NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NASH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

LARRY CARPENTER

NASH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
It is my passion to help students understand that an education unlocks dreams. Younger students sometimes see education in the here and now, but guiding them to think about their lifelong goals is a critical piece to successful advising. Each day, I strive to show students they are worthy and can achieve their dreams!
LASHAWN COOPER
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ELIZABETH HOOD

NASH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DANIEL MOORE

NASH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

TIERRA NORWOOD

NASH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JAMAL PITT

NASH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NATIONAL PARK COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JENNIFER SEWARD

NATIONAL PARK COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

KENNETH REED

NEW MEXICO JUNIOR COLLEGE
RHONDA TYLER

"The goal of education is not to think alike, but to think together." If we think together, be it with our students or be it with colleagues on their behalf, students are pushed to reach their highest potential.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY-
ALAMOGORDO
Supporting people is first and foremost in providing good customer service. When people feel equipped, empowered, and validated, they can ultimately support students in an authentic and amazing way.
KRISTINE JOHNSON

Practice is the way to ease the anxiety and hatred associated with math. It doesn't have to be so scary. I hope to engage my students and show them how fun math can be.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NORTH ARKANSAS COLLEGE
BRANDON CONE

Never miss the opportunity to serve a student. Phrases such as "that's not my job" don't accomplish anything. Each of us at our individual institutions has a vested interest in student success. Buy in! Always do your job to the best of your abilities with your students in mind.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

RICK WILLIAMS

NORTH ARKANSAS COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
Community colleges have an enormous impact on lifting individuals, families, and communities. Which places immense responsibility on our students to lead with competence and compassion centered around equity and student success for all. I am grateful to take part in the development of our next generation of community college leaders.
JAMES BARTLETT

I feel fortunate that NC State and the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research are committed to the development of community college leaders and developing researchers that focus on improving student success. Community colleges are our nation's best hope to create economic mobility for all.
Whenever we teach adults, there is a wealth of expertise and diverse perspectives in the room. We need to capitalize on what our students bring to the learning experience and actively involve them in the process.
I remind myself often that, "I get to teach these amazing students!" Teaching provides an opportunity to connect with students through their coursework and allows time for engaging in conversations about content and life. What an amazing process learning can be for us all.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ERINN GILMORE

Embracing students' uniqueness while making a positive difference in their education and lives continues to inspire my work as an educator. My goal is that every student I encounter will know that my support, guidance, and encouragement will help them to keep moving forward to achieve their educational and professional pursuits.
WILLIAM JACKSON
The best part about working in community colleges is the community aspect. I'm inspired to teach students who are likely to live and stay in my home community, students who could be my future nurse, teach my children, or in some other way be a part of my everyday life.
Abraham Lincoln once said, “Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other one thing.” Watching my community college students thrive despite many challenges inspires me to strive for excellence, while intertwining their personal and educational experiences helps to drive my students’ success.
As an educator, what energizes me the most is realizing that the knowledge that will be shared in the classroom is an important equalizer and agent of change that will hopefully have a positive impact in an individual’s development. I find that being genuine works best in establishing rapport with my students.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

LAURA DAVENPORT

NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE
VANESSA DEMONT

It is important that I am part of something bigger than myself. Sharing knowledge, helping others, and contributing to student success are the things that motivate me in my work.
My motivation comes from the students that I serve. They overcome obstacles on their path to higher education, but are still willing to challenge themselves and continuously strive to reach new goals. Their perseverance reminds me daily that anything is possible. I will always strive to advocate for and make decisions in their best interest.
RACHID MAKROZ

My passion for helping others achieve their goals motivates me on a daily basis. My passion is to teach. There is nothing more gratifying than helping students realize the potential to envision and accomplish their goals.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ALLEN MILLER

NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DAWN THOMPSON

NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE
I like to use multiple teaching strategies learned throughout my years in education in order to create a positive and engaging learning environment. The key is to know the students well enough to use the right strategy, at the right time, to make learning enjoyable and rewarding.
WILL BOWLIN

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MICHAEL BYRD

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Serving the Northeast career technical students and program instructors is where I belong. Nothing excites me more than receiving word from student apprentices and program graduates when they are hired or receive a promotion. The careers we are starting for our students make a difference in their lives and our communities.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

