Welcome to the 39th Annual Classified Employee Service Awards
Monday, June 13th, 2022
12:00pm
A Building Patio
Service Awards Recipients

5 Years ➢ Alyssa Antonio
➢ Lydia Bakit
➢ Justin Bigley
➢ Ashley Burch
➢ Gustavo Castro-Lopez
➢ Brenda Corona Torres
➢ Jessica Dolfo
➢ Edwidge Dupard
➢ Kimberly La Rue
➢ Sonia Lopez
➢ Francisco Navalvez
➢ Kenia Ponce
➢ Sylvia Ramirez
➢ Anthony Rivera
➢ Murjaz Rivers
➢ Yanira Rodriguez Nohely
➢ Veronica Ruelas
➢ Cory Segura
➢ Carolina Vargas
➢ Itza Vilaboy

15 Years ➢ Helen Chau
➢ Joseph D'Ambro
➢ Stephen Devers
➢ Jerry Dunham
➢ Tammy Green
➢ Alexandra Perry
➢ Michael Rovatsos
➢ Angela Testado

20 Years ➢ Rachel Hernandez
➢ Joan Holloway
➢ Vincent Margetta

25 Years ➢ Ana de Alba
➢ Lance Soukhaseum
➢ Elizabeth Vargas

30 Years ➢ Susanna Garibay

40 Years ➢ Shirin Mohseni
Celebrating 5 years of service...
Alyssa Antonio
Student Services Technician

RELIABLE    KNOWLEDGEABLE    AMAZING SUPPORT

Alyssa began her career working in Evaluations/Counseling as a Student Services Assistant. She was promoted to Student Services Technician in A&R as lead residency clerk. Alyssa is the mommy to two giant cats (allegedly cats, I still think they are tigers identifying as cats). Alyssa has quickly become an asset within Enrollment Services. In Spring 2021, she accepted the challenge of cross training and transitioning to Veterans Office as a School Certifying Official. Although still a little green to this division, her overall knowledge, personality and commitment to our students is exactly why I stole her from Evaluations/Counseling. I am certain Alyssa has a bright future ahead of her.

- Dora Meza
Lydia Bakit
Business Office Support Supervisor

Having recently been promoted to Business Office Support Supervisor, Lydia is a consummate professional whose attention to detail and responsiveness have been invaluable for the department and the campus. Her focus on customer service creates an atmosphere of collaboration and operational efficiency.

-John Parker
Justin Bigley
Administrative Assistant III

We are pleased to acknowledge Justin Bigley's five years of service to San Diego City College. For the first four years Justin contributed to the School of Business Technology.

Justin joined the Professional Development Team last year and contributed greatly to our planning efforts and programs, including the New Hires Institute. He has also helped with the roll-out of some computer systems for student use.

Justin is a valued member of the PD Team and we congratulate him for his work during the last five year.

Robbi L. Ewell, Dean
Information and Learning Technology
Ashley Burch
Program Support Technician

Congratulations Ashley on your exceptional contributions to the EOPS/NextUp Program and San Diego City College as a whole. Your dedication to helping students achieve their upmost potential deserves to be commended. I truly appreciate your strong advocacy for the students we serve. Your innovation and hard work have improved processes and procedures and ensured that they have the best interest of students in mind. It is a pleasure to work alongside you in supporting students to reach their goals. Ashley, you are an essential part of the EOPS/NextUp team and our students are truly connected to you because they know how much you care for them. Your relentless effort exemplifies the work of a true student services professional.

Congratulations on your extraordinary efforts! We honor your dedicated service and commitment these past 5 years!

-Lillian Garcia
Gus (as the crew calls him) is that guy that always shows up on time and ready to work. He currently is taking care of the HWG. Dean Detty has had nothing but nice things to say about his work and work ethic.

When not at work he enjoys his family and black Camaro.

We recently hired his son (GUS Jr) so the kid has big shoes to fill. Thanks Gustavo for the continued support and dedication to City College.

