

Hawai'i Community College
Peer Review Team Roster for 2025

CHAIR & VICE CHAIR

Dr. Seher Awan

President, Mission College, Chair



Dr. Seher Awan is a fierce advocate for social justice, equity, and access in higher education. A proud first-generation community college graduate, she has dedicated her career to transforming lives through education, driven by an unwavering passion for empowering underserved communities. Dr. Awan's holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, a Master of Business Administration, a Master of Public Administration, and a Doctorate in Organizational Leadership. This solid foundation has equipped her with the knowledge and expertise to lead with innovation and purpose. Her career in higher education spans over 20 years, beginning in student services, where she developed a student-centered approach that has become the hallmark of her leadership. In 2014, she took on the role of Vice President of

Administrative Services at San Diego City College, where she brought a fresh perspective to finance and operations, integrating equity-driven strategies into institutional decision-making. In 2018, Dr. Awan became the youngest California Community College President at age 32, assuming leadership at Los Angeles Southwest College. With energy and vision, she guided the college through transformative organizational change, fiscal recovery, and the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Her tenure was marked by a relentless focus on student success, the cultivation of new community partnerships, and consistent resource development. In 2022, Dr. Awan was named President of Mission College in Santa Clara, California. Under her leadership, the college has rebounded from the pandemic, revitalized enrollment, and achieved significant gains in student success. Her forward-thinking approach continues to drive Mission College toward becoming a model for innovation and inclusivity in higher education. A 2019 Wheelhouse Fellow and an Aspen Institute New Presidents Fellow, Dr. Awan is widely recognized for her commitment to equity and her transformative impact on the communities she serves. Her bold vision and tireless dedication inspire students, faculty, and leaders alike to imagine and achieve a brighter, more just future through education.

Ms. Meridith Randall

President, Golden West College, Vice Chair



Meridith Randall served as Interim President of Golden West College (GWC) beginning in March 2023 and was appointed permanent President in January 2024. She joined GWC as Vice President of Instruction in July 2020 after serving as Chief Instructional Officer (CIO) in the California community college system since 2006. She has been president of the statewide CIO organization twice and currently is Vice President of the Board for the California Coalition of Early and Middle Colleges (CCEMC), the leading state organization for the promotion of dual enrollment. During her career, Ms. Randall has been an accreditation liaison officer for four different institutions; served on six visiting accreditation teams; participated on state advisory committees for dual enrollment, institutional effectiveness and online education; and has supported the development of multiple career technical education programs, most notably the creation of nursing programs at two colleges. At these colleges, she supervised the creation of multiple short-term and long-term planning processes that resulted in

strategic plans. In 2019-2020, she was director of programs and educational effectiveness for the California Virtual Campus and helped lead the effort to develop a statewide online course exchange. Ms. Randall has focused her efforts on the support of quality curriculum; development of programs; support for free resources for students and removal of other barriers to success; and promotion of diversity in hiring and equitable student outcomes. She has also promoted efforts to increase professional development for all college employees as a part of succession planning and leadership development at institutions.

TEAM MEMBERS

Dr. Ghada Al-Masri

Vice President of Educational Services and Institutional Effectiveness, Fresno City College



Dr. Al-Masri has been the Vice President of Educational Services and Institutional Effectiveness at Fresno City College since fall 2022, where she serves as ALO and leads the ISER writing and Accreditation team. While this is her first peer review team experience, she has participated in writing of the accreditation ISER and midterm reports as department chair and dean at four prior colleges, primarily focused on standard one. With over 25 years in higher education, beginning in the classroom, she remains focused on student learning, pedagogy, program development, and institutional outcomes. Dr. Al-Masri's Ph.D. is in Geography, and she approaches organizational ecosystems from multiple and layered perspectives emphasizing inquisitive inquiry and systems thinking.

Mr. Patrick Bettencourt

Vice President of Instruction, Modesto Junior College



Patrick Bettencourt serves as Vice President of Instruction at Modesto Junior College where he has been employed for nearly 25 years and in his current position since June 2024. First teaching English part-time, then full-time, he has always held an interest in alternative and supplemental learning outside the classroom. This drew him to serve as Writing Center Director where he developed an interest in leadership which led to his first administrative assignment as interim Dean. Touring Modesto Junior College as Dean of Literature and Language Arts, then of Library, then of Allied Health and Family and Consumer Sciences, then of Physical, Recreation, and Health Education, to his current position has kept Patrick's career interests fresh and have provided him a unique, global perspective on most instructional areas at the college. As Dean of Instruction, Patrick worked with the Online Education and Research Departments, served as administrative lead of the MJC Libraries, and had responsibilities for assisting the Instruction Division with Guided Pathways. A professional achievement that Patrick is most proud of is serving as the Dean of Allied Health when Modesto Junior College was designated as one of the first two California Community Colleges to award the baccalaureate degree in Respiratory Health.