RAY HARRIS

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NORTHERN ESSEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

TAMMY FOSTER

NORTHERN ESSEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JAIME MCLENNAN

NORTHERN ESSEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DONNA TANNER

NORTHERN ESSEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JASON TERMINI

NORTHERN ESSEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS
NORTHLAND COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SARA JOHNSON

NORTHLAND COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE
KIRSTEN MICHALKE

Upon graduation, my professor's advice was simple and impactful, "Apply what you have learned. Knowledge for its own sake helps only you. Use it and you can help many people." This value-add mindset has influenced me throughout my career in community and technical education.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ADAWN NELSON

NORTHLAND COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NORTHSHORE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JANET ALESSI

NORTHSORe TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ROBERT PATE

NORTHSOKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

OLLIE VIGNES

NORTHSORE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

GREGORY WILSON

NORTHSHORE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MICHAEL ANDERSON

NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
LISA DOHM

The greatest joy of teaching languages is the ability to provide students with linguistic and cultural competence in order to develop a broader worldview, one with understanding, compassion, and a desire to explore the peoples and cultures of our world with deep curiosity and an open mind.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

TONY JENKINS

NORTHEASTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
KARL SCHROEDER

NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NORTHWEST VISTA COLLEGE
Students crave learning when they find academics applicable. Using real-life activities combined with theory and research discussions show them how to apply their learning to everyday relationships and life. Helping students learn to navigate life easier...THAT is rewarding.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Catherine Phillips

Northwest Vista College
Holly Zaldivar

My teaching philosophy has always been based on those professors I had in college who made a huge impact on me. They emphasized the saying, "When the student is ready, the teacher appears." We all become students, as well as teachers. Thus we all create the learning environment!
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NUNEZ COMMUNITY COLLEGE
KLAUS HEYER

Like my colleagues, I enjoy watching my students changing the quality of their lives. One of the principal indicators of job satisfaction is seeing a final product. A student enjoying a higher standard of living is a testament to having made a difference.
KEITH PROVINCE

It's a privilege to teach the knowledge and skills it will take to obtain a welding career in an industry running short on those skills. I enjoy helping students to try and become the best they can be in that career.
NICK SLIE

I work with students to craft live performances and community collaborations that employ the strategic use of arts and culture to improve the living conditions of our world.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY - OKLAHOMA CITY
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NICHOLAS WEBB

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY - OKLAHOMA CITY
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

OLIVE-HARVEY COLLEGE
BRENDA BAKER

I strive to have each student leave my office with the impression that they are the only student I am working with. I will never know the long-term impact my interaction might have on a student's life trajectory. Each student's abilities and goals are important regardless of their personal and academic background.
JEFFERY DILLARD

I am always trying to earn the right to help each student become ethical, proficient, and critically thinking citizens. I earn this right by being open, honest, and not taking myself too seriously. By building trust, I believe a student can get closer to true learning and vigorous analysis.
“Love and build, love and work, love and fight. Love always comes first. Anything placed before LOVE will fail.” -Sista Souljah, Living Testimony. I am it. The older I become, the more I learn that anything is possible when it’s done with LOVE. My passion comes from those who saw potential in me as a student and a young mom.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

OLIVE-HARVEY COLLEGE

RICHARD SLATER
KHALILAH WATSON

OLIVE-HARVEY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

OZARKS TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JUDITH DASOVICH

OZARKS TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CHELSEA FORESEE

OZARKS TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CINDY HURT

OZARKS TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

BLAYNE RADFORD

OZARKS TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Palm Beach State College
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DHARMESH PATEL

PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

LYSTRA SEENATH

PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE
Palo Alto College
RONNIE BRANNON

It is awesome responsibility to help students discover the aspects of what logistics and the supply chain are and how they have and will continue to affect our lives in the future. I believe that life experiences sprinkled in with course content animates an industry that few people understand.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SITAKANTA MOHANTY

