

# Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders



**Golden West College Foundation**  
15744 Goldenwest Street  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647-3103  
714-895-8316  
gwchbfoundation.com

**Golden West College Foundation**  
2022 Annual Report





# Leading The Way

If you’re wondering where the next generation of leaders may be coming from, look no further. Golden West College provides a rich, academic environment that encourages student leadership potential and growth.

Recognizing that what happens outside the classroom is also important, Golden West College provides more than 40 student clubs and organizations, and support for students motivated to create their own. Along with elected student government positions, these campus activities provide leadership development opportunities.

**ON THE COVER:** Meet the Golden West College 2022-2023 Executive Student Council. From left: Brooke Truong, VP, Student Advocacy; Minh Hua, VP, Public Relations; Tiffany Glover, VP, Finance; Cortney Ngo, VP, College Life; Avrena Ghatas, Executive VP; Roseleen Gerdes, Student Body President; Faith Luu, Executive Secretary; and David Le, VP, Club Affairs.



**Julia McCormack, Police Academy Class #167**  
*Being the Change* [Page 10]  
**Perla Riestra, EOPS Club**  
*Finding Her Voice* [Page 27]  
**Felipe Ferreira, Water Polo Team**  
*Pursuing the American Dream* [Page 26]

Some students come to Golden West College with a clear path already mapped out. Others do not discover their niche until after getting here. Campus activities provide the opportunity to step up, take the lead, and develop skills that will serve them well in life. It also prepares them to eventually lead and serve our society.

For more than 50 years, business, civic and community leaders have partnered with our outstanding faculty to develop excellent academic programs and vocational training. As a result of this partnership, Golden West College students leave here with a firm foundation for the next step in their lives.

Leaders grow here, and your support makes it possible. Thank you.



## Dear Friends,



**Tim McGrath**  
President, Golden West College

Like schools across the country, Golden West College has been steadily returning to a new normal. Most onsite classes and activities resumed during the Spring 2021 semester, and campus life is once again a hive of activity.

I am pleased to report that our students’ academic success did not suffer during COVID-19 restrictions. In fact, you might be surprised to learn that they were more successful than before the pandemic.

And I attribute that to the outstanding efforts by our faculty, staff and administration to keep academic learning accessible and relevant during such uncertain times. When most classes moved off campus, Golden West College provided the tools to ensure continued learning success:

- Chromebooks and wi-fi hotspots.
- Online labs, including robotic clinical training for our nursing program.
- On-campus instruction modified to meet COVID-19 protocols for nursing, police academy and automotive technology students.
- Online tutoring and campus activities.

I am proud of the leadership they demonstrated in meeting these unprecedented challenges. Thanks to them, our students were able to continue working toward their educational goals.



**Bruce Berman**  
Director, Golden West College Foundation

Despite two years of pandemic restrictions, the Golden West College Foundation was able to award all promised scholarships while raising money for more. During the 2021/2022 fiscal year, we saw the encore of The Patrons’ drive-in movie night, which has become a new tradition as a result of COVID-19. More recently, our Donor Reception in May was a chance to meet, mix and mingle with other enthusiastic supporters of our college. Additionally, our Foundation assisted the Golden West College Athletics Program with their own fundraising efforts.

On the following pages, you’ll meet some of the people behind that success: Weikko Wirta, who provides tremendous business insight to our Foundation Board; retired professor Kathryn Crown, one of our most generous supporters; alumnus Matt Liffreing, whose storytelling talents strengthens community bonds; and Jacki Wirta, who would not let a global pandemic stand in the way of funding 30 scholarships.

We are grateful for their leadership and guidance. And we hope to see you at our Spring 2023 events.

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## Power Up

Gov. Gavin Newsom has called for more aggressive climate measures to drastically reduce California's dependence on fossil fuels and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 or earlier. A Golden West College Foundation board member continues to support those ambitious goals.

As Director of Operations for AES Southland, Weikko Wirta manages one of California's battery storage systems. The AES Alamitos 100-megawatt Battery Energy Storage System, in Long Beach, provides up to 400 megawatt-hours for Southern California Edison customers. Completed in 2021, it is one of the earliest systems specifically designed to replace natural gas during periods of peak demand. It played a valuable role in keeping the California energy grid functioning during the recent summer heatwave.

"Batteries are critical to California's energy future," said Weikko, whose recent purview includes wind, natural gas and energy storage facilities. "The California Air Resources Board forecasts an increase in electric consumption of 68% by 2045 with a corresponding reduction in fossil fuel by 90%. One of the most logical ways to achieve these ambitious goals is by storing solar and wind power in batteries for use during peak hours."

And that's where Golden West College could play a valuable role. The potential development of a renewable energy certificate program, complete with apprenticeship training through AES would give students the tools necessary to work in this rapidly growing industry.

"We could train students at our Long Beach battery storage location and Palm Springs wind farm," Weikko said.

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**"I serve on several boards, but the Golden West College Foundation is one of the most impactful. To directly affect students' lives and give them the education necessary to succeed in this very competitive world is an unparalleled honor."**

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Weikko started his engineering career as a licensed U.S. Merchant Marine engineering officer. Most recently, he completed certificate programs in renewable energy technology, at Stanford University, and in innovation and technology, at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Since relocating to Huntington Beach in 2010, he has become a resolute community leader who has served on the Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce, Bolsa Chica Conservancy, and several local boards.

