also shared a range of college resources I can turn to for support, which I know will significantly help my studies. Thanks to her, I feel fully prepared and supported as I start the next semester.

Najwa helped me map out my fall class schedule in a way that aligns perfectly with my goals and workload. She also shared many college resources I had not been aware of before. Her guidance has set me up for a smoother, more organized start to the semester, and I feel much more prepared thanks to her support.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Natalie Mejia

Natalie always goes above and beyond for the office and students. She has also taught and welcomed me as a part timer, always being patient and ensuring I had all the information I needed to assist students effectively.



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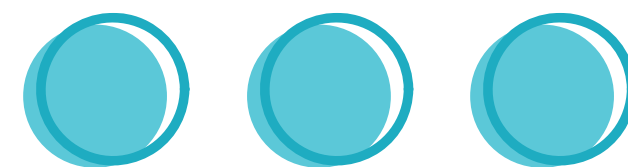
H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Natasha Digenio

Natasha had been with hccc for a very long helping students both as an in class tutor and at the tutoring center. Natasha has been a help to many students Including me. She was an in class tutor for my writing class, helped guide me through the class and assured me that I in fact can complete college. Natasha is living proof that anyone can make it, now as an adjunct at Seton hall and at HCCC, she is an inspiration to all that with enough dedication and drive you can do anything.



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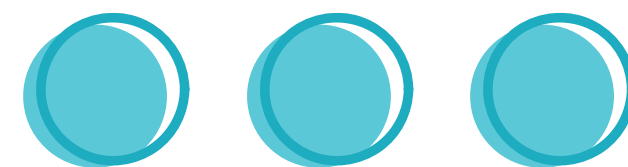


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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Tanya Gilliam

Ms. Gilliam is an inspiring Professor & a Staff member who shows support and care. She has a heart of gold as has helped me in my lowest moments. They say teachers are important part of your learning experience and has been a person of impact and has marked a difference in my life.



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H1H Part-Time Spotlight Award

Tatiana Balladares

For their continuous effort to assist in improving the CEWD office and our students' experiences. Tatiana has been on our team for almost 3 years and she has always has a smile on her face and is willing to lend a hand when she can.





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HIH Student Employee Award

Amareese Rivera

I am writing to nominate Amareese Rivera for the HIH Student Employee Award in recognition of her exceptional contributions as a work-study student in our department. Amareese has demonstrated outstanding dedication and initiative while assisting me in managing the lab and promoting our science programs, particularly in physics.

Amareese consistently goes above and beyond her responsibilities. She is diligent in keeping the lab organized and clean, ensuring that it remains a conducive environment for learning and experimentation. Her attention to detail not only helps maintain a safe workspace but also reflects her commitment to our students' success.

Moreover, Amareese actively participates in promoting the physics program. She has taken the initiative to assist with outreach efforts, engaging with fellow students and prospective students to generate interest in our courses and activities. Her enthusiasm for science and her ability to communicate effectively have made a significant impact on increasing student involvement in our programs.

Amareese's positive attitude and reliability make her an invaluable member of our team. She consistently demonstrates professionalism and a strong work ethic, setting a great example for her peers. Her contributions have not only enhanced our lab's operation but have also fostered a sense of community within our department.



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H1H Student Employee Award

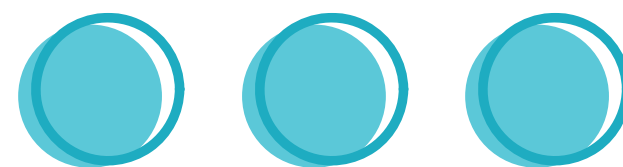
Marolla Youakim

This individual has managed to keep a good work ethic and helps as much as he can in the EOF office. They maintain good grades while participating actively in clubs/honor societies all while working too. He always strives for the best and looks out for his fellow peers. He worked with EOF during the summer as a Peer Leader and rolled over into Federal Work Study as a Tutor for the EOF department.