PALO ALTO COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

KEVIN ROARK

PALO ALTO COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CYNTHIA SANCHEZ

PALO ALTO COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

PARADISE VALLEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
KEITH KELLY

Music (as process and product) allows us to access spaces of our intellect, emotions, and spirit. In the exploration of sound, we engage with core aspects of being - imagining, creating, sharing, listening - that when applied to areas beyond music, deepen our connections to the past, present, and future.
Thank you!
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SEAN PETTY

PARADISE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SEAN PETTY

PARKLAND COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

PASCO-HERNANDO STATE COLLEGE
Reflecting on years of educating future health professionals and students just fulfilling their science requirement, it continues to be a privilege to pass on excitement for amazing science discoveries and see students grow in wonder. I have hope in higher education to embolden and enlighten our students and future change-makers.
VICKIEANN LAUBACH

I encourage our nursing students to “own their moments” and to be a leader. Use your voice! Learn and share something new each day. Some days may not be great, but greatness can be found in every day. Don’t become complacent. Be comfortable with being uncomfortable, because in those moments you are growing!
CURTIS SCAGLIONE

It is through the spirited determination of our students, faculty, staff, and administration at our institution that brings out the best in me as a member of our faculty. I am truly inspired and thankful each and every day to be a part of their academic journey.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DAVID ALEXANDER

PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

STEPHEN GOTTSCHALK

PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE
Apart from mastery of subject matter, teaching is one-half theater and one-half psychology. I have to command and direct the attention of a roomful of young people so that they are actively learning. When it falls apart, I adjust the details of the next show. When it works, it’s the greatest feeling in the world.
MICHAEL LISTAU

Everything we do centers around students and ensuring their success. I believe that higher education is a student's gateway to a better place. I experienced this in my own college journey and there is no better feeling than the one I get giving back in the same way my teachers did for me.
LAUREN ROGERS

Question everything. I want my students to THINK, and not just about astronomy. Studying science should not be a stream of facts and theories, but questioning, developing observational skills, analyzing data, and recognizing patterns. These things apply to daily life, whether you are pursuing a degree in science or not.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

BRIAN WARD

PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE
KRISTI DEELA

Mentoring is critical in all aspects of life. We need mentors to give us critical feedback as we grow. I teach and lead with a mentor mindset, hoping that everyone I connect with can achieve their goals and that I can help them in their journey.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

KATY SPEXARTH

PHOENIX COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

KATHARINE HESTER

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

S. DRAKE HOWELL

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PIEDMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

PITT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ALICIA ADAMS

I find joy in leading a team that is passionate about education and, in particular, international education. Creating global connections is so important and I value all of the experiences that are shared between both the student and our community during each student’s time with us.
The days of sage on the stage are long gone. My goal is to facilitate and mentor nursing students into their professional role. I keep in mind this: Soon, they will be colleagues.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

LINDA DEGMAN

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Leslie Mestman

My success is 100% due to the trust and confidence I have in my team. We have created a work environment where we all support and value each other and in that environment, creativity and innovation thrives.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

TODD NASHIWA

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

KAELA PARKS

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
My students served as an inspiration for many hours of introspection, reflection, and gratitude that they and I have crossed paths on a life-long journey we call education. Words cannot express how much students have touched my life. Without their willingness to engage and to learn, I would not have been a teacher. Thank You!
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DAWN BUDDINGTON

QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

RACHEL CLARKE

QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JUDITH D'ANGELO

QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ANN MARIE INCUTTO

QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DEBORAH LAFLASH

QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BUFFIE WHITTAKER

Knowledge is power, education lasts a lifetime, guidance is a gift. I have an opportunity to provide a positive impact on student lives. There is no reward greater than paying it forward for all my students as I guide them in their career endeavors.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

REDLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
TAMIE MCCABE

Having a role that offers a new challenge almost daily and that allows for personal and professional growth keeps me moving forward. Also knowing that you will be supported and encouraged along the journey by co-workers and administration makes a big difference.
Teaching is a blessing because it allows you to help people every day. There is no greater honor in life than to help others.
April Inasco

Generally, students come to my program looking for a career change. I strive every day to help them be successful and ensure they are on the right path.
JILLIAN MILLER

