

Board of Trustees Agenda Item

Board Meeting Date: August 6, 2012

Title of Item: Foothill College Professional Achievement Awards

Background and Analysis:

Foothill College seeks board approval for faculty Professional Achievement Awards (PAAs) for the 2012-13 year.

Recommendation: Foothill administration recommends approval of faculty PAA awards

Submitted by: Judy Miner
Additional contact names:
Is backup provided? Yes.



FOOTHILL COLLEGE

(650) 949-7200
(650) 948-4244 (fax)
minerjudy@foothill.edu

To: Board of Trustees

Cc: D. Novotny

From: Judy Miner

Date: July 19, 2012

Re: Recommendations for Professional Achievement Awards 2012-2013

The following 18 individuals are recommended for Professional Achievement Awards for the 2012-2013 academic year. Upon review, their applications met and often exceeded the requirements of this recognition.

**Robert Cormia
Tess Hansen
Meredith Heiser
Ron Herman
Kay Jones
Phuong Lam
Londa Larson
Eta Lin
Kent Manske
Natalia Menendez
Cara Miyasaki
Preston Ni
Sara Seyedin
Loretta Silverman
Patricia Gibbs Stayte
Shawn Townes
Anita Whitehill
Russell Wong**

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
2012-2013
Application Summaries

Robert Cormia

Division: Physical Sciences, Mathematics & Engineering

Department: Engineering

Performance of Duties: Robert has successfully transitioned from Computer and Information Technology and Web Applications to Physical Science and Engineering. He has developed a successful NSF proposal for developing a four course program in nanomaterials engineering. Robert has been continuing his informal education in energy technology through Stanford University Energy Seminar and GCEP (Global Climate and Energy Program), seminars in smart grid technology, and at the PG&E Pacific Energy Center. Robert had an article on “Lessons Learned from Using Building Energy Intensity to Guide Climate Action Planning Efforts at Foothill College” published with the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Robert has recorded 16.15 units.

Professional Service: Robert has an exemplary service record. His work includes service on Hiring and Tenure Review Committees, as well as the Academic Senate where he served as Secretary/Treasurer. He was instrumental in developing district policy as part of the Smoking Policy Committee, as well as a lead author in developing the Climate Action Plan as part of the Sustainability Committee. He also worked on a team that developed the first District-wide energy and Green House Gas (GHG) audit in fall 2008. Robert has also presented and is assisting in the development of the Science Learning Institute at Foothill.

Tess Hansen

Division: Language Arts

Department: English

Performance of Duties: Tess marked 20 years at Foothill College in the 2011-12 Academic Year. She completed her dissertation and graduated with her Doctoral Degree from San Francisco State University in May 2012. Her program focused on social justice in education, and she has been able to translate what she has learned in discussions about student equity at Foothill. Tess has continued to revise her curriculum for her basic skills reading course, integrating reading and writing.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Tess has recorded 67.5 units.

Professional Service: Tess has represented Foothill well in her role as a Commissioner with the Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges for the past six years. She has also served on the Academic Senate for two years as Secretary/Treasurer, as well as performing as Department Coordinator for the English Department and sitting on a tenure review committee.

Meredith Heiser**Division: Business & Social Sciences****Department: Political Science**

Performance of Duties: Meredith participated in two seminars, the 2009 Fulbright-Hays seminar in China and the 2010 NEH seminar at Stanford, that focused on her area of specialization, international relations, and allowed her to bring fresh material into the classroom. Through her work on the Committee on On-Line Education and as Faculty Association Liaison, she has also helped to shape the evaluation of on-line instruction.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Meredith has recorded 15.71 units.

Professional Service: Meredith has served Foothill in a variety of capacities, particularly in her roles for the Faculty Association where she is on the Executive Council, a member of the Negotiations Team, and a liaison to the Academic Senate, Operations Planning Committee, and Planning and Resources Council. Additionally, she has served on hiring committees as well as the Committee on On-Line Education.