But Golden West College is particularly special to Weikko and his family. He has devoted countless hours to support The Patrons, as well as the Foundation Board.

"We track our donations and our students' success," he said. "There are a lot of institutions doing great things, but Golden West College displays an exemplary level of commitment to the students."



### WEIKKO WIRTA

Director of Operations, AES Southland  
GWCF Board Member



**KATHRYN CROWN**  
Retired GWC Professor  
GWCF Donor

## Steadfast Support

Born in Washington, DC, retired Golden West College professor Kathryn Crown grew up with a front seat to history. The 1963 March on Washington for civil rights? Kathryn was there. As a young woman, Kathryn also served as a White House intern.

Not surprisingly, history was one of her three majors at the University of Maryland. After completing a master's degree in history at Georgetown University, Kathryn took a teaching position at Gallaudet University, a college for deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind students.

Within a year, Kathryn was fluent in American Sign Language (ASL) and the total communication method for teaching the deaf. In 1972, Kathryn brought those skills to Golden West College.

For the first years, she taught English to deaf students and history to both hearing and deaf students. Later, she added remedial English to her class schedule. Kathryn then worked with college President Judith Valles to secure more than \$2,000,000 in state and federal grants.

Additionally, Kathryn served on every major campus committee. She chaired the Council for Curriculum and Instruction and represented the English department in the academic senate for 12 years.

When her mother's health declined back home, Kathryn moved her across the country to Huntington Beach. But with her full-time schedule, she needed help. She asked a former student who was studying nursing about a part-time caregiving job. That student enlisted her fellow nursing classmates, and soon Kathryn had a dependable arrangement in place.

It worked out beautifully. In fact, Kathryn's mother called those students "her girls."

Kathryn never forgot those students' kindness and care. And that is why the Gladys M. Crown Memorial Nursing Award is awarded twice a year, providing \$2,500 to students who exhibit outstanding caregiving skills. Additionally, Kathryn named a Pillar of Support in her mother's name.

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**Retired professor Kathryn Crown has served our college  
with integrity for more than 50 years.**

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After retiring in 2004 with more than 30 years at GWC, Kathryn endowed a second scholarship, this time to honor her colleagues in the English Department. The English Emeritus Faculty Scholarship awards \$2,500 to a student majoring in English every year.

"They were brilliant English teachers who cared about the quality of what the students would carry forth," Kathryn said. "If you can write well, you can perform well."

In 2012, Kathryn received a Premier Pillar of Support, which recognizes donors who have contributed \$100,000 or more to Golden West College. We are indebted to this remarkable teacher who has contributed so much to our school and continues to help our students achieve their dreams.



**TIMOTHY VU**

Associate Dean, Regional Criminal Justice Training Center  
Director, Police Academy

## New Associate Dean of Criminal Justice

The Golden West College Regional Criminal Justice Training Center has one of the most highly respected police academies in California. Accredited by the State Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), the program draws recruits and law enforcement professionals from throughout California.

While he was chief of the Alhambra Police Department, Timothy Vu sent recruits to train at Golden West College. In 2021, he joined the faculty to lead the program. As Associate Dean, Vu combines best practices with real-world experience to continuously improve the curricula and training methods for students entering the profession, as well as seasoned officers.

And that training must be flexible because standards, which vary by city, county and state, change constantly. Vu collaborates closely with sponsoring police agencies to ensure that Golden West College continues to meet their needs.

"Tim will say, 'Tell me if this working for you.' I find that valuable," said Chief Eric Parra, Huntington Beach Police Department. "A best practice from a rural academy up north may need to be adjusted for Huntington Beach because of population and density."

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**"Public safety is a challenging profession, and we should be proud and supportive of the men and women who choose to be guardians of their community. The demands of what they are expected to do will only grow, but our officers will be well prepared to handle those challenges. We ask that our communities support and appreciate their commitment to stepping forward and making a difference."**

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The academy has always taught the community-oriented policing philosophy, which emphasizes leadership, ethics, relationships, problem-solving skills, tactical proficiency and communication. It emphasizes listening to the community, understanding diverse perspectives, and getting the community to work together to identify, address and solve problems.

And the importance of taking diverse perspectives into consideration is something Vu understands very well. He came to the United States with his family from Vietnam at age 3 and grew up in Westminster. After graduating from a police academy in San Diego, he returned to his hometown and joined the Westminster Police Department. As one of the few Asian American patrol officers serving the majority-Vietnamese community, Vu was able to translate and explain cultural differences to his fellow officers.

"Community policing comes down to how well each agency has a plan to engage the community in a way that creates collaboration and trust," he said. "Golden West College has been doing this for over 30 years."



# A Proud Tradition



In California, most police training occurs at colleges, but it was not always that way. The Coast Community College District became the first in the state to train law enforcement professionals when it took over operation of the Orange County Peace Officer's Academy in 1960. It was the first college-based program to be accredited by the State Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Since 1969, the academy has been located at Golden West College, where it has earned a reputation for training leadership, as well as its innovative curriculum and teaching methods. It is well-respected as a premier institution and certified by POST as a Regional Criminal Justice Training Center.