We must remember that we are all students of life; some of us are afforded the opportunity to share our experiences with others. As educators, we are invited to model for our students the learning process in such a way that they are inspired to both remain a student and become an educator.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ROSE STATE COLLEGE
When I was a student, some of my philosophy professors were clearly passionate about their discipline. It was contagious. I have resolved to teach only readings and topics that I find genuinely interesting. I hope my students see that, for me, teaching doesn't feel like work at all.
CRAIG DAWKINS

I seek to change lives, not just convey material. That’s why I teach. And when my students are old and they think back upon their life's learning journey, I want them to think about what they learned in my class.
Its a priceless reaction when I tell students, "I do not know what you need to know." Once I explain that as engineers, they will go on to solve problems I do not even know exist yet, the light bulb comes on. I show people how to solve any problem.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

LETICIA ADAMS

SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CHRIS ARRIAGA

SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CAMILLE CARTWRIGHT

SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE
MARY HORTON

I value students from all backgrounds, ethnicities, races, and genders. It is a privilege to be a part of the preparation of those that will be new to nursing or others that are continuing their education! The opportunity to facilitate the education of nursing students to deliver safe patient care is exceptionally rewarding!
MARIA JIMENEZ

I am inspired by the students who have had to juggle jobs, family, others unemployment, being a single parent (many without support) and successfully complete their first semester and others who earn a certificate or their degree. It is the most rewarding feeling to see the students achieve what they have sacrificed for!
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SEABROOK JONES

SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE
MATHEW KERNS

I enjoy empowering students, faculty, and staff to meet the challenges they may encounter, and I enjoy encouraging and fostering emerging dynamic leaders to be empowered, through their education, to make impactful decisions for themselves and their community.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

RUBY PENA

SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE
KEN SLAVIN

SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE
Connecting education to industry has the power to truly change our world. Aligning training programs to meet industry needs; empowering our workforce to upskill to remain relevant; meeting learners where they are, when they need educational options most. We have the responsibility to forge these connections to maximize and celebrate our communities!
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SELKIRK COLLEGE
If the goal of education is to create a better, more equitable world, then learning is an act of rebellion! Teaching should lead in that rebellion and embrace the risk that goes along with it. Go ahead and take a chance on behalf of your learners and you might shape a leader.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MARIAN LOWE

SELKIRK COLLEGE
ALLISON LUTZ

Our shared love and concern for the natural world creates students that are eager to learn, and faculty that are energized by their work. In this “ecosystem” all that is needed is a thoughtfully prepared lesson, a beautiful field site, an open heart, and the educational experience becomes powerful for all involved.
It is truly inspiring to have the privilege to work alongside students, staff, and our partners to tackle real world challenges. What better way to learn?
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE
OF FLORIDA
Teaching is my passion and music brings me joy. Music teaches everything. What a privilege to teach math, history, English, science, critical thinking, cultural awareness, community building, and life skills all wrapped up in a beautiful package we call music. I love being a music educator.
EKATERINA GOUSSAKOVA

SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE OF FLORIDA
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MARISABEL IRIZARRY

SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE OF FLORIDA
CHRISTOPHER LORSCHER

Mathematics is the language of nature. I want to inspire students to ask the big questions about the fundamental principles that govern our world, to think from first principles and gain a deep insight into the role of mathematics in describing natural phenomena.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DIANA REIGELSBERGER

SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE OF FLORIDA
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JUDY LATHEN

SEWARD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SOMERSET COMMUNITY COLLEGE
LINDA ALSIP

I consider it an honor to be both an alumna and an employee at Somerset Community College. It gives me great pleasure to assist in making sure that our students and community not only recognize our brand but also recognize the many great opportunities that we can offer them.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CHRIS PHILLIPS

SOMERSET COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SOUTH ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
What gets me going is the students. When students are engaged and participating, there is no greater feeling in the world. Seeing them make connections or coming to class with the anticipation of sharing something new is all that I need to keep going. Their energy and enthusiasm make my job a pleasure.

