

ACCT

EQUITY

AWARDS

TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF
FACULTY MEMBER**



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DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS:
JUNE 13, 2022

AWARDS PROGRAM

ACCT's awards program is designed to recognize and honor outstanding community college trustees, equity programs, presidents, faculty members, and professional board staff members at regional and national levels. In order to be considered for an Association Award, you must first submit a nomination at the regional level.

1 NOMINATION FOR REGIONAL AWARDS

ACCT is opening nominations for the following **Regional Awards:**

- » Trustee Leadership
- » Equity
- » Chief Executive Officer
- » Faculty Member
- » Professional Board Staff Member

2 SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION OF THE REGIONAL AWARDS RECIPIENTS

The Regional Awards Committees will select the Regional Awards recipients. Recipients will be notified prior to the 2022 ACCT Leadership Congress so that they can make arrangements to be present to accept their awards whenever possible; everyone who submitted a nomination for an award will be notified of the results prior to the 2022 ACCT Leadership Congress.

3 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Regional Awards recipients are automatically nominated for an Association Award in the same category. The Regional Awards recipients will be the sole nominees of the following **Association Awards:**

- » M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award
- » Charles Kennedy Equity Award
- » Marie Y. Martin Chief Executive Officer Award
- » William H. Meardy Faculty Member Award
- » Professional Board Staff Member Award

4 SELECTION OF THE ASSOCIATION AWARDS RECIPIENTS

The Association Awards Committee and the Charles Kennedy Equity Award Committee will select the Association Awards recipients. Recipients will not be disclosed until the Awards Gala Banquet.

5 PRESENTATION OF THE REGIONAL AWARDS

ACCT's Regional Awards recipients will be honored during the ACCT Leadership Congress in New York, New York during a general session on **Friday, October 28.**

6 PRESENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION AWARDS

All Association Awards recipients will be honored during ACCT's Awards Gala Banquet at the ACCT Leadership Congress in New York, New York on **Friday, October 28.**



TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP AWARD

The ACCT Board of Directors annually honors an individual who has made a significant contribution as a lay trustee to promote the community college concept.

The Association Award is named after M. Dale Ensign, one of ACCT's pioneers and the founding chair of the association, who served as a trustee at Northwest Community College in Powell, Wyoming.

ELIGIBILITY

Any trustee or former trustee of an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution board or state board for two-year postsecondary institutions is eligible to receive this award.

Current members of the ACCT Board of Directors are ineligible to receive the M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award. Past ACCT Board of Directors Executive Committee members are eligible five years after their ACCT Board of Directors term ends.

CRITERIA

- » Has the trustee served as an officer of the college's board of trustees?
- » In addition to service on the board of trustees, in what capacity has the trustee participated in community life (i.e., civic clubs, public office, etc.)?
- » What has the trustee initiated or helped to develop in the area of innovative programs used in two-year postsecondary institutions?
- » Has the trustee served on technical or special committees serving two-year postsecondary education?
- » How has the trustee been a factor in influencing legislation for two-year postsecondary institutions, and how has the trustee been active in communication and advocacy with state and national legislators?
- » What has the trustee contributed overall to the two-year postsecondary concept, and how did this affect the college's total impact on the community, state, or nation?
- » How has the trustee provided leadership in helping to solve challenges facing two-year postsecondary education?
- » How has the trustee been active in developing, organizing, or supporting state two-year postsecondary associations, and what kind of leadership role has the trustee played in state, regional, or national associations?
- » Has the trustee given presentations or published articles on two-year postsecondary education?



2021 M. DALE ENSIGN TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNER

GEORGE LITTLE

SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, NORTH CAROLINA

WHAT DOES THE AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

It was an honor to see Sandhills Community College and its Board in the national spotlight. The M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award gave credit where credit was due to our community as a whole.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES?

My recommendation to any trustee is the more you give, the greater you receive. In everything you do, do so with a genuine heart.

EQUITY AWARD

This award recognizes exemplary commitment by a governing board or governing board and president of an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution board or state board for two-year postsecondary institutions to achieve equity in the college's education programs and services and in the administration and delivery of those programs and services.

The award honors the late Charles Kennedy, a trustee of Joliet Junior College in Illinois, who was a founder of the ACCT Minority Affairs Assembly, which became the ACCT Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.

ELIGIBILITY

Any governing board or governing board and president of an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution board or state board for two-year postsecondary institutions is eligible to receive this award.

CRITERIA

Demonstrable evidence of leadership in setting policies that promote and enhance opportunities for institutional diversity, inclusion, and equity for women, persons of color, LGBTQs or members of any other underrepresented or underserved population that has occurred within the last five (5) years regarding the following:

- » Increases in access by underrepresented or underserved populations and increases in completion of the educational objectives (attainment of a degree, certificate, credential, transfer or gainful employment) of those populations.
- » Increases in the institution's workforce and leadership positions by underrepresented or underserved populations.
- » Success of the institution's community engagement or outreach efforts in attracting and maintaining the interests of underrepresented or underserved populations regarding the institution.