Ron Herman**Division: Fine Arts & Communication****Department: Photography**

Performance of Duties: Ron has worked to support his department, serving as Chair and improving his “Photography 8: Photography of Multicultural America” (which has become the highest enrolled course in the Photography Department). Ron organized the “Cuba in Focus” exhibition, which included special guest artist/lecturer Jose Manuel Fors. The event brought in over 300 community members and received positive media attention. He stays current in his field by attending numerous seminars and conferences. Ron continues to create and exhibit his own artwork – he has participated in six exhibitions in the past four years.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Ron has recorded 14.33 units.

Professional Service: Ron has actively supported Foothill, serving on accreditation, hiring and tenure review committees. He has organized three major exhibitions on campus, as well as four student exhibitions in the Foothill Library. Ron has also guest lectured at the San Jose Museum of Art and at Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana (MACLA) Art Center in San Jose, as well as at the Fototeca de Cuba in Havana, Cuba.

Kay Jones**Division: Library****Department: Library**

Performance of Duties: Kay works daily with students to help them develop their skills in finding and using library resources, and this is reflected in the positive ratings on her peer and student evaluations. Additionally, she has created two “Libguides” covering United States history and primary sources for United States and California. She also serves as a liaison with the Business & Social Sciences Division and regularly communicates with them about new and continuing resources available. Kay has been working on an online Technical Services Procedures Manual for the library, which utilizes a web-based Wiki format allowing for interactive communication between staff. With the reduction of three librarians

from the staff, she has also taken on additional responsibilities that include overseeing reserve book purchases, managing the supply budget and coordinating monthly student/faculty art displays.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Kay has recorded 9.81 units.

Professional Service: Kay is a supportive member of the Foothill Campus, serving on accreditation, hiring and college curriculum committees. She has also worked on Foothill's Rubric Assessment Model for Evaluating SLOs (FRAMES) Committee.

Phuong Lam

Division: Physical Sciences, Mathematics & Engineering

Department: Mathematics

Performance of Duties: Phuong spent her Professional Development Leave taking courses in linear algebra and a series of physics classes to enhance her teaching and allow her to comfortably teach any math offered at Foothill. She has participated in the Math My Way program, team teaching with other instructors. Phuong is also the Math Coordinator for the Pass the Torch program, mentoring and teaching student tutors.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Phuong has recorded 30.94 units.

Professional Service: Phuong has provided strong support for Foothill, serving on a number of committees including the Professional Development Leave Committee, Basic Skills Committee, Learning Resource Steering Committee, and Pass the Torch Scholarship Committee. Additionally, she has served as a tutor in the PSME Tutoring center.

Londa Larson

Division: Physical Sciences, Mathematics & Engineering

Department: Chemistry

Performance of Duties: As one of the senior members of the Chemistry Department, Londa has provided a guiding influence for the department and improvement of the program. She has served as a resource for adjunct and new full time faculty. Londa developed two new courses: "Physics 12: Introduction to Modern Physics," and "Chemistry 70: Study Skills and Problem Solving Strategies for Chemistry." She has extended the department's guided-inquiry laboratory program into the "Chemistry 1C: Qualitative Analysis Experiments," and additionally has developed teacher's manuals for use with the Chemistry 1B and 1C lab program.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Londa has recorded 9.66 units.

Professional Service: Londa has provided excellent support by serving on hiring committees as well as three tenure review committees. She has also provided free chemistry tutoring to Pioneer High School students on a regular basis.

Eta Lin**Division: Business & Social Sciences****Department: Psychology**

Performance of Duties: Eta has been an active member of the Psychology Department, involved in curriculum revisions and developing the first A.A. Transfer degree in Psychology. She has worked with colleague Ben Stefonik to develop a new course, "Psychology 7: Statistics for Behavioral Sciences," which will be offered this coming year. Eta has also worked with the Psychology and Sociology Departments to develop a successful relationship with Stanford University in creating the Research Experience Program.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Eta has recorded 9.32 units.

Professional Service: Eta has been a supportive member of the Foothill campus, serving on a number of committees including curriculum, hiring, scholarship and Student Equity committees. She has also worked with the Academic Senate, serving as a liaison for the division.

