Cerritos College
2016-2017
Outstanding Faculty Awards Ceremony
Thursday
April 27
11 a.m.
Student Center
Welcome
Dr. Jose Fierro
President/Superintendent

Michelle Lewellen
Faculty Senate President

Joseph Van de Mortel
Chair, Professional Relations Committee

Most Outstanding Faculty
James MacDevitt
Fine Arts

Presented by
Gary Pritchard
Acting Dean, Academic Affairs
Instructional Dean, Fine Arts/Mass Communications

Foundation Presentation by
Steve Richardson
Executive Director, Foundation and Community Advancement
Outstanding Faculty

Presented by
Ms. Michelle Lewellen

Sylvia Bello-Gardner  Counseling
Kim Berling  Philosophy
Jeffery Bradbury  Chemistry
Ja’net Danielo  Liberal Arts
Steven La Vigne  DSPS
Connie Mayfield  Music
Miodrag Micic  Technology
Chace Tydell  Biology

Years of Service Awards

Presented by
Rick Miranda
Acting Vice President of Academic Affairs/Assistant Superintendent

25 Years of Service

Constance J Boardman  Science, Engineering & Mathematics
Mark J Fronke  Business Education
Jayananda Hiranandani  Technology
Christine S Lopez  Fine Arts/Communications
Vykki D Morgan  Business Education
Cynthia S Moriarty  Business Education
Victor E Obasohan  Humanities/Social Science
Ana E Torres-Bower  Humanities/Social Science
Kevin R Taylor  Technology

30 Years of Service

Robert J Chester  Liberal Arts
Barbara Ann Read Soden  Business Education

Acknowledgements

The Cerritos College Foundation is acknowledged for its generous, consistent and annual financial support to the Outstanding Faculty Awards project from its inception.

The Professional Relations Committee

Joseph Van de Mortel
Chair, Professional Relations Committee

Nina Motruk  Technology
Phuong Nguyen  Science, Engineering, and Mathematics
Lydia Cosio  Health Occupations
Donald Garriott  Disabled Student Program and Service
Thomas Caines  Health, Physical Education, Dance and Athletics
Gary Pritchard  Instructional Dean, Fine Arts

For further information concerning the Outstanding Faculty Awards Program, contact the Faculty Senate Office at (562) 860-2451, Ext. 2217

Closing

Joseph Van de Mortel
Cerritos College
Cerritos Community College District
11110 Alondra Boulevard
Norwalk, California 90650

Cerritos College Administration
Jose Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent

Rick Miranda
Acting Vice President of Academic Affairs/
Assistant Superintendent

Felipe Lopez
Vice President of Business Services/
Assistant Superintendent

Adriana Flores-Church, Ed.D
Vice President of Human Resources/
Assistant Superintendent

Stephen B. Johnson, Ed.D.
Vice President of Student Services/
Assistant Superintendent

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Board Clerk

Dr. Sandra Salazar
Member

Karen F. Patron D.
Student Member

Newly Tenured Faculty

Aemiro Beyene
Instructor/Mathematics
Science, Engineering and Mathematics

Angela Cho
Instructor/Mathematics
Science, Engineering and Mathematics

Anna Valcarcel
Instructor/Biology
Science, Engineering and Mathematics
Dr. Chace Tydell
Biology

Dr. Chace Tydell has loved teaching anatomy, biology, and physiology at Cerritos College since 2010. She earned a veterinary degree from the University of California, Davis and practiced pet medicine for 15 years. Fascinated by the role of the immune system in health and disease, Dr. Tydell accepted a post-doctoral post at the University of California, Irvine School of Medicine, where she identified a novel anti-bacterial protein. For this discovery, Dr. Tydell was awarded a National Institutes of Health grant for research she pursued at the California Institute of Technology.

She feels she has found her home among the amazing students of Cerritos College. As pre-health advisor, Dr. Tydell is dedicated to student success. She leads two advanced biology seminars each semester. Her Strange Biology seminar has studied animals that can photosynthesize and some that can dehydrate entirely for decades and come back to life.

Chace does a great job of relating real life and clinical issues to anatomy and physiology. She brought embedded tutors to the anatomy and physiology labs, and coordinates the AP 120 courses. She offers seminar courses to advanced students on biological and medical issues. She mentors our pre-medical students and helps them develop the confidence to apply to schools they would not have otherwise considered. She is a vital member of the SEM Division.

Connie Boardman
Instructional Dean of Science, Engineering and Mathematics
Dr. Miodrag Micic
Technology

Miodrag “Mickey” Micic, Sc.D., Ph.D., M.T.M., CSWP, is department chair and instructor of engineering design technology. Before joining Cerritos College, Dr. Micic was a vice president of research and development at MP Biomedicals LLC in Santa Ana, California. Dr. Micic has published books, research, and review articles, and he is an inventor with issued U.S. patents. He holds a Ph.D. and M.S. in chemistry from the University of Miami; M.T.M. from Washington State University, WA; Sc.D. and M.Sc. in physical chemistry and bachelor’s in physics and fundamentals of engineering from University of Belgrade; and another bachelor’s from Belgrade Polytechnic Academy. Dr. Micic is a Certified SolidWorks Professional, Accredited SolidWorks Educator, and Solidworks Research Partner. He currently holds a few adjunct teaching positions and works as an industry consultant. Dr. Micic is also a commercial pilot, certified flight instructor, advanced ground instructor, and PADI Master Scuba Diver.