I see that Marolla deserves this Student Employee Award because she was one of the main people who helped me get involved on campus. She also provided invaluable academic support as my tutor, always being supportive and helpful. Additionally, Marolla's dedication to her own academic journey as a nursing student is a shining example of hard work and commitment. She embodies the qualities of an excellent student and employee, always striving to make a positive difference in the community!

I am nominating Marolla for this award because of her dedication, hard work, and exceptional ability to balance multiple roles with grace and professionalism. As a full-time nursing student, Marolla already has a lot on her plate, yet she consistently goes above and beyond in her role as a part-time academic coach, tutor, and CSS mentor. Her commitment to helping fellow students succeed is unparalleled and I have not seen someone manage such an extensive academic load as she has. She not only provides academic support but also acts as a mentor, guiding students through challenges with compassion and understanding.

Marolla's work ethic, and passion for both learning as well as helping others make her an exemplary candidate for this recognition. She truly embodies the spirit of student leadership and service.



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HHS Student Employee Award

Marolla Youakim

I have had the pleasure of working with Marolla, and it has been a great experience thus far. Marolla is a team player and works with the utmost dedication. She is committed, and displays professionalism.

Rolla is a very hardworking individual that I have ever met. She's being involved in every life and academic opportunity that she could possibly get and always being her best. She deserves to be recognized as a non-traditional international student that despite all the difficulties she faces, she solves them with a kindness, dedication and determination.

I see that Marolla Youakim deserves this award due to her demonstrating professionalism, initiative, and a strong work ethic while excelling in her academic pursuits in the Nursing Program. Marolla is an academic tutor and I saw how professional she is and the way she likes to help all students.

Marolla should get the Student Employee Award because she works so hard and is so dedicated. She always gets good grades while combining her schoolwork and other tasks. This shows that she is very good at managing her time.



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Hudson Is Home

H¹H Student Employee Award


Marolla Youakim

Marolla Youakim has been an amazing representative for nursing students on the Nursing Admission and Curriculum Committees. She listens to our concerns and always makes sure to advocate for us in meetings with faculty. Her leadership and commitment to improving the program are unmatched, and she works tirelessly to ensure the students' voices are heard. I can't think of anyone more deserving of this award

I am nominating Marolla because she is one of the most compassionate and dedicated people I've met at HCCC. During clinical and classes, she always goes out of her way to help me and to help others, whether it's explaining a tough concept or just offering words of encouragement. She's a leader in every sense and is always advocating for our needs. I also know that she works as an academic coach in the school plus being a CSS mentor which is hard to balance but she does it professionally.

I think she would be a great recipient of the Student Employee Award.

thank you



I nominate myself for the Student Employee Award because of my dedication to both my role as a PT- Academic Coach and full-time nursing student. Through my work as an academic coach, tutor, and CSS mentor I've helped countless students succeed academically, while also balancing multiple leadership roles, including serving as a Student Representative on various committees and participating in community service initiatives. These experiences have allowed me to grow personally and professionally, and I take pride in being a positive influence on my peers. By nominating myself, I hope to highlight the impact of my efforts and inspire others to take pride in their accomplishments



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HCC Student Employee Award

Marolla Youakim

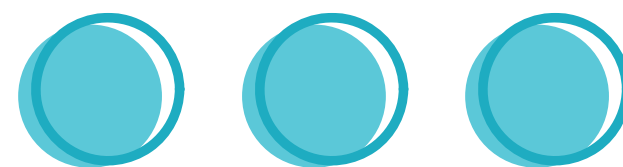
I am nominating Marolla Youakim for this prestigious award, the Student Employee Award.

She is the definition of professionalism, both in the classroom and in clinical. She's always prepared, focused, and takes her responsibilities seriously. I admire how she manages to balance the rigorous demands of our nursing program with her job as a tutor and academic coach, all while maintaining the highest standards. It's not easy to juggle everything, but she does it effortlessly, which is why she deserves the best.