Kent Manske**Division: Fine Arts & Communication****Department: Art**

Performance of Duties: Kent works with his peers to update and keep his curriculum relevant. He strives to be an effective instructor, making each class a high-quality learning experience. Kent has organized over 38 student exhibitions and events, participated in collaborative projects with eight other academic departments, as well as being a faculty advisor for clubs, student run businesses and internship programs. In addition, he has exhibited his own artwork nationally, been published in print and online, and has been nominated for several community based leadership awards.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Kent has recorded 10.22 units.

Professional Service: Kent has demonstrated strong support to Foothill through work on the tenure review and Sustainability Committees. He also plans, produces and manages the annual Book Arts Jam on campus. In addition, he manages the Print and Book Arts website, publishes a newsletter and serves as a faculty advisor for a number of student groups on campus.

Natalia Menendez**Division: Language Arts****Department: English**

Performance of Duties: Natalia has fine tuned assignments and strengthened her curriculum for the Mfumo Program and Basic Skills courses and as a result has seen more student ownership of challenges in class. She has been increasing her technical skills through courses at Apple, and next year plans to do the ETUDES training so that she can hybridize her course content to include an online component. She developed several new courses as well as working on program review for Pass the Torch. While on Professional Development Leave, Natalia also attended the On Course National Conference, which has given her some experiential learning strategies and "brain-based learning" that she will be incorporating into the classroom this Fall.

Professional Growth: For the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Natalia has recorded 9.00 units.

Professional Service: Natalia has provided outstanding service to Foothill through her work on the Harambee Rites of Passage and Mfumo Program, as well as serving on hiring and tenure review committees.

Cara Miyasaki

Division: Biological & Health Sciences

Department: Dental Assisting

Performance of Duties: Cara has been the Program Director for the Dental Assisting Program and teaching dental hygiene and dental assisting since 1991. She attends local, state and national conferences for dental educators to update her skills and keep connected with other instructors. She always brings back at least one new technique from conferences that she can incorporate into her classes. The program has its own accreditation process, which requires two years of preparation—her accreditation document was over 2,000 pages. Along with the Program Director for Dental Hygiene, she supervised the remodeling of their classrooms, clinic and sterilization area.

Professional Growth: For the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Cara has recorded 15.22 units.

Professional Service: Cara has provided excellent support to Foothill, serving as chair for a tenure review committee as well as chairing a hiring committee and working on the Kaider Scholarship Committee. She has also served the professional community, as a tri-chair for the Bay Area Educators Group, and as a board member for the California Dental Assisting Teachers Association (as well as the Vice President of their Foundation).

Preston Ni

Division: Fine Arts & Communication

Department: Communication Studies

Performance of Duties: Preston supports his department and strives to improve his program. He has developed a new course “Career and Leadership Communication in the Global Workplace,” specifically to address the needs of students and workers transitioning to new jobs who need to be more competitive in the job market and workplace. He participated in the Management Development Program at Harvard University, which deepened his skills as an instructor and potential administrator. He has also attended several college courses in Cultural Anthropology, Women’s Studies and Psychology, to provide an interdisciplinary perspective to his field, and to learn from diverse teaching styles.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Preston has recorded 21.33 units.

Professional Service: Preston has provided support to the Foothill community, serving on the Curriculum Committee and as Chair of Communication Studies.

Sara Seyedin

Division: Business & Social Sciences

Department: Accounting

Performance of Duties: Sara has actively worked to improve the accounting program. She transitioned her accounting courses from ETUDES to ETUDES NG, integrating many interactive learning tools. Sara has mentored and evaluated adjunct faculty, and trained two adjunct faculty on course management platforms, as well as sharing her ETUDES NG website template with department colleagues. Sara created two new courses, “Auditing” and “Accounting for Not-for-Profit Companies,” which were offered in Summer 2011, and co-developed an additional course, “Fraud Examination,” which will be offered this Fall. She has also assisted the Dean with scheduling and hiring of current part-time accounting faculty. Sara was selected to be “Outstanding Educator of the Year” by the California Certified Public Accounting Society Education Foundation.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Sara has recorded 9.31 units.