Between 2,500 – 3,000 students and law enforcement professionals come from throughout California every year to attend one of three distinct programs.

## Police Academy Training

- **Regular Basic Course (RBC)** — Offered twice a year, this 24-week, full-time course far exceeds the minimum state requirements for a general law enforcement career. On average, 90% of the class are sponsored recruits, meaning they have already been vetted and hired by a police agency to attend the program full time.

A pre-academy course is offered to recruits who pursue training on their own. Regarded as the best

of its type by POST, it prepares them for the academy and law enforcement hiring process.

- **Special Investigator's Basic Course (SIBC)** — Law enforcement professionals from throughout California come to Golden West College to attend this 16-week program, which is the only POST-certified program for law enforcement professionals working in a specialized investigative arm of state or local government, such as the Department of Insurance and Medical Board.

## Semester Courses

Golden West College offers two criminal justice majors for students pursuing an AA degree or units to transfer to a four-year university:

- Administration of Justice
- Police Academy

A certificate of achievement in law enforcement is also offered.

## Continuing Professional Training

The Criminal Justice Training Center is an invaluable resource for police agencies, providing state-mandated training to law enforcement professionals ranging from basic principles to advanced tactical, leadership and supervisory courses. From dispatcher and sergeant training, to leadership development for professional and sworn staff, many agencies benefit from the program's instructors and advanced training facilities.

## State-of-the-Art Training Facilities

Thanks to community support, Golden West College is equipped with some of the most sophisticated training facilities in the state. Many law enforcement agencies from throughout the region use these facilities for in-service training, as well.



**“The academy goes well beyond POST requirements to cover what communities throughout the state are looking for in terms of community-oriented policing. This includes effective communication, de-escalation, public service, impartiality, human trafficking, homelessness, and officer wellness. These items are crucial to providing a safe environment and continuing to enhance our relationship with our community.”**

*Chief Jorge Cisneros, Anaheim Police Department*



Expert, Real-World Training

All Golden West College criminal justice courses are taught by current or retired law enforcement personnel, including many retired police chiefs. Additionally, police academy recruits are supervised daily by recruit training officers (RTO) from local law enforcement agencies.

The RTOs are chosen from different levels of experience, including management. They represent a variety of law enforcement assignments, from police and state investigators, to special task forces, weapons and tactics, and homeland security. Additionally, each RTO meets the adjunct faculty requirements set by the state of California and Coast Community College District.

While most RTOs work with the academy part-time, the Anaheim Police Department has assigned a full-time officer to the program.



Scenario Village is a complex of structures differing in size, shape and purpose used to simulate situations typically encountered by law enforcement officers, including high-risk events.

“The RTOs provide the atmosphere for growth, discipline and learning success,” said Anaheim Police Chief Jorge Cisneros. “We have assigned a full-time tactical officer to assist the academy at no cost to Golden West College because we believe these individuals provide the environment for all that training to be a success.”

**“We have to be able to trust who is preparing our employees and future police officers, because we will have to trust them to do the right thing in public. Preparation is the key to success, and Golden West College has proven they can prepare men and women for the tough career ahead of them.”**

*Chief Dan Adams, Orange Police Department*

Setting a Higher Standard

**Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Justice and Fairness, Caring, and Civic Virtue and Citizenship.**

In partnership with the Josephson Institute of Ethics, Golden West College incorporates these six essential character traits into all aspects of training. “These characteristics are essential for law enforcement professionals,” said Associate Dean Timothy Vu. “Our instructors provide a constant reminder of them so that students absorb these words, and their meaning, to the point they become second nature when making ethical decisions out in the community.” Additionally, the Golden West College Leadership and Ethics Institute (LEI) promotes the study, research and practice of principled leadership and unwavering ethics in law enforcement.

Of the thousands of police academy recruits who have graduated since 1969, hundreds have attained management positions within agencies across California. At least 37 have reached the level of police chief or sheriff. One of them is Cypress Police Chief Mark Lauderback, who graduated from the academy in 1994.

Chief Lauderback has been an adjunct instructor for the Golden West College criminal justice program since 2006. He currently serves as president of the Chief’s

Advisory Committee, which is comprised of more than 20 local police chiefs and law enforcement executives. And every semester, he sponsors several Cypress Police Department recruits to train here. “Golden West College does an outstanding job of getting recruits ready to become entry-level police officers,” he said. “When you compare the knowledge and preparedness of Golden West College recruits to those from another academy, the success rate in the field is much higher.”

How To Help

Several scholarships are available for students pursuing a career in criminal justice. If you’re interested in supporting this program, please contact our Foundation Office at (714) 785-8316.



The Force Options Training Lab, above, uses electronic simulations, including firearms, to train the cognitive skills needed to effectively confront and resolve conflict in multiple types of situations.

CALLED TO SERVE

“Victory through Unity” is their motto. It is our honor to introduce three recruits from the Golden West College Police Academy Class #167.



Julia McCormack

**Sponsoring agency:** Cypress Police Department  
**Area of Interest:** K-9

Just months after graduating from St. Mary’s College, in Moraga, with a degree in kinesiology, sports and recreation, Julia moved to Cypress to pursue a career in law enforcement. But her interest in becoming a K-9 officer began years ago, sparked by the experience of boarding and training guide dogs as part of her community service during high school. At that time, she also met and admired several first-responders.

