



# WESTERN WEEKLY

from the desk of ... *Dr. Vincent Solis*

August 24, 2018

## WELCOME BACK!

Faculty, staff, students, NSHE reps and friends of WNC joined in on our fall convocation activities to help kick off the new school year. We are extremely proud of all our team members and grateful that everyone is back on campus and ready to make a difference in the lives of the community members we serve.



---

## FACULTY MEMBER OF THE YEAR: JAYNA CONKEY

Mr. Jim Strange, Chair of the Faculty Senate, presented WNC faculty member Ms. Jayna Conkey with the Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year award at the Welcome Back meeting. Ms. Conkey was selected from her peers because of her work with students and dedication to excellence in the classroom. We are extremely proud of her more recent accomplishment, but we are also extremely grateful for having this caliber of instructor at WNC.



Send Western Weekly submissions to [pr@wnc.edu](mailto:pr@wnc.edu) by Wednesday of each week.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE FACULTY MEMBER OF THE YEAR: DEB CONRAD**

Mr. Craig Robinson, Chair of the Administrative Faculty, presented Ms. Deb Conrad with the most Outstanding Administrative Faculty Member of the Year award for WNC. Ms. Conrad received this award at the Welcome Back meeting for her service and dedication not only to the college team members but to all students, visitors and community members who come to the college. She is an integral part of the administrative team and we are very thankful and appreciative for all of her commitment to the college.

---



## **CLASSIFIED STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR: SANDY BURNETTE**

Ms. Heather Rikalo, Chair of Classified Staff, presented Ms. Sandy Burnette with the award for Most Outstanding Classified Staff Member of the Year at the Welcome Back meeting. Ms. Burnette was chosen because of her outstanding customer service and dedication to our students. We congratulate Ms. Burnette on her honor and we're very grateful for all she does for our campus.

---

## **NSHE CHIEF OF STAFF MICHAEL FLORES ATTENDS WELCOME BACK DAY**

It is always great to have our good friends, colleagues and educational partners from NSHE visit with us at WNC. Chief of Staff Michael Flores visited the campus for our WNC Fall Convocation and Welcome Back. During his time on campus Michael visited with WNC team members and spent some time with our student government, the Associated Students of Western Nevada.





## WNC RECEIVES ACADEMIC INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD



Western Nevada College has been awarded the “2018 Academic Innovator of the Year Award”! EC-Council is proud to formally highlight academic institutions within North America that excel each year with lasting impacts on their students cybersecurity education and local communities. EC-Council will present this award at the upcoming EC-Council 2018 Partner Awards in Atlanta the evening of Wednesday, September 12. Dave Riske, faculty member; Mona Willden, adjunct; and Cody Williamson, student/teaching assistant will accept the award. The 2018 Academia Partner Innovator of the Year Award is a very high honor within the EC-Council and the cybersecurity community. This is a very prestigious award as EC-Council has more than 1,000 academic partners from K-12, technical institutes, colleges and universities in North America such as the University of Phoenix, Strayer University, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Naval Postgraduate School, St. Louis University and many more.

*Pictured are Computer Information Technology Professor Dave Riske and Career and Technical Education Director Georgia White.*

---

## ADJUNCT FACULTY MEMBER OF THE WEEK: DOUGLAS BARRETT

This week, President Solis had an opportunity to meet with Douglas Barrett. Mr. Barrett is the Chair of our Adjunct Faculty Senate. Our adjunct faculty makes up the largest segment of WNC's team and we are very fortunate to have Mr. Barrett at the helm of the group that represents our adjuncts. Moving forward, Mr. Barrett will be joining the rest of our campus leadership group representatives on the President's Cabinet. At our next PC meeting we will have all the chairs for each of the leadership teams lending their voices to the future development of WNC.



## **EDUCATIONAL CHAMPION OF THE WEEK:**

### **MAYOR BOB CROWELL**

Mayor Bob Crowell is a big supporter of WNC. He believes in education, access and higher learning. Mayor Crowell is also very interested in student success for all ages. Crowell has been the mayor of Carson City for nearly a decade now and prior to that spent 11 years serving on the Carson City School Board of Trustees. He is extremely active in the community and has long been an enthusiastic supporter of Western Nevada College. Crowell has a deep understanding of the needs of this area, including education, and workforce and economic development. The mayor is the newest member of the WNC Institutional Advisory Committee.



---

### **BRENDA YENKOLE IS NEW INTERIM DIRECTOR OF HR**

Brenda Yenkole has been with WNC and the Human Resources office for nine years. She has been in the Human Resources Management field for almost 20 years, primarily within the ski and hospitality industry prior to her employment with WNC. Brenda and her husband moved from Illinois to Nevada in 1998 to live life in the beautiful mountains of Lake Tahoe and to enjoy all of the outdoor activities that this area provides. She has three children: Zoe, Corey and Ryan. She and her family enjoy winter sports such as skiing and snowboarding, and boating on Lake Tahoe during the summer.



Brenda has been part of the Integrate 2 and Workday implementation project team and will oversee the Human Resources Office and provide support to management and employees on all policies and procedures, employee benefits, training and development, employee relations, and faculty and staff recruitment. Brenda's HR team includes Wendy Tierney, Stephanie Swanson and Nichole Bohlender.

### **BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS NEVADA**

President Solis met with friends of WNC this week. Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams and Workforce Connections Executive Director Mr. Jaime Cruz — both from Las Vegas — visited the Carson City area and WNC. Partnerships for WNC are being created across the state to help promote WNC and continue to build on the tradition of excellence for our campus.



---

### **LUPE RAMIREZ HONORED BY NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR ADVANCING COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS**

Career and Technical Education Director Dr. Georgia White presented Coordinator of Latino Outreach Ms. Lupe Ramirez with an award from ACT College and Career Readiness. She was selected by this prestigious national organization as the 2018 Nevada State Educational Champion of the year. We are very proud of Ms. Lupe and very grateful to her for all the work she does for WNC and our students.



---

### **ASWN MEMBERS TRAIN TO SERVE STUDENT BODY, DEVELOP INTO FUTURE LEADERS**

Members of the new ASWN governing body met for breakfast right before the fall convocation kicked off. The group has been undergoing intensive training over the last two weeks, involving many members of the campus community, including the President's Office, strategic planning, leadership skill development and many other areas. This will help them develop as leaders to serve our students and to assist them grow into leaders who will help shape the future of our community.







## WNC LOOKS TO EXPAND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES WITH NEVADA STATE COLLEGE

WNC team members met with President Bart Patterson from Nevada State College. WNC and NSC are exploring ways of expanding educational services in the WNC service area. The first discussion item was expanding teacher education. As more develops with this partnership we will be sure to keep the campus informed.

*Pictured are WNC President Dr. Vincent Solis, WNC Dean of Student Services/Registrar Dianne Hilliard, WNC*

*Education Professor Michelle Rousselle, Nevada State College President Bart Patterson and WNC VP of Academic and Student Affairs Scott Morrison.*



## NEW FULL-TIME TEAM MEMBERS WELCOMED DURING RECEPTION

On Monday, the President's Office hosted the annual New Hire Reception at Silver Oak Golf Course. The event brought together all of the new WNC team members hired full time over the last year. We want to WELCOME all of the new team members to WNC. Our campus is a great place to be, and you have all landed at an amazing campus. Working together, we will change the lives of the community members we serve.