- Jay Purnell
Congratulations Brenda on your 5 Year Service Award. We are incredibly proud of your dedication to SDCC and your support of the First Year Experience, Promise Program and EOPS! We appreciate the contributions and efforts that your service years represent. We acknowledge this important milestone which is exemplified by your commitment to ensuring students meet their goals and reach their fullest potential. Thank you for your continued dedication and to always completing your work with a smile. You are an esteemed role model for other Classified Professionals and we are proud to work alongside you! Please accept this award as a symbol of the sincere appreciation for your continued loyalty and dedication to fulfilling the purpose and mission of San Diego City College.

-Lillian Garcia and Genevieve Esguerra
Jessica Dolfo
Student Services Technician

WE THANK YOU!
WE APPRECIATE YOU!
WE CELEBRATE YOU!

For your 5 years of service to our Students
“Kind, Positive, Helpful, Authentic”

Edwidge has an infectious smile and brings tremendous positive energy to our team. I appreciate her commitment to helping students overcome barriers and mentoring our ambassadors. Edwidge is a great reflection of the values we aspire to at City, she is welcoming, resilient and supportive to our students, her colleagues and peers.

- Clarissa Padilla
Kimberly La Rue
Graphic Artist/Photographer

Wow what can be said about Kim!

Congratulations to Kim, our rockstar graphic artist/photographer, who began her career at City College in fall of 2016. Along with being a joy to work with and everyone loving her positive attitude and beautiful designs, Kim was very active on campus. She was a proud member of City Women Rock, supported a number of campus events, and sat on several campus-wide committees. Kim was responsible for the design, photography, and art production for City and greatly contributed to the success of our marketing and advertising campaigns. Now on her sixth year, she has brought her amazing talents to Miramar College and they are so lucky to have such a wonderful professional.

–Cesar Gumapas
Sonia Lopez  
Student Services Assistant

Sonia began her career as a project assistance and later promoted to Student Services Assistant in our Records Department. Sonia is a hard worker with an amazing personality; she is also an amazing mother of two. In mid Spring Sonia accepted an out of class opportunity within Continuing Education, supporting in an Administrative Assistant capacity. We are certain she will continue to grow professionally and build on her over all knowledge within student services. - Dora Meza
Francisco Navalvez
Receiving/Stockroom Supervisor

As an avid runner, Francisco’s constant energy and industrious work ethic are contagious to those who interact with him. Whether moving heavy equipment or delivering pallets of supplies, you’ll rarely catch him taking a break.

- John Parker
Kenia Ponce
Administrative Technician

Prior to working at City, Kenia Ponce had worked at the District Accounts Payable and Grants and Contracts Offices for three years. She started at City in 2017 and has been a valuable team member at the Business Services Office. Kenia supports the campus with HR and Payroll related functions and provides administrative technical support to faculty, managers, staff and students. She serves as a liaison and collaboratively works with campus and District HR departments. It has been an absolute pleasure working alongside Kenia over these past five years. She is very team oriented and always willing to roll up her sleeves and accomplishes whatever needs to be done. She is reliable in every sense of the word. Every day she comes to work with a smile on her face and has a great upbeat attitude towards work. In all the work she does, it is evident that Kenia is dedicated and committed to serving the needs of the campus and public at large.

I am beyond grateful that I get to work with her and am so happy to celebrate five years with her today.

Congratulations, Kenia! Best, Lydia Bakit
Sylvia Ramirez
Administrative Technician
(Acting TV Program Activity Mgr. / Scholarships in Student Affairs)

Sylvia has been an incredible asset to the Student Affairs team. For the last five years, she has tirelessly worked with donors to increase scholarship awards for students.

Through her leadership, the scholarship program has expanded and has awarded well over a million dollars under her 5 year leadership. Our scholarship recipients has more than doubled over the last few years and our students credit her with helping them navigate the scholarship process.

Kudos to Sylvia on a job well done.
- Marciano Perez, Jr., Vice President of Student Services

Sylvia Ramirez
Is there anything she can't do?
Is there anything she's not willing to try?
Is there any limit to her abilities?

Does she deserve our respect?
OH YES SHE DOES
Anthony Rivera
Custodian

Tony (as we call him) is on the third shift crew and maintains the D bldg., M bldg. and B bldg.

Tony is always smiling and good for a laugh, but he might leave you a sticky note if you left a mess.

I enjoy having Tony on the team because I know he will get the job done right the first time.