Julia, too, is motivated by the desire to make a positive difference in peoples’ lives. “I want to help rebuild the foundation of law enforcement. In today’s age, we need good officers and good people. Being part of the change is important to me. Whether it is helping someone get off the street or a family get through difficult times, every day will be different, and I will go home knowing I made an impact.”



Ruijie He

**Sponsoring Agency:** Irvine Police Department  
**Areas of Interest:** Patrol officer, Pilot officer

Ruijie had two goals when he moved to California from China at age 14: serve in the military and become a police officer. He joined the Army National Guard during his freshman year at Ohio State University.

Two years later, Ruijie transferred to the University of California, Santa Barbara and joined the guard’s warrant officer aviation program. That took him to Alabama for two years, where he trained to fly helicopters, including the UH-60 Black Hawk.

“The National Guard allows me to attend school and have a civilian career while serving. I want to pass the academy, do my due diligence as a street officer, and be able to serve the people of Irvine. A lot of Irvine residents speak my language and share the same experience. I feel my skill set and language skills can definitely help them out.”



Kevin Hieu Nguyen

**Veteran, Self-Funded**  
**Areas of interest:** Detective, SWAT or Golden West College RTO

After five years as a U.S. Marine at Camp Pendleton, Kevin continues to be drawn to a life of service. Reports of police brutality, as well as hate crimes directed at the Asian American and Pacific Islander community spurred him to consider law enforcement. Having grown up in Westminster, Kevin was already familiar with the Golden West College police academy. He decided to put himself through the program.

“I had served the higher purpose of the nation, and I wanted to direct my attention to the community I grew up in. I saw there was a problem and instantly thought about what I could do about it. It is easy to criticize the community and the officer. But it is harder to put yourself through, see the thought processes, and how both sides operate.”

**MATT LIFFREING**  
Director, Videographer  
GWC Alumnus



## Local Connection

If it's happening in Huntington Beach, Matt Liffreing is probably there filming it. For the past 40 years, Matt has been the city's storyteller, celebrating its vibrant people, businesses, places, events and culture.

Matt's broadcasting career began at Golden West College, while he was attending a theater conservancy program that was offered in the early 1980s. As part of his studies, he joined a local improv comedy group. Matt contacted the local cable company to see if they were interested in taping an upcoming show.

The cable producers came and liked what they saw—particularly Matt. They offered the 19-year-old a job, and trained him to do interviews, voice-overs and on-camera segment production.

Matt soon hosted a weekly show interviewing rock bands and local personalities for Rogers Cable Systems' "Local Cable Update," which lasted more than 10 years. That year, he also was invited to be a street announcer for the Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade, beginning an association that continues today.

In 1984, Matt was asked to interview candidates for the Huntington Beach City Council. Those interviews ran frequently on the city's cable station, turning Matt into a familiar, household face. It also began his long association with the city.

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**"I've had a unique vantage point to watch communications technology evolve over the years. It all started at Golden West College."**

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Over the years, Matt has hosted, directed, produced and edited countless programs for what is now HBTv3. "Made In Huntington Beach" put the spotlight on lesser-known aspects of the city's light industrial base. "Surf City Highlights" documented the city, charities and events.

Matt currently directs and produces "Surf Scene" with world-champion surfer Peter "PT" Townend, and "Flashback" with city archivist Kathie Schey. He also developed marketworks, a video marketing company specializing in small business.

When COVID-19 shut down the city, Matt continued breaking news stories about local businesses and restaurants on the city's social media channels, as well as his own. And that kind of community spirit is why numerous organizations have honored him over the years.

Most recently, Matt received the "Heart of Huntington Beach Award" from the city's chamber of commerce in 2021. Golden West College recognized Matt's accomplishments with a Pillar of Achievement in 2018. He is an active member of The Patrons, as well.

For 40 years, Matt has captured the essence of "Surf City" life. And whether his work appears on cable television or social media, his friendly reporting style continues to build stronger community bonds.



**JACKI WIRTA**  
President, The Patrons  
GWCF Supporter

## Premier Patron

What would you do if a global pandemic canceled your biggest fundraising event of the year? Jacki Wirta, president of The Patrons, simply rolled up her sleeves. She knew that pandemic or not, students were depending on the 30 scholarships The Patrons provide every year.

Prior to March 2020, Chefs for Scholarships had been The Patron's much-anticipated annual fundraising event. Local restaurants had been coming on campus for years for a delicious afternoon of food, socializing and fundraising to support Golden West College students. But with COVID-19 restrictions, Jacki had to think of a way to gather supporters in a safer, socially distanced way.

And under her leadership, solutions were found. All scholarships were awarded the following spring—as planned.

First, Jacki and her fellow volunteers asked past supporters to sponsor a scholarship. Then in appreciation, The Patrons invited them to a holiday-themed, drive-in movie. This allowed donors and their families to safely gather in their own cars for a festive evening of fun. The Patrons have continued with the drive-in event, keeping the connection with the community and supporting students.