I see Marolla deserves this award because she is always the one who demonstrates the highest level of professionalism and usually she stays calm under pressure, especially in exams. What's even more impressive is that she does all this while also working for the HCCC, helping other students succeed. Nursing school is tough, and the fact that she can balance clinicals, classes, and her job shows just how dedicated and hardworking she is.

Marolla is my peer in the nursing class, weekend division. However, this semester is my first one to be with her in the hospital for the clinical.

It's truly inspiring to see how she handles the intensity of the nursing program while maintaining her professionalism in her job. Whether she's in class, or clinical she's always organized, reliable, and respectful. Balancing these roles is incredibly difficult, and Marolla does it all without ever compromising the quality of her work. Her dedication is exactly why she should receive the Student Employee Award.





Hudson Is Home

HIGH Student Employee Award

Marolla Youakim

I nominate Ms. Youakmi for the Student Employee Award.

She was my Chemistry-111 class Academic Coach and Tutor, and her professionalism always stood out. She has an incredible ability to break down complex topics and explain them in a way that's easy to understand I got an A by the end of the semester for this class.

Despite what I heard about the demanding nursing studies, she was always available and committed to helping us succeed. Her ability to balance her work with being a nursing student shows how hardworking and dedicated she is, and that's why she deserves the Student Employee Award.

Not only this, but she also introduced our class to the honor societies and the clubs she is involved in and a lot of students started to get involved because of her. Additionally, she invited us to the blood drive event that the college held and told us that it was not only to save lives but also to improve our blood cells' renewal process which is every 3 months and this shows that she usually applies her nursing knowledge into her professional life.

I want to nominate Marolla for the student employee award. She was always professional in our chemistry class and during tutoring sessions after. She managed to explain the most complex topics in ways we could easily understand. It's hard to believe she could balance such a challenging nursing program with her tutoring responsibilities, but she does it all so well. I believe she's more than deserving of the Student Employee Award. Me and my classmate are nominating her for it.



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HCC Student Employee Award

Marolla Youakim

Marolla's dedication and ability to keep everything organized and professional make her the perfect candidate for the Student Employee Award.

I can't forget that she was a lifesaver during the summer Organic Chemistry class. Her professionalism and depth of knowledge were evident in every tutoring session after the class and even in the classroom. Organic Chemistry is no joke, especially in the compressed summer schedule, but Marolla made it so much more manageable. What amazed me most was how she balanced her nursing training in the hospital with the intense demands of tutoring, especially in such a challenging subject. I hope she gets the award because she deserves it. I wish her the best of luck.

I am nominating Marolla as I had the pleasure of tutoring her during her very first semester at HCCC in lifespan psychology. What was incredible about her from the start was how impressive she was, even though she had just arrived from Egypt and was adjusting to a new country and academic system. Despite the challenges, Marolla showed incredible determination and excelled in not only this class but also all her classes. I knew right away she had great potential, so I encouraged her to apply for a job with us to be a STEM tutor, as she loves to explain A and P lessons to her classmates at the college and I encouraged her to apply for the nursing program. Here she stands, with 1 semester left for her to be an official RN in less than 3 years arriving from a totally different educational system country makes me nominate her for this award as an encouraging incentive for her hard work in the college. Watching her balance her academic work, tutoring, and leadership roles has been inspiring.



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Hudson Is Home

H1H Student Employee Award

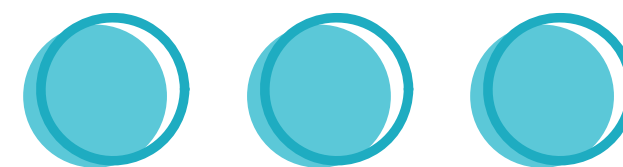
Marolla Youakim


Marolla is our tutor in the medical assistance class. She always ensures that we understand the material and goes above and beyond to help us, all while balancing her demands as a student in the nursing program. The way she manages to excel at both tutoring and her own studies is inspiring, and that's why she deserves the Student Employee Award

Marolla's help inside the MDA-113 clinical office procedure was a game-changer for many of us. She was always professional, patient, and incredibly knowledgeable. It's impressive how she balanced tutoring and her life challenges. Her dedication to helping others, even with her demanding schedule, is why she deserves the Student Employee Award.