He has no problem jumping in and helping when we need him.

Thanks Tony for 5 years. Looking forward to another 15
- Jay Purnell
Congratulations to Jazz for her incredible dedication to care in the Student Health Clinic/Center over the last 5 years. Jazz has been unwavering in her support of students and the team, through her initial work with us in A-116, our transitional move to E-1, and now at last to our new state-of-the-art center in A-180. Through our many changes Jazz has remained a constant source of cheer and support. As we were finally and gratefully able to merge into one space with Mental Health, she took on the responsibilities for the entire Student Health Center. It is a big job! Jazz is blessed with intuition, empathy, and keen observation skills, all of which are needed in a health center. She brings kindness, warmth, and acceptance to all City students in their time of need, and quickly establishes rapport and meaningful connections with people. We all are so grateful for you Jazz! Here is to a hope for 25 years more of your incredible service at City College! - Leslie Easton
“The CalWORKs Believe Team is honored to have Yanira Rodriguez as part of the City College Family. Many of us describe Yanira as caring, compassionate, and dedicated, and Yanira is the type of colleague you can always depend on for anything. Yanira has contributed significantly to student success over the last five years, and her impact on the campus is just as positive as on her beautiful family and community.”

Thank you,
Mariam Mena
Veronica Ruelas
IA/Child Development

Veronica has been with us for 5 years as a preschool teacher at the Early Education Center. She is always surrounded by our (little) students and brings smiles to their faces. Veronica genuinely loves working with the children and goes above and beyond to ensure that our (little) students are well taken care of. We are so fortunate to have her as a team member at the Center and look forward to working with her for years to come.

Thank you so much for being such a wonderful teacher, Veronica!

Best, Masa Omae
Cory Segura
ILT/Machine Shop

Cory is an instructional Lab Technician in Machine Technology. For 5 years Cory worked in the Machine Technology Program at City.

He supports the program faculty during evening courses and he mentors and supports students at all levels.

Cory enjoys skateboarding in his spare time.

·Fred Julian
Carolina Vargas
Student Services Technician

Service to students and faculty is second to none

joyful
supportive
dedicated
patient
shines

supportive
inclusive
committed
Itza Vilaboy
Student Services Assistant

Our Financial Aid office wouldn’t be the same without you

Itza is committed to helping students with financial aid. Itza is great to work with and shares her enthusiasm in working with her colleagues. She dedicates her time and resources to making sure that all questions or information given is in detail. Itza is working outside the financial aid office these past months, as she is currently working as a member of the Professional Development Cohort.

- Alisia Rincon
Celebrating 15 years of service...
Helen Chau
Asst Bookstore Sales Clerk

Helen has supported Campus Store operations and provided services for 15 years, and longer as an hourly employee at Miramar and City Campus Stores. She provides service to online and on campus students every day.

Students depend on the packages she sends for their success in their classes.

We thank Helen for her 15 years of Service.

-Nancy Wichmann
Joseph D'Ambro
Senior Student Services Assistant
Once a Knight - Always a Knight

Joe is undoubtedly the highlight of the Transfer and Career Center. He lives the embodiment of student-first approaches daily with his commitment to serve our students. There hasn't been a challenging, complicated, or frustrating situation to defeat Joe. I've witnessed him celebrate with students, guide students, and, most importantly coach them to their goals. His work with our athletes is unparalleled, showcasing an equity-minded leader that allows our rising stars to be students first. He remains the relatable, charismatic, and guiding light for them all. It shows in the relationships he's formed with alumni and the community.

We wholeheartedly thank him for his commitment to City College as a colleague, mentor, and friend.

With admiration and respect,
Sasha Knox & The TCC team!
Steve (as we call him) is on our first shift and is always looking for something to work out on. We call him “DI” (drill instructor) as he’s in charge of our fitness program. We started a stretching program for the team and we also strive for 100 push-ups a day.

Steve always takes pleasure in making the team sweat. When not at work he enjoys his family, working out and Jazz music.

It’s been a pleasure working with him these past 4.5 years.

- Jay Purnell
Jerry Dunham  
Custodian

Jerry started his journey with the district 15 yrs ago as a young man. He has worked mainly 3rd shift, but last November he joined us on 1st shift. Jerry is always in good spirits, always has a smile on his face. It’s a pleasure working with him.

