



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

PRESS RELEASE

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Board of Governors honors two professors with awards for excellence in education

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – In recognition of their work on behalf of students, two community college educators, Douglas Dildine of Contra Costa College and Mediha Din of El Camino College, were each honored with the 2014-15 Gerald C. Hayward Award for Excellence in Education today at the California Community Colleges Board of Governors meeting.

Award recipients, nominated by their college academic senate and selected by representatives of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, must have a record of outstanding performance of professional activities, as well as a record of active participation on campus.

“California community colleges have some of the best educators in higher education, so this was certainly a competitive award process,” said California Community Colleges Board of Governors President Geoffrey L. Baum. “I congratulate Mr. Dildine and Ms. Din on receiving this honor and thank them for all that they do on behalf of students. Their dedication helps to make the California Community Colleges stand apart.”

The Hayward Award for Excellence in Education program was established in 1989 and is supported through a grant from the Foundation for California Community Colleges. Each recipient will receive a \$1,250 cash award and a commemorative plaque. Awards have been presented periodically to honor community college faculty members who are selected by their peers for demonstrating the highest level of commitment to their students, college and profession.

The award is named in honor of Gerald C. Hayward, who served as California Community Colleges chancellor from 1980 to 1985.

More about the winners:

Douglas Dildine, Contra Costa College

Douglas Dildine is a professional actor and director who devoted his life to teaching 15 years ago. Since then, he has been dedicated to creating curriculum that is accessible, challenging, interesting and achievable for all students. Dildine uses the latest technologies in his classroom, and continually modifies his theatre courses to align with current productions, events and innovations. He has demonstrated his commitment to students with diverse backgrounds and experiences throughout his 20 years of service as a disability consultant to K-14 school districts. As an active member of the United Faculty of Contra Costa County, Dildine also serves as an advisor and advocate

for legislation to protect student and faculty rights. He is currently negotiating at the local and state levels to make part-time faculty office hours mandatory in an effort to improve student success. Dildine is noted for his accomplishments as interim chair of the Drama Department, involvement in individual education planning, and service on the Diablo Valley College Faculty Senate Council. He has demonstrated his commitment to education and currency in his discipline through his consistent participation in workshops, symposiums, conferences and program review. Dildine has developed accessible online classrooms, and presented faculty workshops on classroom technology and teaching techniques to improve student reading and writing skills across disciplines.

Mediha Din, El Camino College

Mediha Din, a professor of sociology, has been recognized as one of the most distinguished part-time faculty members at El Camino College. Din supports the success of all students by creating an environment that accommodates a wide variety of learning styles. Peer and student evaluations consistently praise her effective use of collaborative learning, integration of real world examples with complex theories, utilization of multimedia resources, and development of a website and note-taking guides that support student learning outcomes. She was selected as an “Outstanding Instructor” at her college for her work with at-risk students from diverse academic and cultural backgrounds. Din’s dedication to serving students and the college’s mission is also demonstrated through her leadership and involvement in numerous campus endeavors. She has served as the faculty advisor for the Muslim Student Association, participated in the college’s Faculty Inquiry Partnership Program, and developed initiatives to engage students in community service. She has facilitated workshops on student work styles and teamwork skills at a national conference of educators. Din is highly valued for her commitment to her department. This commitment is evident from her participation in professional development opportunities, active involvement in the development and assessment of student learning outcomes, and frequent contributions to an online publication and newsletters in her discipline.

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor’s Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges, please visit <http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/>, <https://www.facebook.com/CACommColleges>, or <https://twitter.com/CalCommColleges>.

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