

From: **Pima Community College Office of the Chancellor** <chancellor@pima.edu>

Date: Wed, Aug 7, 2019 at 8:00 AM

Subject: Pima wins major equity award

To: Pima-All <Pima-All@pima.edu>

Colleagues,

I am proud to announce that Pima Community College has won the Association of Community College Trustees' (ACCT) 2019 Pacific Regional Equity Award for our accomplishments in advancing diversity, equity and inclusion among students and the community.

ACCT considered several factors in choosing the award winner, including efforts to increase access and success among underserved or underrepresented student populations, and community engagement activities.

In recognizing Pima, the ACCT cited our support of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students, including creation earlier this year of the Immigrant and Refugee Student Resource Center (IRSRC). ACCT also cited Pima's collaboration with Chicanos Por La Causa, the state's public universities and Maricopa Community Colleges to raise scholarship funds for DACA students. Adult Basic Education for College and Career's Transition to Jobs partnership with JobPath, ABECC's Refugee Education Program, and our Ethnic, Gender and Transborder Studies program also were mentioned by ACCT.

As one of five regional winners, Pima is eligible for ACCT's national equity award, the Charles Kennedy Equity Award, which will be announced on October 18 in San Francisco.

Everyone at Pima can take pride in this honor, as it demonstrates our unwavering College-wide commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. I want to thank the Governing Board for supporting Pima's ACCT nomination. The Board and the Provost's Office have provided leadership in this all-important area. Thanks also should go to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer Hilda Ladner and Program Coordinator Yolanda Gonzales for bringing the IRSRC to life and for reaching into K-12 and a wide variety of community sectors, and to Pima's Student Ambassadors, Dana Pineda and Joselin Garcia.

This fall, Ms. Pineda and Ms. Garcia will attend four-year universities in the state. They excelled in the classroom while giving back to the community, and embody the best of a Pima education.

All students – no matter where they come from, no matter what they need to overcome – deserve a transformative education, one that fosters an engaged citizenry able to succeed in a rapidly changing world. This award is recognition that at Pima, equity and student success are one and the same.

Lee D. Lambert,
Chancellor