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**“I have been fortunate to be given the opportunity to help Golden West College students in two different capacities. My involvement began in 2010 on the Golden West College Foundation gala committee, which I was subsequently asked to chair in 2017 and 2018. With a strong, supportive committee, we took the gala to new heights and raised more funds than previously. This experience helped give me the knowledge, confidence and skills to take The Patrons to a new level.”**

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Jacki experienced similar success after The Patrons' monthly luncheons could not be held on campus because of COVID restrictions. Reaching out to local restaurants, who welcomed The Patrons, was the solution that allowed those luncheons to continue through the pandemic.

In 2021, The Patrons received a Premier Pillar, which is awarded to individuals or organizations that have made a cumulative gift of \$100,000 or more. This milestone coincides nicely with The Patrons' 50th anniversary next year. It is a proud accomplishment for Jacki, who has served as The Patrons' president since 2014. Her next goal: more endowed scholarships.

“We have seven endowed scholarships, and it has always been my goal to add more,” she said. “That way, the scholarships will go on forever to ensure students are getting the support they need.”



# Donors & Patrons

## Pillars of Honor

Last fall, the Pillars of Honor returned to Golden West College to recognize the generosity of our donors. AES Huntington Beach and June Dugmore each received a Pillar of Support, which recognizes cumulative gifts of over \$25,000 to the college.

Additionally, The Patrons received a Premier Pillar, which honors gifts of \$100,000 or more. The Patrons is a group of alumni, community members and Golden West College staff and faculty who support the Golden West College Foundation.

Since 1995, 35 Premier Pillars and 62 Pillars of Support have been erected on campus.



Top: Weikko Wirta, AES Southland; Damodaran Sriramulu, AES Huntington Beach; and GWC Foundation Executive Committee Chairperson Steve Olmsted. Bottom: June Dugmore and Jacki Wirta

## Opportunity Drawing

Dennis Young only purchased one opportunity drawing ticket — but it was the right one. It was a very exciting day last May when Dennis and his family came to pick up the grand prize.

Through Pete Shaver, Huntington Beach Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram generously donated a vehicle to support the Golden West College Foundation for the fifth consecutive year. All proceeds go to support students, departments and programs as needs are identified.



From left, Lori, Dennis and Jake Young; Chris Shaver, Huntington Beach Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram; Sheila Cox, GWC Foundation; and Dave Garofalo, GWC Supporter.

## Become a Patron

In addition to providing 30 scholarships each year, The Patrons support the Golden West College Foundation by helping out at graduation, the scholarships and awards ceremony, and at the on-campus art gallery. Membership is comprised of community members, business owners, college staff and retirees, and open to anyone who wishes to support the college. Meetings are held every third Friday of the month. For more information, visit [www.gwchbfoundation.com/patrons/join](http://www.gwchbfoundation.com/patrons/join).

# Scholarships

## Golden West College Scholarships and Awards

The Golden West College Foundation awarded 414 scholarships worth \$507,000 last spring. Despite the cancellation of some of our events due to COVID-19, we were able to fully fund all scholarship commitments for fall 2022 thanks to the generosity of our annual scholarship donors, endowed scholarships and Foundation board.

Since 1985, the Foundation has awarded over \$10.8 million in student scholarships. Each scholarship application involves a process of review by scholarship committees who select the recipients based upon individual scholarship criteria. Additionally, the Foundation has provided \$10.6 million to support college programs.

## Our Students Thank You

**“Thank you for making me a recipient of this generous award. This scholarship will bring me one step closer to achieving my dream of becoming a museum curator. This fall, I will transfer to UCLA in order to earn my bachelor’s degree in art history. After that, I plan on attending graduate school to further my studies.”**

*Community Festival Scholarship recipient*

**“Thank you for your generosity. This scholarship will greatly help me continue my educational journey by helping me get access to textbooks and materials needed to excel in my classes. I will be attending the University of California, Irvine in the fall pursuing a bachelor’s degree in human biology. Upon graduation, I hope to attend medical school in order to chase my dream of becoming a sports medicine orthopedic surgeon.”**

*Seacliff on the Green and Weiser Lock Scholarship recipient*

**“I sincerely thank you for contributing to my educational journey. I am on a quest to be the first member in my entire family to graduate from a four-year university. I have successfully completed the first part of that quest by transferring to the University of California, Los Angeles for the fall quarter. In two years, I hope to be applying for law school and become an immigration lawyer so I can one day represent my parents and attain their citizenship.”**

*Siracusa Family Scholarship recipient*

# STAR Textbook Program

The cost of textbooks challenges even the thriftiest student’s budget. At \$200 to \$400 per textbook, the costs add up quickly. Thanks to the STAR (Student Textbook Access Reserve) Collection, Golden West College students have another alternative. They may check out a textbook for two hours and use the library’s free book scanner to copy the pages they need.

Since 2010, The Foundation has provided over \$81,000 to purchase more than 500 textbooks from the most popular core classes, comprising 37 to 40 subject areas. Funding is also available for special requests. During a typical year, the GWC library logs more than 5,300 transactions.



# About the Foundation



Foundation staff (L-R) Valerie Venegas, Ryan Chung, Bruce Berman, and Sheila Cox.

The Golden West College Foundation was organized in 1986 to solicit and manage gifts to benefit the college and its students. The Foundation is dedicated to supporting the college’s mission of providing comprehensive academic opportunities to the community for lifelong learning.