GARY HALL
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE
I had such outstanding professors who helped me succeed and transform my life in so many ways that I decided to try to be one of them. I love learning and developing new strategies to teach and transform my students' lives. I always try to be the change I want in the world.
"The backbone of the institution" My team of professionals provides safety, health, and comfort to our faculty, staff and student population. We truly are behind the scenes making sure the “student experience” is one of excellence and memory of a lifetime.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SOUTH SEATTLE COLLEGE
The lyrics, “I believe that children are our future; Teach them well and let them lead the way” inspire my work. I appreciate and value my network and each student in my classroom. Teaching is a journey; I am privileged to be along.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JESSICA PIKUL

SOUTH SEATTLE COLLEGE
DAFFODILS ABRAHAM

Nurse educators are nurse leaders who take the living experience to the classroom in molding future nurses. I work with a vibrant leadership team that embraces change, supports each other, and focuses on excellence and inclusion for the welfare of the community we serve.
The diversity in my students inspires and motivates me to embrace and see each student as an opportunity to enhance my teaching repertoire. The satisfaction of practicing effective teaching methods in active-learning settings encourages me to keep going and instill my passion for teaching in others. Every student is an opportunity for your success.
I am honored to receive this prestigious award, which I believe reflects the true values of this organization and our connection as educators. Our work requires foresight and collaboration, which inevitably leads to success of the instructor and the student.

JOANA CORDOBA
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ANTONIO DE LA CRUZ

SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE
HELEN DELGADO

My philosophy of teaching is deeply personal. I want to teach the way I was taught at South Texas College. I hope to convey the sheer joy of learning about child development. Students in my classroom are seeking a better life for themselves. I want to facilitate their thinking and cultivate their dreams.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

LINDSEY GAMBLE

SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE
IRASELIA GARCIA OLALDE

My parents always motivated me. They told me, “Your education is the only thing nobody can ever take away from you.” With this same love for education, I try to provide my students with accurate scientific knowledge in hopes they make the best-informed decisions for themselves and their community.
Seeing the accomplishment of students who overcame many obstacles during their program inspires and motivates me. Positive thinking is something I promote. "Let no one come to you without leaving better and happier," Mother Teresa said, and I love to impart her words of wisdom.
I am privileged to have the opportunity to guide students in their early college years and I make it a point to always remind them they are here for a reason. Some recognize it early in the journey, and others discover it later. Regardless of the when, the why is most important.
SAMANTHA MONTES

Comprehending that we are all connected inspires and challenges me to show up as my best self. Our children and those after them will depend on the students we impact today. The future will always hold us accountable, and I am reminded of that every time I look into a child's eyes.
JOSE OLIVARES

I believe the title "lecturer" is a bit constricting. I would rather have the title of "conversationalist." Conversations allow for learning to flow both ways in the classroom: From the instructor to the students and from the students to the instructor.
Vincent Van Gough said, “What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything?” The oldest and strongest emotion of mankind is fear. I have learned that when one’s mind is made up, and you have the courage to diminish fear, knowing what needs to be done does away with it.
ANDRES TELLO

I absolutely love working as a part of a team to respectfully debate others to ensure we are moving in the right direction. I take pride in the work that I do, and it is humbling whenever I see a product or service being used in the real world that I was a part of.
JOSE VELA

Coming from the architectural industry, creativity and building are paramount. I used to think when I began teaching I was leaving that world, but I soon realized I was impacting it more. I now build creativity in students minds so they can be creative and build in the industry. Their successes inspire and motivate me.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SOUTHERN CRESCENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NATHAN BELL

SOUTHERN CRESCENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Equity must not just be a buzz word, but an action that is evident across all facets of higher education. Equity should be a mindset shared by all stakeholders that guarantees all students are met where they are and provided the same opportunity as their peers to achieve the greatest success.
ALEXIS BRYANT

SOUTHERN CRESCENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

TONI DOATY

SOUTHERN CRESCENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

BILLY ELLIOTT JR.