From the left: 2020-21 ACCT Chair David Mathis, Trustee Diane Noriega, Mt. Hood Community College President Lisa Skari, Trustee Annette Mattson, Kenney Polson, LaVerne Lewis, and Former ACCT President & CEO J. Noah Brown.

2021 CHARLES KENNEDY EQUITY AWARD WINNER

MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OREGON

WHAT DOES THE AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

We are grateful for this acknowledgement of the work Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) has done to date to systematically address racism, poverty, and language barriers at the college and in our community.

Increasing board and management diversity, developing an Equity Lens as a tool in our decision making, creating a Student Basic Needs Resource Team—this work and so much more is imperative. We are striving to be a place where all feel welcome and safe, and to meet the complex needs many residents in our district face each day. The board is committed to equity, and wants to ensure this commitment is reflected in all our processes and evident in all the resources and services the college provides.

MHCC is at the beginning of our efforts to help all students and potential students overcome barriers and reach their goals. There's more to come!

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

We would advise the following:

- The board of trustees must be committed to equity and for it to be evident to all at the college.
- Read, listen, and learn about diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) together as a board so you have a common understanding.
- Offer DEI training to the entire college during in-service days.
- Make sure all stakeholders have a voice and are heard.
- Hire a person to oversee college DEI goals and programs.
- Your board should reflect your student and community demographics. Reach out to recruit BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and LGBTQ candidates for your board of trustees if this is not the case.
- Hire a president who is committed to DEI in both words and action.
- Make sure your hiring process at all levels is not excluding applicants of color.
- Learn how to be an ally.

This work is a journey. A just society is worth working toward. Keep going!

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AWARD

ACCT annually recognizes the tremendous services of and contributions made by community college chief executive officers.

The Association Award is named in honor of Marie Y. Martin, who served as director of the Community College Unit, U.S. Office of Education, and as a chief executive officer in the Los Angeles Community College District.

ELIGIBILITY

Any chief executive officer (must be currently serving when nomination is submitted) of an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution board or state board for two-year postsecondary institutions is eligible to receive this award.

CRITERIA

- » What has the CEO initiated or helped to develop in the area of innovative programs used in two-year postsecondary institutions?
- » How has the CEO served on technical or special committees serving two-year postsecondary education, and what impact did this effort have in the community, state, or nation?
- » How has the CEO demonstrated a “caring attitude” toward the board of trustees, administrators, faculty, and students?
- » How has the CEO been active in developing, organizing, or supporting state and/or national two-year postsecondary education associations?
- » What has the CEO published in the area of two-year postsecondary educational concepts?
- » What awards or honors has this CEO received in recognition of leadership in the college, community, or nation?
- » What outstanding characteristics of this CEO motivated you to nominate him or her?



2021 MARIE Y. MARTIN CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AWARD WINNER

MONTY E. SULLIVAN **LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM, LOUISIANA**

WHAT DOES THE AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

Winning the Marie Y. Martin CEO award is a reflection of an exceptional team who spent the last decade focused on the mission and innovating to the benefit of our students and our business partners. I am grateful to each and every member of the team for all of their contributions to our shared success.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGE CEOS?

As a leader, I challenge my colleagues to place themselves in the shoes of their students daily to understand the financial, social and personal challenges that they must overcome in order to find success. As leaders, we must work with a sense of urgency for these students every day.

FACULTY MEMBER AWARD

ACCT recognizes that the central purpose of our community colleges is teaching and learning. ACCT annually presents its Faculty Member Award to say “thank you” to outstanding faculty members.

The Association Award is named in honor of ACCT’s founding executive director, William H. Meardy, who championed the concept of faculty excellence as the foundation of success in the community college movement.

ELIGIBILITY

Any full-time instructor (must be employed when nomination is submitted) or an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution or state board for two-year postsecondary institutions is eligible to receive this award.

CRITERIA

- » In what ways has the educator demonstrated excellence in teaching?
- » What has this educator initiated and helped to develop in the area of innovative programs used in two-year postsecondary institutions?
- » How has this educator served on technical or special committees that have positively affected the community, state, or nation?
- » How has this educator provided leadership in helping to solve challenges facing two-year postsecondary education?
- » How has this educator been active in developing, organizing, or supporting state and/or national two-year postsecondary associations?
- » What awards or honors has this educator received in recognition of leadership in the college or community?