Professional Service: Sara has been a vital support for the college, serving on numerous hiring committees, as well as the Academic Senate, Professional Development Committee, College Skills Committee, and Committee on Online Learning. She also has worked and served in many capacities in the professional community, on the California Board of Accountancy, the California Certified Public Accounting Society, the American Accounting Association and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Loretta Silverman

Division: Physical Sciences, Mathematics & Engineering

Department: Mathematics

Performance of Duties: Lori completed her Ph.D. in Higher Education in 2010. She focused on pedagogical theories and strategies to improve retention, and has been incorporating what she learned into her mathematics courses. She has worked with colleagues on an NSF-STEP grant, and also to develop pilot courses to implement STEM pathways.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Loretta has recorded 31.00 units.

Professional Service: Lori has actively served Foothill on tenure review committees and hiring committees; additionally, she has served on the Judicial Affairs Committee, the Physical Science and Engineering Center (PSEC) Committee and the Let’s Play Math Committee.

Patricia Gibbs Stayte

Division: Business & Social Sciences

Department: Sociology

Performance of Duties: Patricia has focused on strengthening her teaching, and contributing more directly to Foothill’s shared governance. She has become Chair of the Business and Social Science Division Curriculum Committee, as well as the department Student Learning Outcomes Coordinator. Patricia developed the first Sociology Associate of Arts – Transfer degree, and has worked with

colleagues to develop two new courses, "Sociology of Crime" and "Sociology of Gender," which will be offered this Fall.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Patricia has recorded 10.5 units.

Professional Service: Patricia has provided support and service to Foothill serving on hiring and tenure review committees, as well as the Transfer Advisory Committee, and the Jack Kent Cook Academic Scholarship Organization. She has also represented Foothill in the greater community, by participating with programs such as the Stanford Research Experience Program, Chairing the Bridge to Africa program at Palo Verde Elementary School, and the Stanford DARE program.

Shawn Townes

Division: Fine Arts & Communication

Department: Communication Studies

Performance of Duties: Shawn has focused on reassessing her courses and reevaluating and reconfiguring methods of teaching to maintain the highest-level of pedagogical integrity. She has expanded the range of her course tools, and devoted effort to increasing the accessibility of her courses for all students. Shawn has also been very active in planning and coordinating lesson plans related to Foothill's Heritage Month activities. She has also worked with colleagues on curriculum mandates and development. Additionally, Shawn has served as an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) representative for hiring committees at Foothill.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Shawn has recorded 14.61 units.

Professional Service: Shawn has provided excellent support to the college serving on tenure review and hiring committees, as well as the Diversity Committee, Student Equity Committee and Planning Committees for Black History Month, Asian Pacific Island Month and Jewish Heritage Month.

Anita Whitehill

Division: Physical Sciences, Mathematics & Engineering/

Computers Technology & Information Systems

Department: CIS

Performance of Duties: Anita has attended workshops, courses and conferences in order to keep her on the cutting edge of new technology for her courses. She revised and rewrote eleven course outlines, as well as writing student learning outcomes and assessments for several programs. Anita also worked with colleagues to provide input on program level learning outcomes for the computer science degree/certification.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Anita has recorded 9.00 units.

Professional Service: Anita has supported Foothill by service on the Distance Education Advisory Committee, as well as the Curriculum Committee.

Russell Wong

Division: Adaptive Learning

Department: Adaptive Learning

Performance of Duties: Russell has taken an active role in his department, transforming many of his traditional classroom courses to web enhanced, hybrid and online courses through ETUDES. He has also developed a peer tutorial training and recruitment manual, a guide for new teaching assistants, to help students with disabilities. He intends to pursue and expand outreach efforts with public agencies, schools, colleges and universities to assist his students' success in matriculating.

Professional Growth: Over the four-year period of this Professional Achievement Award, Russell has recorded 9.33 units.

Professional Service: Russell has been a strong supporter of Foothill, sitting on the Buildings and Grounds Committee as well as the Academic Senate. He has also represented Foothill in the greater community, presenting at the California Para-Educator Conference, and participating in national and state conferences such as AHEAD, CAPED and the Learning and Brain Conferences.