Dr. Miodrag Micic is our expert in engineering design technology, new product development, and plastics manufacturing technology. He is an industry leader that works hard to help his students get certified in Solidworks, Inventor, and composites. He has placed a number of students in industry. Students in Dr. Micic’s classes are never bored as he constantly updates projects they work on to ensure that the learning process is interesting for all of them.

Nick Real, Ed.D.
Instructional Dean – Technology Division

James MacDevitt

James MacDevitt is Assistant Professor of Art at Cerritos College, Director/Curator of the Cerritos College Art Gallery, and Director of the Foundation for Art Resources, one of the oldest non-profit arts advocacy groups in Southern California, which brought the latest iteration of the FAR Bazaar to the abandoned Fine Arts building at Cerritos College. In addition to founding the multi-institutional SUR:biennial and the collaborative Art+Tech Artist-in-Residency, MacDevitt has also curated numerous exhibitions for the College, including OVER/FLOW: Horror Vacui in an Age of Information Abundance, Architectural Deinforcement: Constructing Disaster, and Decay, and After Image: The Photographic Process(ed). His essay “The User-Archivist and Collective (In)Voluntary Memory: Read/Writing the Networked Digital Archive” was included in Revisualizing Visual Culture, and his essay “The Ties That Un/Bind: On the Enigmatic Appeal of Meta/Data” was featured in the catalog for MetaDataPhile: The Collapse of Visual Information at California State University, Fullerton’s Begovich Gallery. MacDevitt holds a master’s in art history from the University of California, Riverside, where he previously served as Digital Media Associate and Assistant Director of its Sweeney Art Gallery.

Each semester, James MacDevitt delights and challenges our senses with his thoughtful exhibitions in the Cerritos College Art Gallery. Recently, James worked on a massive scale with the successful FAR Bazaar exhibit, which captured the attention of the Los Angeles art world and brought thousands of patrons to our campus for a truly unique art experience. James also organizes the highly successful Student Art Exhibition (SAE) and the artist-in-residence program collaborating with the CTE programs on campus and professional artists. James’ wonderful sense of humor and artistic talent is only surpassed by his love of teaching.

Gary Pritchard
Acting Dean, Academic Affairs
Instructional Dean, Fine Arts/Mass Communications
Sylvia Bello-Gardner
Counseling

Sylvia is a daughter of immigrants – her mother from Mexico, and father from Italy. She grew up in the surrounding community and was a first-generation college student. Sylvia has dedicated her career to furthering education for students. She completed her B.A. in psychology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and M.S in education psychology from California State University, Long Beach. Her work at Cerritos College began in 1978 as the EOPS outreach worker, and she later worked as a counselor for UCLA’s Academic Advancement Program. Sylvia joined the Counseling Department in 1987 and serves as a specialist in health occupations majors. She has taught in the Learning Communities FYE program since 1995. She has served as the Counseling Department Instructional Chair, and is on the leadership team for Cerritos Complete/K-16 as one of the lead counselors. She will be completing her 30 years at the College this year.

Sylvia Bello-Gardner has been a leader on campus representing counseling for many years. She was instrumental in working on counseling courses including COUN 200, Success in College and Career. As a proactive counselor, Sylvia helped design the Summer Connections program and educational planning workshops. She was our first counseling instructional chair, and is currently engaged in the Cerritos Complete/K-16 program as well as AIME and Pathways programs. As a longstanding member of the Developmental Education Committee, Sylvia continuously looks for ways to best serve first generation students at Cerritos College. Sylvia has a contagious energy and our Counseling Division is delighted to honor her just as she enthusiastically advocates for all of our students.

Dr. Renée DeLong
Dean of Counseling Services

Connie Mayfield
Music

In her music career, Connie Mayfield has been a professor, a dean, an author, and a performer. She holds a Ph.D. in music theory from the University of Kansas. Prior to that, she was a Fulbright Scholar to London, England, where she studied for three years.

Her textbook, Theory Essentials, originally published in 2002, is in its second edition. It is used by almost 200 colleges and universities in the United States and around the world.

As a professor in the Music Department, Connie teaches the four-semester sequence of music theory courses—required for all music majors. She inspires her students by sharing her love of the subject and making her classes a place of joy and lively exchange.

After serving as the Dean of the Fine Arts Division for seven years, she considers her move back to teaching as the best decision she has ever made.

Professor Connie Mayfield served as the Dean of Fine Arts/Communications for seven years before returning to teaching. Her tenure as dean was marked with distinction and high praise from her fellow administrators, faculty, and staff. Prof. Mayfield is a musician, scholar, and published author of the highest order. Her Theory Essentials is quickly becoming the standard music textbook in the United States. Although her credentials would provide her a faculty placement at any of the four-year universities and colleges that use her textbook, Prof. Mayfield instead created a world-class theory program at Cerritos College. She is among the most respected music professors in the country and among the most caring people I know.