A board of directors, which provides the leadership and direction for the organization’s operation, manages the Foundation. The Foundation has grown steadily since 1986 with assets over \$12.1 million. This has been accomplished through donations of cash, bequests and grants from individuals and businesses. The Foundation has provided over \$10.8 million in scholarships to Golden West College students and over \$10.6 million in program support. In addition to cash assets, the Foundation annually receives donated equipment and supplies that represent thousands of dollars in non-monetary gifts.

The primary focus of the Foundation board of directors is to work towards building support for college-wide needs. The Foundation provides staff support and direction to The Patrons auxiliary, which is managed by its own board and officers, and requires membership dues to cover operational expenses.

GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT: **TO PROVIDE RESOURCES TO SUPPORT GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE AND THE COMMUNITY, BY ADVANCING EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS.**

## Foundation Boards

### Board of Trustees Liaison to the Foundation

David Grant  
Board of Trustees, Coast Community College District

### Foundation Directors Emeritus

Judy Elmore  
*President, Elmore Toyota*

Doug Fabian  
*Fabian Wealth Strategies/Making Money with Doug Fabian*

John McGovern  
*Senior Vice President, Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. (Retired)*

Robert Polentz  
*Businessman*

### Golden West College Senior Administration

Tim McGrath  
*President*

Meridith Randall  
*Vice President of Instruction*

Janet Houlihan  
*Vice President of Administrative Services*

Claudia Lee, Ed.D  
*Vice President of Student Services*

### Coast Community College District Board of Trustees

David A. Grant; Mary L. Hornbuckle; Jim Moreno;  
Jerry Patterson; Lorraine Prinsky, Ph.D.; Roy Sahachaisere,  
*Student Trustee*; John Weispfenning, Ph.D., *Chancellor*

# 2022 Foundation Executive Committee



**Steve Olmsted**  
*Chairperson*  
*Olmsted & Associates*



**Paul Motenko**  
*President Co-Chair, Co-CEO*  
*Stacked Restaurants, LLC.*



**Rachel Ramirez**  
*Vice President*  
*CEO / President, Performance Excellence Partners*



**Chris Hossellman**  
*Treasurer*  
*Attorney, Buchalter*



**Tim McGrath**  
*President*  
*Golden West College*



**Bruce Berman**  
*Director, Golden West College Foundation*

# 2022 Foundation Board of Directors



**Wes Bryan**  
*Retired, Golden West College*



**Bonnie Castrey**  
*Mediator/Arbitrator*



**Martie Ramm Engle**  
*Golden West College Academic Senate Representative*



**David Grant**  
*Board of Trustees, Coast Community College District*



**Jonathan Haught**  
*Captain, Huntington Beach Police Department*



**Janet Houlihan**  
*Vice President, Administrative Services, GWC*



**Jonathan Huynh**  
*Chiropractor, Alliance Health Center*



**Kaly Mendoza**  
*Student Representative, Associated Students of GWC*



**Greg Parks**  
*Golden West College Classified Representative*



**Jamison Power**  
*Hyundai Motor America*



**Davina Samuel**  
*Vice President/Branch Manager, Union Bank*



**Weikko Wirta**  
*Operations Manager, AES Huntington Beach*



**Paul Wisner**  
*Director, Fiscal Services, GWC*



**Emilee Young, Ed.D.**  
*CVS Health*



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

June 30, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,466,175	\$ 1,431,682
Accounts receivable	1,875	1,512
Pledges, receivables, net	50,000	-
Prepaid expenses and other assets	69,220	77,800
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>1,587,270</b>	<b>1,510,994</b>
<b>Non-current assets:</b>		
Operating investments, at fair value	626,336	716,846
Investments, at fair value	8,923,600	9,842,120
Investments with FCCC	224,602	271,797
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>9,774,538</b>	<b>10,830,766</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 11,361,808</b>	<b>\$ 12,341,760</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 9,612	\$ 4,217
Designated scholarships	63,487	70,867
Due to District	-	3,015
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>73,099</b>	<b>78,099</b>
<b>Net assets:</b>		
Without donor restrictions	896,653	952,064
With donor restrictions	11,392,056	11,311,597
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>11,288,709</b>	<b>12,263,661</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ 11,361,808</b>	<b>\$ 12,341,760</b>

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

June 30, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Contributions, grants and special events	\$ 1,007,303	\$ 900,224
Vending machine commissions	-	-
Reimbursements to Coast Community College District on behalf of employees	(84,765)	(80,293)
Payments for college support	(152,107)	(151,852)
Payments to suppliers	(125,144)	(90,418)
Payments to/on behalf of students for scholarships	(303,370)	(327,432)
<b>Net cash used by operating activities</b>	<b>341,917</b>	<b>250,229</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Purchases of investments	(658,169)	(480,031)
Proceeds from sale of investments	350,745	208,318
<b>Net cash provided by investing activities</b>	<b>(307,424)</b>	<b>(271,713)</b>
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>34,493</b>	<b>(21,484)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	1,431,682	1,453,166
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 1,466,175	\$ 1,431,682
<b>Reconciliation of change in net assets to cash provided by operating activities</b>		
Change in net assets	\$ (974,952)	\$ 2,300,893
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to cash provided (used) by operating activities		
Unrealized (gain) loss on investments, net	1,316,457	(1,948,318)
Change in value, FCCC Investment	47,195	(48,053)
Change in assets - (increase) decrease:		
Accounts receivable	(363)	(1,512)
Pledges, receivables	(50,000)	-
Prepaid expenses and other assets	8,580	(47,800)
Change in liabilities - increase (decrease):		
Accounts payable	5,395	2,367
Designated scholarships	(7,380)	(105)
Due to Coast Community College District	(3,015)	(7,244)
<b>Net cash provided (used) by operating activities</b>	<b>\$ 341,917</b>	<b>\$ 250,229</b>