I was a classmate of Marolla in three different classes: Intro to Computer, Intro to Chemistry, and Bio-115. From the very start, it was clear that Marolla was a unique type of student who mastered the lessons so quickly and effortlessly. I attended several of her chemistry tutoring sessions when she worked as a tutor for Intro. to Chemistry class, and she was always professional, well-prepared, and patient with me and with other classmates. What's even more impressive is how she balanced tutoring while managing the intense workload of nursing school. Her dedication shows her ability to help us, excel in her studies, and maintain professionalism. I truly believe Marolla deserves the Student Employee Award for her hard work and commitment.

Marolla Youakim is an excellent student who strives to do her best in her academics and extracurricular activities. She helps everyone as much as she can and is actively involved with HCCC as much as possible.



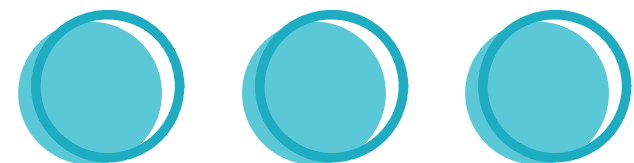


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HfH Student Employee Award

Marolla Youakim

Marolla have had the privilege of working as a part-time Academic Coach for STEM classes and a CSS Mentor, while also being a full-time nursing student taking 13 credits. In addition to her academic and work responsibilities, she is also actively involved in various honor societies and student clubs. Her passion for helping others succeed, both academically and personally, drives her to maintain this balance between her studies, work, and extracurricular involvement.





Hudson Is Home

Student Employee Award

Web Administrators

I would like to nominate the following new work-study team of Web Administrators. They are:

Berlin Rivas

Alexus Cintron

Sonam Dorji

This is the first time the Web Services team has opened up to hiring work studies in all of HCCC history and they deserve the spotlight and recognition for being the first in HCCC history to be given this opportunity and for the tremendous help they have been contributing to the daily maintenance of the HCCC website. Their contributions and work ethics has shown improvements on our overall statistics on our website and they continue to be inspired by the impact they are making and creating with the work that is involved, making them excel in both professionally in a career setting, and academically. They are truly a tremendous group of work study students.



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Hudson Is Home

H1H Student Employee Award

Lisa Fernandez

She is my assistant in my Css class. I have watched her grow for over two years. She is an inspiration to students. You can hear her explaining the importance of school. She is even willing to share her life journey which was not easy.



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HfH Student Employee Award

Diyaris Gomez

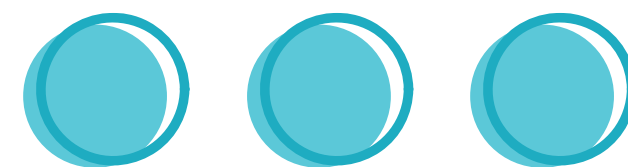
I recognize Diyaris Gomez for her leadership as a federal work-study student in the Office of Student Life and Leadership. Her energy, creativity, and willingness to assist our students with the resources they need to be successful at the college are greatly appreciated. She is making a difference in campus life for so many students.

I hope she continues to grow and develop the skills she needs to succeed personally and academically at HCCC.

She is very much appreciated!



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H1H Student Employee Award

Eva Quezada

Eva has supported our School since 2022 as a work study student. She was very shy and quiet, but since then she has grown to be confident and more assertive and expressive. This has been recognized with her participation in more College events and contests. She is a studio arts major and recently won the contest for creating a new logo for the Student Government Association (SGA). This exposed her to the governance part of being an HCCC Student and was recently elected as their new Director of Communications. This was a nice surprise to her, and she has continued to already attend their meetings and work on a project to work on refining the SGA's media branding. She also participated in Professor Karen Hosick's video demonstration to promote her exercise science program in her simulation lab. Eva also manages our School's Instagram social media account. She is a bright student and with her focus on her studies and new governance role, I know that she will continue to grow as I encourage her to keep exploring different opportunities.