Gary Pritchard
Acting Dean, Academic Affairs
Instructional Dean, Fine Arts/Mass Communications
Dr. Steven La Vigne
Disabled Students Program and Services

Dr. Steven La Vigne provides academic counseling and academic access to students with disabilities. He completed his doctorate in organizational leadership, publishing his dissertation, California Community College Administrators’ and DSPS Directors’ Perception and Understanding of Accommodating Students with Disabilities, in March 2015. He presented his research at the California Association for Postsecondary Education and Disability (CAPED) conference. He also published two articles in the CAPED Communique: Students with Disabilities get a V.I.P. Experience, and Calling on Your President. Dr. La Vigne’s research furthered his passion toward implementing change in higher education, and civil rights advocacy for all. Additionally, as the Active Minds’ club advisor, he uses his leadership to bring awareness to the stigmas surrounding mental health. Moreover, he helped bring the Send Silence Packing tour to Cerritos College in 2016, an emotionally powerful exhibit that displays over 1,000 backpacks representing the 1,100 suicides committed annually. Dr. La Vigne is passionate about helping all students realize their potential to thrive at Cerritos College and in life.

From the beginning, it was obvious that Dr. La Vigne had a passion and sensitivity for students. As a counselor, he’s always student focused. He’s secured grant funding to enhance services. Dr. La Vigne goes to great “heights” to serve. He has been known to walk to the roof of the Student Services Center and the “cat-walks” of Staples Center for students. Dr. La Vigne’s commitment to equity, universal design, and full-inclusion makes all the difference.

Lucinda Aborn, Ph.D., CRC
Dean, Disabled Students Programs and Services

Kim Berling
Philosophy

Dr. Kim Berling is an adjunct faculty in the Philosophy Department. In her two years at Cerritos College, she has taught world religions, feminism, and critical thinking. She also established a compassion-based Compassion-In-Action Club this year, which has worked on the issues of student hunger. The club won an award in its first semester. Dr. Berling has a holistic teaching approach which connects academic courses with compassionate activities. In her spare time, Dr. Berling runs a small non-profit organization in Nepal. She brings her spirit of volunteerism and altruism into all the work she does on campus. Dr. Berling serves on three committees on campus; Safe Zone, Service Learning Connectedness, and the Incubator Project, a sub-committee of the Diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Committee. She also delivered a TEDx talk on campus this year. Dr. Berling is an active member of Cerritos College.

Dr. Kim Berling joined the Philosophy Department in fall 2015. She is a native of California. She graduated from California High School in Whittier in 1982. She holds degrees in chemistry, philosophy, oriental medicine, and religious studies. She teaches Critical Thinking, World Religions, and Philosophy of the Body, Feminism and Gender, and is the club advisor for the Altruism Club.

Rachel Mason
Dean of Business Education/Humanities-Social Science
Jeffery Bradbury
Chemistry

Jeffery Bradbury loves teaching at Cerritos College and loves the faculty and students. He grew up in Downey, and like many of Cerritos College students, he is the only person in his family’s history to graduate from college. Bradbury earned his chemistry degree from Biola University. He struggled to earn his master’s degree from California Polytechnic State University, Pomona in the evenings while teaching chemistry during the day at Warren High School. Bradbury is married to his wife Lisa and have three children. He loves to backpack and build craftsman style wood furniture. “I simply want to teach the way Jesus, and many of my wonderful colleagues teach. I believe teaching is what can be called a transforming friendship. My personal mission in life is to help others get ahead,” he said.

Ja’net Danielo
English

Ja’net Danielo began teaching at Cerritos College as a part-time instructor in 2004 before accepting a full-time position in 2012. Ja’net prides herself on the rapport she establishes with her students, as she believes it is the foundation on which their success is built. It’s also her conviction that the college experience should extend beyond the classroom. Ja’net coordinates several campus events and workshops that help students see that Cerritos College is not just a school but a diverse, inclusive community to which they belong. Ja’net is a member of the Safe Zone Committee and an advisor for the Creative Writer’s Club. Currently, she is working with colleagues to develop a creative writing program to foster a literary culture on campus by inviting writers and promoting student and faculty readings. Ja’net looks forward to contributing to her department and the campus for years to come.

Connie Boardman
Instructional Dean of Science, Engineering and Mathematics

Ja’net Danielo, a New Yorker by birth, earned her baccalaureate degree from New York University before migrating to the West Coast, where she earned an MFA from California State University, Long Beach, specializing in poetry. An accomplished poet, Ja’net’s works have been widely published. From 2009 to 2011, she worked as an English instructor in Madrid, Spain. Ja’net is a facilitator in the Safe Zone workshops, advises the Creative Writing Club, and facilitates 15er Creative Writing event. She is also a seamstress of the highest caliber, designing and creating many of her own outfits.

David Fabish
Instructional Dean of Liberal Arts