SOUTHERN CRESCENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JERRY HUBBARD

SOUTHERN CRESCENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
LYNN JULIAN
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ROSLYN MCCURRY

SOUTHERN CRESCENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
I am pleased to be a recipient of a NISOD Excellence Award. I work for Southern Crescent Technical College as a police officer. A famous quote that I always remind myself of is: “You will face many defeats in life, but never let yourself be defeated.”-Maya Angelo
SANDRA PATTERSON

After a decade outside the traditional workforce, I found myself at SCTC as a widowed, single mother of two and a student. Now an employee, I recall that difficult time in my life and remind myself you do not know what moved a particular student to enroll and what challenges they may be experiencing.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

LAURA WATSON

SOUTHERN CRESCENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
ANGELA WEATHERFORD

Pushing individuals to their higher potential makes my heart happy. Working in economic development has shown me that we all possess skills that, at times, we are uncertain to put forth in the workplace. Encouraging students to push forward and watching them achieve higher success make this job worth the demands.
I am grateful for the opportunity to serve in the community college setting and am inspired by those who serve the community in turn. Cultural relevancy and reciprocity in learning within the classroom and community settings are critical strategies.
I believe the passion I have for the industry is shared in my classroom. It's more about being creative than just working with your hands or reading through a book to be able to understand what we do. "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn." - Benjamin Franklin
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

KIM AUSTIN

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

BRANDON BIERS

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
I feel blessed and honored to shape the minds of students. My favorite educational quote is by Aristotle: "Educating the mind without educating the heart is not education at all."
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ADRIANNA CULBERTSON

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CHRISTOPHER (JOE) GODSEY

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MELISSA STILTNER

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

EMERY ARTHUR

SOUTHWESTERN INDIAN POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MECHELLE CRAZY THUNDER

SOUTHWESTERN INDIAN POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
GLORIA MARIANO

To respect those who came before us, those who we serve in the present will provide those who are yet to come. They are all our own children, without them we will not see the future as productive and beautiful as they are.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MELYNDA MITCHELL

SOUTHWESTERN INDIAN POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

RHONDA PLATERO

SOUTHWESTERN INDIAN POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JANET SANDIA

SOUTHWESTERN INDIAN POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SPARTANBURG COMMUNITY COLLEGE
My students and my coworkers inspire me to strive toward serving students and our community. When students do well, and when students are able to succeed, the entire community benefits. I consider it a great honor to be recognized by my college at NISOD.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

PAUL BEDARD

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
I like a challenge and teaching is not a profession you can ever, ever, perfect. I am thankful that my students provide me with a constant motivation to learn more, and that they inspire the courage I need to always try new things.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

STACIE TURO

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

NAPHTALI BRYANT

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

RANDALL DAWSON

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE
SPENCER L. GALVAN

I seek out experiences for my students that will get them excited to learn: Trips, tours, scavenger hunts, games, virtual reality, choose-your-own-adventure assignments. I feed off their energy and the idea that they are taking what we learn together and sharing it with the rest of the world.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DIANNA GARZA

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DIANE GAVIN

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE
ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE

NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

STEPHANIE GIBSON

Watching my students traverse the waves of higher education through rough waters as they juggle family, personal responsibilities, and professional responsibilities is what inspires me and brings me joy. My compassion and nurturing characteristics help me be sympathetic to their challenges while motivating them to strive to reach their goals.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

GEORGE JOHNSON III

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE
Take time to know your students. I believe that we are here to help our students grow and overcome the many obstacles they face. All students have potential. Teaching students how to learn is often more important than the class we are teaching.
I find joy when students, once reluctant, shy, and silent, emerge with newfound confidence, promising horizons, and strong voices. As their teacher and mentor, I celebrate their accomplishments, meet their families, share their laughter and tears, and watch them overcome past traumas to become what they dared not even dream.
Valerie Moke

St. Philip's College
I am inspired by the students I teach. They like it when I provide them with detailed information about the course material, provide feedback or grades in a timely manner, and respond to their emails quickly. Providing an active-learning environment and being dutiful makes for professional success.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JAMES SATCHELL

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JOHN BOWMAN

STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CINDY DEAN

STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JOHN MCCREE

STATE COLLEGE OF FLORIDA, MANATEE-SARASOTA
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

GLORIA TRACY

STATE COLLEGE OF FLORIDA, MANATEE-SARASOTA
TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
The students I teach inspire and motivate me each day. The students at Tallahassee Community College have selected to attend the institution to better themselves, and I feel it is my calling to help them grow and learn more about themselves and the world around them while at TCC.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