2021 WILLIAM H. MEARDY FACULTY MEMBER AWARD WINNER

KENNETH WALZ

MADISON AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE, WISCONSIN

WHAT DOES THE AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

I view this award as a recognition of the work done by Madison Area Technical College as a leader in renewable energy and STEM education. The college has had engineering transfer and renewable energy programs since 2006, and I am honored to be one of the faculty who teaches our students and champions these efforts. This award serves as an acknowledgement of the accomplishments of our school and our alumni, and it is a testament to the culture of innovation that the college has fostered for faculty and staff. Receiving this award has allowed me to make new professional connections with other educators. I hope to leverage that benefit to grow my professional network and further advance the work of the college to serve our students and community.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER FACULTY?

It is my belief that awards like this only result if two things happen: 1) You need to stay in your job long enough to accumulate some accomplishments and for others to recognize your work, and 2) You need to be part of a very strong team. I am very fortunate to be part of a great team at Madison Area Technical College, and to have worked here for several years. The school has provided me with a platform for professional growth and has surrounded me with many talented colleagues to collaborate with.

So, my advice to others is to seek out the best employers possible in your discipline and geographic area. Find a position that matches your personal interests, skill set, and goals. Then approach your career with enthusiasm, determination, and zeal, and embrace collaboration with your colleagues. If you follow your passion, and if you work well with others, good things will inevitably result from your efforts.

PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER AWARD

The Professional Board Staff Member Award is presented to a board staff member in recognition of exemplary service to a board.

ELIGIBILITY

Any board staff member (i.e., an administrative assistant or executive secretary to the president/superintendent) of an ACCT member two-year postsecondary institution is eligible to receive this award. Those currently serving on the ACCT Professional Board Staff Network Executive Committee are not eligible to receive this award.

CRITERIA

- » In what ways has this staff member demonstrated a service leadership role toward the members of the board of trustees, administrators, faculty, students, and community?
- » How does this staff member demonstrate performance in support of the board/CEO team?
- » How has this staff member assisted the board/CEO team in developing or initiating innovative projects for your institution?
- » What professional development activities at the national and/or state level has this staff member pursued?
- » What other continuing education activities has this staff member pursued?
- » What recognition has this staff member received for his/her leadership or involvement in the college or community?
- » What outstanding characteristics motivated you to nominate this staff member?



From left: 2020-21 ACCT Chair David Mathis, LCTCS Professional Board Staff Member Sara Landreneau Kleinpeter, and Former ACCT President & CEO J. Noah Brown.

2021 ACCT PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER AWARD WINNER

SARA LANDRENEAU KLEINPETER

LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM, LOUISIANA

WHAT DOES THE AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

It was an honor to receive the ACCT Association Professional Board Staff Member Award. I've worked with Louisiana Community & Technical College System (LCTCS), and through that with ACCT, for eight years. Each one allowed me to grow professionally and personally. It was a humbling moment to receive this award with three board members, two of their spouses, five chancellors, my boss, and his wife to watch me accept the award. I cannot thank them and many more for their unwavering support that allowed me to receive this recognition. They've (with the rest of our executive team and twelve total chancellors) shared the hard work of educating our Louisiana citizens, and to be recognized for the small part I play in that mission speaks volumes about our team at LCTCS.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF?

I encourage anyone in the specialized field of community college board support to continue being a source of knowledge for anyone on your campus—from student to parent to executive member to foundation partner and beyond. Your role is pivotal to your board's mission, and in turn, that of your college.

2021 ACCT REGIONAL AWARDEES

TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

CENTRAL REGION
Thomas Milligan
Edison State Community College, Ohio

NORTHEAST REGION
Victor M. Richel
Union County College, New Jersey

PACIFIC REGION
Demion Clinco
Pima County Community College District,
Arizona

SOUTHERN REGION
George Little
Sandhills Community College, North Carolina

WESTERN REGION
Gigi Edwards Bryant
Austin Community College District, Texas

EQUITY AWARD RECIPIENTS

CENTRAL REGION
Madison Area Technical College, Wisconsin

NORTHEAST REGION
Hudson County Community College, New Jersey

PACIFIC REGION
Mt. Hood Community College, Oregon

SOUTHERN REGION
Atlanta Technical College, Georgia

WESTERN REGION
Austin Community College District, Texas

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AWARD RECIPIENTS

CENTRAL REGION
David H. Devier
Glen Oaks Community College, Michigan

NORTHEAST REGION
Murray K. Hoy
Wor-Wic Community College, Maryland

PACIFIC REGION
Lisa B. Rhine
Yavapai College, Arizona

SOUTHERN REGION
Monty E. Sullivan
Louisiana Community & Technical College
System, Louisiana

WESTERN REGION
Juan E. Mejia
Tyler Junior College, Texas

FACULTY MEMBER AWARD RECIPIENTS

CENTRAL REGION
Kenneth Walz
Madison Area Technical College, Wisconsin

NORTHEAST REGION
Debonair Oates-Primus
Community College of Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania