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

June 30, 2022 and 2021

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	2022 Total	2021 Total
<b>Support:</b>				
Contributions and gifts	2,650	606,663	609,313	472,271
In-kind contributions	-	-	-	52,800
Special events	85,190	25	85,215	100,277
Administrative fees	80,816	-	80,816	79,380
Donated services	434,101	-	434,101	406,080
Donated facilities	18,000	-	18,000	18,000
<b>Total support</b>	<b>620,757</b>	<b>606,688</b>	<b>1,227,445</b>	<b>1,128,808</b>
<b>Other income, gains and losses:</b>				
Investment income, net of expense	35,954	237,788	273,742	244,808
Realized loss on investments	(5,602)	(59,639)	(65,241)	9,803
Unrealized (loss) gain on investments	(120,580)	(1,130,636)	(1,251,216)	1,938,515
Change in value, FCCC Investments	-	(47,195)	(47,195)	48,052
<b>Total other income, gains and losses</b>	<b>(90,228)</b>	<b>(999,682)</b>	<b>(1,089,910)</b>	<b>2,241,178</b>
<b>Total revenues before net assets released from restrictions</b>	<b>530,529</b>	<b>(392,994)</b>	<b>137,535</b>	<b>3,369,986</b>
<b>Net assets released from restrictions</b>	<b>526,547</b>	<b>(526,547)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total support and revenues</b>	<b>1,057,076</b>	<b>(919,541)</b>	<b>137,535</b>	<b>1,403,222</b>
<b>Operating expenses:</b>				
Program services				
Student and campus support	643,396	-	643,396	682,381
Supporting services				
Management and general	216,844	-	216,844	179,938
Fundraising	252,247	-	252,247	206,774
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>1,112,487</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,112,487</b>	<b>1,069,093</b>
<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>(55,411)</b>	<b>(919,541)</b>	<b>(974,952)</b>	<b>2,300,893</b>
<b>Net assets</b>				
Beginning of year	952,064	11,311,597	12,263,661	9,962,768
End of year	\$ 896,653	\$ 10,392,056	\$ 11,288,709	\$ 12,263,661

## STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

June 30, 2022 and 2021

	Program Services - Student and Campus Support	Management and General	Fundraising	2022 Total	2021 Total
Donated services	\$ 111,638	\$ 114,933	\$ 207,530	\$ 434,101	\$ 406,080
Donated facilities	-	18,000	-	18,000	18,000
Scholarships and grants	295,990	-	-	295,990	345,534
Salaries and benefits	294	43,404	-	43,698	41,398
Office expenses	-	1,114	-	1,114	272
Information technology	-	21,650	-	21,650	8,350
Conference and meetings	-	1,165	-	1,165	236
College support	151,882	-	225	152,107	151,852
Hospitality	1,842	-	22,769	24,611	586
Administration fees	81,750	-	-	81,750	80,188
Bank charges	-	1,787	-	1,787	1,033
Special events	-	-	21,723	21,723	11,716
Board expenses	-	1,284	-	1,284	911
Other expenses	-	13,507	-	13,507	2,937
	<b>\$ 643,396</b>	<b>\$ 216,844</b>	<b>\$ 252,247</b>	<b>\$ 1,112,487</b>	<b>\$ 1,069,093</b>



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Yan Can Cook  
Abel Yohannes  
Gina Zahm



# International Teamwork



The Golden West College Men's Water Polo team notched its sixth-consecutive state championship in November 2022.

## How far would you go to pursue a dream? Some members of our championship Men's Water Polo team crossed an ocean to get here.

Golden West College is well-known among young water polo players throughout the world. This year's roster features players from Brazil, New Zealand, Australia, the Netherlands, Sweden, Portugal, Jakarta and Israel.

And there's a good reason why the word-of-mouth has reached across the globe: Golden West College Men's Water Polo **is** that good. In November, they won their sixth-consecutive California Community College Athletic Association State Championship. That's eight out of the last 10 state championships, for a total of 29.

International students may play for two seasons, while taking 12 units and maintaining a cumulative 2.0 GPA. According to Coach Scott Taylor, student athletes are closely monitored in order to help them pursue their academic and athletic goals.

"I think the diversity these student athletes bring to our program and campus is amazing," said Coach Scott Taylor. "Last year's overall team GPA was 3.3, which was excellent."

International students pay higher tuition costs. However, scholarships are available, including two specifically for international students. During the season, players hope to catch the eye of a Divison 1 scout and secure a scholarship to continue playing at a four-year university, where they will complete their studies.