Mr. David Beymer

Instructor - Athletic Trainer, Hartnell College



Mr. Beymer has been an active participant in the accreditation process at Hartnell College for the past three cycles. For their previous cycle, he also co-chaired Standard I. He has been Co-Chair of the Hartnell College Accreditation Committee since their last ISER, leading the development of the mid-term report, and currently working on the new ISER, which is due Spring of 2026. This is his second peer review team. He was also on the writing team for Student Services for the new standards and on a team that looked at the annual report for the ACCJC in the Fall of 2024.

Dr. Treisa Cassens

Dean - Library, Learning Resources Center and Distance Education, Cypress College



Dr. Treisa Cassens is currently the Dean of the Library, Learning Resources and Distance Education at Cypress College. She is also the Interim Dean of the Business, Computer Science, Court Reporting and Computer Information Systems division. In her role at Cypress she is deeply connected to all parts of academic success, supporting students and faculty through technology and educational technology applications, and ensuring equity through all parts of her work. She has been full time in the California Community College system since 2000. Prior to Cypress College she worked as a library faculty member at several community colleges and held roles such as SLO coordinator, curriculum chair, academic senator, and more. She has a EdD from USC in Higher Education Leadership. At USC her doctoral studies were concentrated on the comparison and effectiveness of online and face-to-face modality students, with particular focus on the impacts that student characteristics had on grades. Her Masters in Library and Information Studies is from UCLA and her thesis focused on the special and unique pieces of library services to American Indigenous peoples and populations.

Mr. David Crafts

Dean of Enrollment Services and Special Programs & Title IX Programs, College of San Mateo



David Crafts is a seasoned higher education administrator with 25 years of dedicated service and senior-level leadership experience. He has held diverse roles, including Chief Student Affairs Officer, Adjunct Faculty, Title IX Coordinator, and Auxiliary Services Director. Currently, he serves as the Dean of Enrollment Services & Support Programs and Title IX Coordinator at the College of San Mateo in Northern California. In this role, he oversees a broad portfolio of student-centered services, including financial aid, admissions and records, crisis relief programs, basic needs centers, veteran and military-affiliated resources, mental health counseling, and an on-campus health clinic. As a queer-identified, first-generation, low-income college graduate, David is deeply committed to fostering professional, emotional, and transformative leadership development for students. His career reflects a dedication to supporting students' holistic success and navigating systemic barriers in higher education. In addition to his administrative work, David brings significant accreditation experience, having served as a self-study co-author and team member for both the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) and the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) during re-accreditation and mid-cycle visits. He has also spearheaded campuswide student satisfaction data collection and conducted meta-reviews to enhance institutional effectiveness. David's dedication to student success and institutional growth reflects his passion for creating inclusive, equitable, and transformative educational environments.

Mr. Kyle Crider

Director of Accreditation, Research, Institutional Effectiveness, Planning, West Hills CCD



Kyle Crider is the Director of Accreditation, Research, Institutional Effectiveness, and Planning for West Hills Community College District (WHCCD). Prior to moving into this administrative role in 2017, he served as a classified professional for over ten years. WHCCD follows a centralized model for its institutional research functions, with Kyle's office leading IR at the district office and for both Coalinga College and Lemoore College and supporting work on student equity, program review, enrollment management, and institutional planning. Kyle holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art History from UC Santa Barbara, a Graduate Certificate in Institutional Research from Florida State University, and a Master of Education degree in Evaluation and Measurement from Kent State University. Kyle has previously served on the peer review team for Santa Rosa Junior College (2022), where he focused on elements of Standards I and IV (2014 Standards). In addition to his peer review team experience, Kyle's role at WHCCD supports college-level accreditation functions in the district and he was deeply involved in the development of Coalinga College and Lemoore College's 2023 ISERs, leading development of a common district response for Standards III.A (HR), III.C (Technology), III.D (Finance), IV.C (Governing Board), and IV.D (Multi-College Districts). In June 2024, both colleges were reaffirmed for accreditation with no recommendations or compliance requirements.

Dr. Nicole Grose

Assistant Professor, Feather River College



Dr. Grose has a Master's of English Rhetoric and Composition and a PhD in Higher Educational Leadership from the University of Nevada, Reno. Her research and professional interests include college readiness, persistence, and retention. She teaches English full-time at Feather River College and is the editor of the Arts and Humanities journal, *Cambium*.

Mr. Rick Hicks

Vice President Administrative Services, Golden West College



In addition to 5 years as Dean of Math Sciences and 18 months as the Vice President of Administrative Services, Mr. Hicks has more than 25 years of leadership and management experience as a police executive, including serving as chief of police for 2 different California cities. He has consulted with the California Department of Justice on reforming local agencies and creating best practices for their operations. Mr. Hicks worked with California Peace Officer Standards and Training on instructor certification and training standards. He also served on evaluative and auditing teams while a police executive. He contributed to the ISER 3.0 for the Golden West College 2025 accreditation.