GIGI COLVERTON

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
I am inspired by the diverse student population that we serve. Many are first generation college students who want a better life for themselves, and I have the privilege to help get them started in achieving their dreams.
Each day I am inspired by the students and teachers who recognize that each individual does not learn or dream the same as another. Like Mike Rowe said, “The flaw in our character is our insistence on separating blue-collar jobs from white-collar jobs and encouraging one form of education over another.”
GINNY MARSTERS

My father was a dental educator and heavily influenced my teaching philosophy and methodology. I treat my students as the health care professionals they are becoming, inspire them to strive for excellence, and challenge them to learn from today's mistakes so they can show improvement tomorrow and never stop learning.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JOHN SCHULTZ

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
KAREN WASHINGTON

As an educator, I am inspired and honored by the opportunity that I am given to help students achieve their educational goals. I am motivated by the fact that I can help to make a difference in the lives of students. I always encourage students to try their best and to never give up.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

BARBARA WILLS

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

TEMPLE COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

BRANDON BOZON

TEMPLE COLLEGE
SHEILA BULLOCK

I'm fortunate to work with a great group of people who have the same goal as I do...growing successful students.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DOUGLAS HALES

TEMPLE COLLEGE
I want to live by the values in my teaching philosophy of being a facilitator, advocate, and colleague who confronts, comforts, and cheers those around me to choose a life of self-directed learning in which they can make informed decisions and take appropriate actions based on those decisions.
The expression “treat others the way you want to be treated” is so true. Helping students by listening, understanding, and then helping them succeed is truly the most rewarding gift. I am inspired and motivated every opportunity I get to help others achieve a milestone in their journey.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SHEILA MCMILLAN

TEMPLE COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SANDRA MELENDEZ

TEMPLE COLLEGE
JACQUELINE MILLER

After moving from a lengthy career in teaching to my current position as office manager, I have experienced that listening and being present is key. Students, faculty, and staff who are valued and heard easily find greater success no matter what the challenge might be.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

TAYLOR RATCLIFF

TEMPLE COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

EVELYN WAIWAIOLE

TEMPLE COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JOHN WHITE

TEMPLE COLLEGE
Students often need more than just the knowledge we try to impart. They need mentors who are adaptable and empathetic to truly guide them on the path to success.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

TEXARKANA COLLEGE
LETHA COLQUITT

Teaching and encouraging nursing students is my way of honoring the nursing profession.
COURTNEY SHOALMIRE

I am inspired by the positive impact health sciences education programs have on our community. The faculty and our graduates provide crucial functions in society, and I am very honored to assist them in attaining success through servant leadership.
My inspiration is the students we serve. They are heroes, role models, and survivors. In addition to the challenges they normally face, the pandemic brought on a whole new set of challenges. But every day I see students rise to fight and overcome these challenges. They inspire me to do and be better.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

HEATHER HOGGARD

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT BATESVILLE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MINDY SHAW

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT BATESVILLE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

VANCE-GRANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

LYNDON HALL

VANCE-GRANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

VERNON COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DONNIE KIRK

VERNON COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

KARLA MONSON

VERNON COLLEGE
TRACY CHEATHAM

Teaching is more than the passing along of a subject matter. Modeling the love of learning and practicing critical thinking and problem solving skills ensure that teachers make more than a one-semester impact.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CRISTINE KARDAS

WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CHAD MCKENZIE

WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JEFF MYERS

WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
As an alumnus of Wake Technical Community College’s Dental Assisting Program, my goal is to create an environment that inspires learning and challenges students to become top-notch healthcare providers in the field of dentistry. I want to encourage all students to never give up on their dreams. Hard work pays off.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ZACHARY TAYLOR

WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MARCIA TOMS

My main goal is to make the hidden curriculum of college explicit, allowing all students to access the resources they need and achieve the success they want.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