PACIFIC REGION
Mays Imad
Pima County Community College District,
Arizona

SOUTHERN REGION
Eric Goff
Midlands Technical College, South Carolina

PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER AWARD RECIPIENTS

CENTRAL REGION
Rebecca McNulty
Southcentral Kentucky Community & Technical
College, Kentucky

NORTHEAST REGION
Cynthia Gruskos
Brookdale Community College, New Jersey

PACIFIC REGION
Margaret Lamb
San Diego Community College District,
California

SOUTHERN REGION
Sara Landreneau Kleinpeter
Louisiana Community & Technical
College System, Louisiana

NOMINATING PROCESS

WHO MAY NOMINATE

Regional Awards nominations may be made by a two-year postsecondary institution board, a state board for community colleges, a board of a state trustee association, or a university board of regents that controls the two-year postsecondary institutions in that state. All boards submitting nominations must be ACCT members.

WHO CAN BE NOMINATED

All nominees must be on the board of or employed by an ACCT member institution at the time of nomination. **For more information regarding eligibility, please refer to the FAQ page.**

SELECTION PROCESS

Each awards committee is composed of trustees and presidents from states throughout each region. The ACCT Regional Chair serves as committee chair. *Any awards committee member whose college submitted nomination(s) will refrain from voting within that category.*

RULES

Only the **first complete set** of nomination materials received for a nominee will be forwarded to the committee. Only one nomination (nominee) per category will be accepted from any institution board.

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS

In order for a nomination to be considered, all of the following items must be included. **The total length must not exceed six pages.**

1. A cover letter from the board outlining board support.
2. Answer the questions under the “Criteria” section in the order listed. A response covering each question is required.
3. A nominee’s resume of no more than two pages may accompany the official nomination (not required); however, a resume will be considered part of the six-page total.
4. A narrative statement not to exceed 150 words that explains the nominee’s qualifications and is suitable for use in ACCT publicity materials. This is not included in the six-page nomination packet, but it is required for a nomination to be considered.

PHOTOS

No photo is required at the time of submission. If a candidate is selected to receive an ACCT Regional Award, he or she will be required to submit a photograph for ACCT publicity materials.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION

ONLINE – Visit www.acct.org/awards and click on the awards link to submit a nomination online.

E-MAIL – Download the nomination form at www.acct.org/awards. Submit the complete nomination packet to awards@acct.org. Emailed nominations must be submitted by June 13, 2022.

MAIL – Nominations will also be accepted via mail (return receipt requested). Download the nomination form at www.acct.org/awards. Mail complete nomination packet to: ACCT Awards, 1101 17th Street, NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20036. Shipping costs are the responsibility of the sender. Materials must be received by June 13, 2022.

Note: An ACCT staff member will contact you within three business days (not including weekends) of receiving your information. If you do not receive a confirmation within 72 business hours, please contact the ACCT Awards Department at awards@acct.org or call (202) 775-4667.

It is the responsibility of the member institution to ensure that the submitted award nomination is verified.

FAQS & CHECKLIST

FAQS

MAY I NOMINATE SOMEONE WHO WON A REGIONAL AWARD LAST YEAR?

No. Awardees are ineligible for consideration for a period of three years after receiving an award. *In other words, 2021 awardees are not eligible for nomination until the 2025 awards year.*

Additionally, Charles Kennedy Equity awardees are ineligible for consideration for a period of ten years after receiving an award. *In other words, 2021 awardees are not eligible for nomination until the 2032 awards year.*

WHO ELSE IS INELIGIBLE TO BE NOMINATED?

- a. Current ACCT Board of Directors members.
- b. Past and present ACCT Board of Directors Executive Committee members.*
- c. Current ACCT Professional Board Staff Network Executive Committee members.
- d. Non-members.

** Note: Past ACCT Board of Directors Executive Committee members are eligible five years after their ACCT Board of Directors term ends. In other words, if their term ends 2021 then they are not eligible until 2027 awards year for the M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award.*

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE AWARDS PROGRAM?

Visit www.acct.org/awards. The following items are listed there:

1. Awards Brochure and Program
2. Awards FAQ
3. Current and Past Regional and Association Awardees
4. Judging Criteria
5. Sample Nominations

If you have additional questions about the awards process, please contact the ACCT Awards Department at awards@acct.org or call (202) 775-4667.

CHECKLIST

To ensure that your awards nomination is processed without delay, check off the following items before submitting nominations.

- Packet is NO MORE THAN 6 pages (excluding narrative statement)
- Cover letter of support from the board
- Responses to each criteria question
- Resume (optional; no more than two pages — if included, remember that the resume counts in the six-page limit)
- Narrative statement (no more than 150 words)
- Submit nomination by June 13, 2022 deadline

ACCT

**ASSOCIATION OF
COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES**
1101 17th Street NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20036
www.accti.org

 twitter.com/CCTrustees

 facebook.com/CCTrustees

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JUNE 13, 2022