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H1H Student Employee Award

Drew Rodriguez

Drew has been with our School since the spring term earlier this year. She is bright eyed and always willing to help and learn. She has become more knowledgeable in our program offerings that she has become a key contact for our School. She is very dependable and always has a positive attitude to support our team in any way. She has since become more confident in exploring all that HCCC has to offer, making her a more engaged student and assistant.




Hudson Is Home

HfHf Student Employee Award

Allison Zabala

Allison joined earlier this year, and we are happy to have her return to support us this academic year. As a new student assistant, she was given simple tasks that she has taken to the next level. An example was to organize our work lounge that we use for breaks, and she absolutely gutted the cabinets to clean out and organize it where it is now a pristine work environment. Another example is she was asked to decorate our office for the Halloween holiday, which she slammed it out of the park to make it so festive and a mood enhancing workplace. She is a bright young lady who is eager to learn more on our office processes and help to improve how we assist students.



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H1H Student Employee Award

Allison Zabala

Allison joined earlier this year, and we are happy to have her return to support us this academic year. As a new student assistant, she was given simple tasks that she has taken to the next level. An example was to organize our work lounge that we use for breaks, and she absolutely gutted the cabinets to clean out and organize it where it is now a pristine work environment. Another example is she was asked to decorate our office for the Halloween holiday, which she slammed it out of the park to make it so festive and a mood enhancing workplace. She is a bright young lady who is eager to learn more on our office processes and help to improve how we assist students.



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H1H Student Employee Award

Cristal Negron

Cristal joined us earlier this year and brings a very young and green perspective to our School. She is always willing to learn and offer a student's view and feedback on preparing for our events and meetings. She is creative in her approaches to assist our students, staff and faculty. We appreciate her eagerness and positive attitude.




Hudson Is Home

H1H Student Employee Award

Aneeqa Said

Aneeqa recently joined us this fall term. Her willingness to learn and be helpful in any way to our team, has been needed and appreciated by our staff and faculty. She is clearly glad to be part of our school's team and join in college events.



Hudson Is Home

Student Employee Award

Mehwish Feroz

I am nominating myself because I have been successfully balancing both my studies and my job. I have maintained a strong academic standing with a 3.9 GPA, which I am very proud of. Along with my work, I received a certificate for excellent performance, proving my ability to manage both responsibilities well. Keeping up with my studies while working has been challenging, but I have continued to excel. This dedication to my education and job is why I believe I deserve this recognition.



Hudson Is Home

Student Employee Award

Ryisha Heusner

Ryisha Heusner first joined my team as a work-study student in fall 2022. Since then, I have seen her many achievements as a student and as a professional working in a higher education workplace. It was no question to hire her as a PT employee to continue to support our School. She is a bright, ambitious student who continues to juggle her studies at Montclair University as a computer science major while working at the College. She has become more knowledgeable of our programs and admissions process to more effectively assist our students, faculty and staff. With that, she has become the leader in our office to mentor the other assistants and work study students. I know that she will continue to do well and hone her work skills as she is always pleasant, professional and eager to help others.



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Hudson Is Home

HfHf Collaboration and Team Award

Nouara Oubraham

This nomination is really for two teams: one at Gabert Library (comprised of Nouara Oubraham, Angelita Tubungbanua, Milena Moscoso, and Leslie Soriano) and the other at the North Hudson Campus Library (Ernestina Vargas, Sarah Teichman, and Melissa Franco). These staff have consistently promoted awareness of the diverse cultures represented at HCCC through the design of attractive visual displays of library materials. The teams also see to it that the service desks are well-decorated to celebrate the various holidays and celebrations we share within our college community. These efforts go a very long way towards making the libraries a welcoming environment for all our users, which helps to offer a safe and inviting space of belonging here on campus, and to highlight the diversity of our library collections.