Things you might not know about Jerry:
He holds a BA in Media Arts and Animation. He is an aspiring artist and is currently working on multiple projects such as a children’s book, comic and animated gaming. He intends to retire by 50 and travel the world.

- Jay Purnell
Tammy Green
Asst Bookstore Sales Clerk

Tammy has provided service to City College students in multiple City Campus Store locations over last 15 years, and longer as an hourly employee.
Helping students in the A, B, AH and now D building, Tammy always finds a way to help students and support their studies.

We thank you Tammy for your 15 years of Service
-Nancy Wichmann
Alexandra Perry
ILT/Machine Shop

Thank you for your service throughout the years!!

For 15 years Alexandra has
- maintained the array of CNC Machines, lathes, mills, 3-D printers and other equipment.
- promoted the program to many high school student tours, Industry Representatives, Governor Schwarzenegger, and dignitaries
- maintains the program's web-page which serves as a repository of a broad range of instructional videos and a host of job opportunities,
- mentors and supports students, and adjunct professors

-Fred Julian
Michael Rovatsos

Lead Broadcast Operation Specialist

Michael Rovatsos has played a significant role in the development and success of KSDS for the past fifteen years. He has a tremendous work ethic and always gets things done no matter what obstacles are thrown at him. He goes above and beyond and always takes responsibility for his own projects as well as always being willing to help the rest of the staff.

Michael is the main contact to thousands of radio station listeners who are financial supporters of the station and is a great ambassador for KSDS, City College and the San Diego Community College District. He works extremely well with students and has been a mentor to countless student interns and volunteers. He is truly indispensable and we are lucky to have him.

- Ken Poston
General Manager
KSDS FM 88.3
Angela Testado
Administrative Technician

The first time I met Angela (see photo) she was dressed for Halloween! I knew this was a talented, detail oriented, wonderful individual. Angela is always welcoming, and helpful to all areas of the college. I frequently need to remind her to not spread herself so thin with projects. I am grateful for your years of service. Congratulations!!!!

- Tillie
Celebrating 20 years of service...
Rachel Hernandez  
Student Services Assistant

Rachel initially began her career as a federal work-study employee, she was later promoted to hourly and eventually accepting an position as a Student Services Assistant. For (2) decades Rachel has supported both our students and new employees by sharing her knowledge with them. She has been a part of and supported the transition from multiple systems, Class-talk, Reg-e, & Campus Solutions. Rachel is a dedicated mother of a 3 year young little scholar/diva (Isabel), a US Sailor (Anthony), and of course her pride and joy Abel (He loves his momma).

Thank you for all the wonderful memories we have shared, but most important thank you for your commitment to the office & our students.

-Dora Meza

Knowledgeable in her role!  
Patient with students!
Joan Holloway  
Senior Food Service Worker

Joan came on board with food service as a gift from the Bookstore in 2002 where she was working as an hourly employee. She started working with us as a barista when it was a mobile cart in the foyer of the main café and she learned quickly and loved her customers and coworkers. She has accomplished a lot of skills and now shares them with our new employee’s in the form of being a fantastic trainer. We have been extremely lucky to have been blessed with her kindness and loyalty. Our daily/weekly moto is and has always been…..LETS DO THIS!

Joan, thank you for the best 20 years we have shared  
– from the entire food service team.

Best Regards  
– Vince Margetta
Vince Margetta  
Food Services Supervisor

Vince has lead Food Service operations at all of our College Campuses; City, Mesa and Miramar during the last 20 years. He also has supported the College of Continuing Education throughout the years. Vince has worked the evening shift and the early, early morning shift, while most of us are sleeping. He enjoys working with his Team to support our campuses.

Vince is an amazing chef, husband and father and enjoys golf, cooking and spending time with friends. We thank Vince for his 20 years of Service.

-Nancy Wichmann
Celebrating 25 years of service...
Ana de Alba
Production Services Assistant

Ana is receiving her 25 year service award. She started as an hourly in 1992, in the Nursing Education program, and then became contract in 1997 in the Duplicating Center as a Production Services Assistant.