BRENDA MCHAN

WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

WAUBONSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
“Geology is everywhere” often starts our vacation adventures. As it is everywhere, I am thrilled when a student tells me they have noticed, perhaps for the first time, parts of a meandering stream or evidence of mass wasting. This understanding of the Earth will be critical for all of us in the future.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

WAYNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DEAN LAWSON

WAYNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
I am passionate about teaching because I see so many strong, brilliant, capable individuals who have been told that they cannot achieve their dreams. Therefore, I teach to not only increase a student’s knowledge base, but to encourage, motivate, and assist them in accomplishing their goals in life.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

BONITA LEAVELL

WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

WILLIAM RAECK

WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Words are a professor's superpower. We speak the language of our discipline using vocabulary that generates connections in the brain. We speak words of respect and positivity to promote student confidence in learning new concepts. We provide a shield against mistakes when we celebrate errors as opportunities to learn deeper truths.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

WESTERN IOWA TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MICHAEL CAGLEY

WESTERN IOWA TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
JENNIFER HOUGH

Quality education transforms students into advocates for their own learning. As teachers we show them the path, we provide guidance, motivation, and assistance, but our students must walk it themselves. As educators, we stand as beacons guiding students to their reward.
Knowledge without application is trivia. The ability to quote a textbook exactly is meaningless if you don't understand what it is saying. Show me you understand by doing and applying, and let me show you why what I am teaching you is worth your time and attention.
JESSICA THOMPSON

The most memorable moments throughout my teaching career are not related to meeting program benchmarks, surpassing NCLEX board passage rate goals, or improving retention rates. Instead, they are precious moments I have shared with my nursing students in times of grief, disappointment, accomplishment, and pride. These memories I will cherish always.
WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

FRANCi BAY

WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

LARRY JENKINS

WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE
KARL JOHNSON

My motivation includes the patients I have helped, the desire to prepare students for life and death decisions, student success stories, and those who came before me in EMS. My strategies are learning all I can about EMS and education, being creative to reach the diversity of students, continuing to serve in EMS, and self-care.
TOM-KODY KRPEC

Look into the eyes of your students and know that you are looking into the future. The knowledge and information poured into them will radiate into society. What you give to them, you give to the world. Be the change you want to see and exemplify it with passion and kindness!
AMY PENDERGRAFT

I have a passion for the profession of nursing and a desire to teach the next generation of nurses to provide exceptional care to all individuals in need.
SHARON PRINCE

I see myself as a guide along my students’ pathway to empowerment. As I look for ways to affirm and elevate my students, I focus on identifying the strengths of their ideas so my students recognize their ability to create ideas that can lead to something great.
All students know that my class is different from “traditional” math and science classes because we do a lot of discussions, hands-on projects, problem-solving activities, and presentations. As a former electrical engineer, I believe soft skills such as communication, teamwork, creativity, problem-solving, and leadership are essential for a successful engineer.
LAURI L. DREHER

Before every student interaction, I reflect on two factors I hope will lead my heart and words: The fact that it is my responsibility to help students achieve their goals; and the Maya Angelou quote, “At the end of the day, people won’t remember what you said or did, they will remember how you made them feel.”
As a formerly stressed college student, the financial aid staff became my lifeline. I work to provide that same calming relief for others now by showing compassion to each student, opening my eyes and ears to the full picture of their needs, and offering every option to help them.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MARIE HARDMAN

YAVAPAI COLLEGE
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

YORK TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Elizabeth Berg once said, “There is incredible value in being of service to others.” The life of a financial aid administrator affords the rare opportunity to serve and see the impact of that service daily for all of the students that I have helped take a step toward their goal of obtaining a degree.
NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARDS

JACKIE BROCKINGTON

YORK TECHNICAL COLLEGE
I am motivated by the privilege to journey alongside students, getting to witness their resilience and fortitude through life's ups and downs. Playing a role in students' lives as they pursue their educational goals provides an opportunity to see them overcome circumstances to achieve success. These experiences are etched in my memory and worth celebrating!
ZANE STATE COLLEGE
Every class is different. I have discovered that each class has group needs, fears, and gaps in learning. Listening to them is more valuable than my preconceived notions. It may be uncomfortable for the students to reveal their challenges, so I continue to ask in different ways, with open-ended questions.