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Ɔɹɹ Collaboration and Team Award

Angelita Tubungbanua

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Ɔɹɹ Collaboration and Team Award

Milena Moscoso

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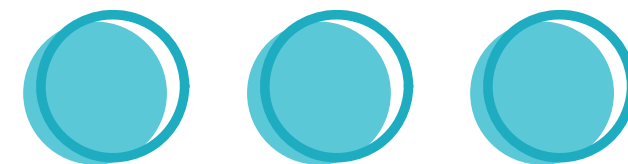


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Hf1Hf Collaboration and Team Award

Leslie Soriano

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HfHf Collaboration and Team Award

Ernestina Vargas

This nomination is really for two teams: one at Gabert Library (comprised of Nouara Oubraham, Angelita Tubungbanua, Milena Moscoso, and Leslie Soriano) and the other at the North Hudson Campus Library (Ernestina Vargas, Sarah Teichman, and Melissa Franco). These staff have consistently promoted awareness of the diverse cultures represented at HCCC through the design of attractive visual displays of library materials. The teams also see to it that the service desks are well-decorated to celebrate the various holidays and celebrations we share within our college community. These efforts go a very long way towards making the libraries a welcoming environment for all our users, which helps to offer a safe and inviting space of belonging here on campus, and to highlight the diversity of our library collections.



Hudson Is Home

Hf1Jf Collaboration and Team Award

Sarah Teichman

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HfHf Collaboration and Team Award

Melissa Franco

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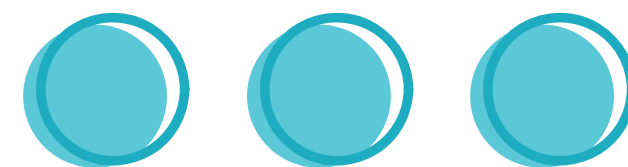


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ଝଞଝ Collaboration and Team Award

Rimsha Bazaid

I have had the pleasure of collaborating with Rimsha on multiple projects since she has joined HCCC. She is motivated and willing to step in whenever needed to accomplish the task at hand. Rimsha shows her support to the students and staff she serves and has a remarkable passion for making people feel appreciated in the workplace. Her dedication to learning and desire to brainstorm new ideas has been a gift in many areas and I wanted to take this opportunity to let her know she is Valued by her peers here at HCCC for all the assistance and initiatives.



HUDSON
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ἩἹἹ Inspirational Leadership Award

Fidelis Koda-Kahouo

I have been at this institution for over 12 years and I see the impact that Professor Fidelis Foda-Kahouo has made both through students that I have referred to speak to him and in a personal case where my son reached out and he made every effort to ensure that my son had the assistance needed to have a successful semester. My son handled everything on his own but at the end of the semester told me that Professor Fidelis Foda-Kahouo is the reason he wants to continue with HCCC and "ABSOLUTELY in STEM". I can only image the profound impact he has on all of his students. The commitment to both HCCC and to the STEM students is commended and I pray we continue to have professors with the amount of care and compassion that Professor Fidelis Foda-Kahouo offers on a daily basis.



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Part-time Spotlight Award

Hanna Allen

I have watched Hanna develop from one of our work studies to a blooming Part timer. She is eager to learn, understand the process and help with the enrollment front of house duties. Hanna has demonstrated the values of HCCC by providing students with information and direction to best help them achieve their goals when they visit our office. Hanna is reliable and shows compassion in everything she does. No matter the situation Hanna remains poised and respectable and carries herself in a professional manner. I can not wait to see the amazing things ahead as she continues her career/journey with us at HCCC and I am honored to work with her.



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2024 Inspirational Leadership Award

Alexis Muniz

Alex is always happy and willing to lend a hand to a team member. He is involved in various committees and takes on roles not required of him to provide support wherever possible. He has recently helped in running the Girls in Technology event when the director of the event had to be away. He lead the event and ensured its success.