She has an Arts degree in Social Sciences. Ana is always looking for new ideas to improve her work and has a practical, positive, grounded attitude that allows her to cut through the drama and set her mind to finish her projects. She takes pride in her work and is a valuable member of our team.

I would like to present Ana's 25-year service award for her dedication to excellence, positive outlook and outstanding contributions to City.

- Patty
Lance Soukhaseum
Student Support Services Office Manager

Working with Lance over the past three years has been a pleasure and honor. Getting to know Lance has been a highlight for me. In the time of crisis, Lance came with solutions during this pandemic.

Lance is the ultimate professional, and demonstrates flexibility. Thank you for serving in dual roles as the Tutoring Supervisor and Acting Associate Dean of SWP.

I appreciate the opportunities we have to just "chat" about life. Thank you Lance for your years of service.

- Matilda "Tillie" Chavez
Vice President of Instruction

Working with Lance these past 17 years have been incredible. He is such a great boss and has done so much to make the Tutorial Center that best place to work at. I have learned so much from him. He is not just my boss, he has become family to me, and I hope he knows how much he means to me and everyone at the Tutorial Center.

- Cynthia

All of these attributes make the Tutorial/Learning Center a great place to work.

- Charlene
Liz is the ultimate professional. Her leadership in Student Services over the last 25 years has been invaluable. From Outreach to Upward Bound, Liz has continued to help students navigate the transition from high school to college. From mentorship to leadership, Liz has inspired her students and everyone around her to be better versions of themselves. City College is blessed to have Liz as a leader for the last 25 years.

Marciano Perez, Jr.
Vice President of Student Services
Celebrating 30 years of service...
Susanna Garibay
Student Services Assistant

A Joy to Work With

Positive

Dedication

Susanna is dedicated to helping students find the resources and or solutions to their questions.

The staff enjoys working with Susanna, as she is dedicated and committed to helping students.

Susanna is full of energy, and has a positive outlook in life.

-Alisia Rincon
Celebrating 40 years of service...
Shirin Mohseni
Accounting Supervisor

Joining City College in 1983, Shirin has worked all 39 years in Student Accounting. From regulations to retention, collection to compliance, Shirin has served in various accounting capacities, helping to reduce bad debt write-offs and loan default rates.

Upon her retirement on June 30th, Shirin plans to spend time with her family and traveling abroad.

“Shirin, I am going to miss you a lot after June 2022, so much that I will be calling you not only to say, “Hi”, but for guidance as well, so do not turn off your cell phone. From the time I left City College Athletic Dept. and went to the Accounting office in 2008, you had started out as my 2nd favorite Supervisor. As, the years went by you have taught me so much and been there, by phone, in-person or email, when I needed you. That you have managed to go from my 2nd favorite Supervisor to the “Best Supervisor Ever.” I wish you all the “Joy and Happiness” for your retirement.”
Love Always, Bernetta

Shirin, We’ll miss you but we’ll still see each other! Enjoy your time with your family and puppy. Go travel and party hard! Congratulations!!!!! Love, Haruko

"Shirin, We'll miss you but we'll still see each other! Enjoy your time with your family and puppy. Go travel and party hard! Congratulations!!!!! Love, Haruko"
CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE ON YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE DISTRICT/CITY! ALL YEARS COMBINE FOR AN AMAZING 425 YEARS OF SERVICE.

Keep up the good work everyone!

... and let's look forward to re-starting our "Employee of the Year" award in the new fiscal year
Congratulations
2022 Golden Star
Classified Professional Award Winner!
Lynn Lee
Administrative Assistant III, EOPS
Congratulations
2022 SDAAWCC
Classified Woman of the Year Award Winner!
Sylvia Ramirez
Special thanks to:
Carlos O. Cortez, Chancellor, SDCCD
San Diego Community College District Board of Trustees
Ricky Shabazz, President, San Diego City College

Thank you to everyone who supported the City College Classified Senate throughout this year.

Thank you from your 2020 - 2022 Classified Senate Exec Board:
Sean Ryan, President
Joan Taylor, Secretary
Temmy Najimy, Treasurer
Senators Zenia Torres, Erica Zhang, and Daniel Velazquez

sdcity.edu/classifiedsenate
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