**Stan De Mey**  
Alphen aan den Rijn, Netherlands  
Major: General Biology

"Most of us come here with a goal, the American Dream. The support we get is very important. It's a warm, welcoming environment, and you don't feel left out."

**Itay Roth**  
Hagor, Israel  
Major: Computer Science

"Golden West College is well-known as the best in the U.S. A former teammate of mine played here in 2016. Now I am here to continue the tradition."

**Felipe Ferreira**  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
Major: Economics

"The season only lasts three and a half months, but in that time the team has become a family. That will be nice to take with me for the rest of my life."

# Finding Her Voice

**"Why don't you go back to school?" a cousin asked Perla Riestra at Christmas last year. "Why not?" Perla thought.**

Perla dropped out of high school at 16. Now she was nearly 30 and had three children, ranging in age from toddler to teen. Perla decided to set a good example for her eldest.

At Golden West College, Perla learned she qualified for Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS). EOPS provides comprehensive academic and support counseling, financial aid and other services for full-time students facing language, social, economic and educational challenges. Testing confirmed a learning disability she'd long suspected. But with a simple accommodation, Perla began studying psychology full-time and now has an excellent GPA.

Perla also decided to do something else she never did in high school: get involved with the campus community. She joined the EOPS Club during her first semester. In Fall 2022, she was asked to become president.

"I was kind of hesitant, but my counselor said, 'Why not?' It was an opportunity to be more connected with other students, and advocate for those who are not familiar with what the school has to offer," Perla said. "I am glad I took that leap of faith."

At a recent statewide student affairs conference for community colleges, Perla made quite an impression by being one of the first to volunteer for a brand-new advocacy academy. Over those three days, she took advantage of all the leadership development workshops, and enjoyed learning how to network with students from other campuses.

Now Perla is considering getting involved in student government next year. She plans to graduate in 2024, then transfer to a four-year university. Her interests include working with special-needs children and forensic psychology. But since taking on a leadership role in advocacy, Perla's become intrigued by the idea of a career in counseling.

She knows it will take a master's degree to become a licensed counselor. Well, why not?





# Support Golden West College

Whether you are looking to make a gift now or planning for future giving through bequests in your will, IRA or retirement accounts, charitable annuities or trusts, the Foundation Office at Golden West College can help. Please contact us at (714) 895-8315 or email [bberman@gwc.cccd.edu](mailto:bberman@gwc.cccd.edu) for more information.

### Gifts of Cash

Gift of cash (cash, checks or credit card) are always welcome and can be designated by the donor as to their use or can be left up to the college to use them where most needed. These gifts can be of an endowed, temporarily restricted or unrestricted nature.

### Gifts of Real Estate

Gifts of appreciated real estate provide you with an immediate tax deduction and capital gains tax savings. Real estate donations can be made immediately or through your will or living trust. Donors can also make a tax-deductible current gift of their home while continuing to live in and enjoy it for their lifetimes with a gift of retained life interest.

### Gifts of Personal Property

Almost any form of property, such as works of art, antiques and other personal items can be a suitable charitable gift.

### Gifts of Intellectual Property

Gifts of intellectual property such as copyrights, patents, royalties, licenses, and technical data are welcome. The tax and legal provisions that govern these gifts vary according to the type of property.

### Gifts of Stocks or Bonds

For information on how to make a gift to the Golden West College Foundation through transfer of stocks or bonds, please call the GWC Foundation Office at (714) 895-8315. The taxable benefits of gifting appreciated securities may be substantial.

### Gifts by Wills or Living Trusts

Gifts made by will or through a revocable living trust may result in estate tax savings and can be established to enhance an endowed fund that will honor the donor or loved one in perpetuity, establish a named or memorial fund, designate an area of the college you wish to support, or leave it up to the college to use the gift where it is most needed.

### Gifts of Life Income

There are many types of planned gifts for those interested in making significant gifts while enjoying increased income and an immediate charitable deduction. This type of gift includes charitable remainder trusts, pooled income funds, and charitable gift annuities. Other deferred gifts include life insurance and retirement plans.

### Charitable Lead Trusts

A charitable lead trust can provide immediate cash gifts from the trust income to the college for a stated period of years. After that time, the appreciated assets return to you, or transfer tax-free to your heirs.

### Matching Gifts

Many employers participate in a matching gifts program that can double, triple or quadruple your gifts to GWC. Donors receive full credit for their matching gifts for the purposes of recognition and benefits. Just ask your company's personnel office for a matching gifts form, fill it out and sent it in with your contribution. We'll take it from there.

### Naming Opportunities

Individuals, companies or foundations wishing to make an enduring contribution can take advantage of the opportunity to associate their name with a classroom, laboratory, study hall, open area, or other feature in one of our new buildings: The Criminal Justice Center and Scenario Village, The Student Services Center, Language Arts Complex or the new Math Science Building. Please contact the Foundation office for details.

### Other Types of Gifts Not Listed

There are many additional ways to support GWC. If you have questions about giving personal property, appreciated securities, gifts in kind, or by any other means, please contact the Foundation.

**For more information about how to support GWC, please contact the Foundation at (714) 895-8315. To donate online now, visit [www.gwchbfoundation.com](http://www.gwchbfoundation.com)**

*Golden West College Foundation is a 501(c)(3). Contributions to the Foundation are tax deductible. Tax I.D.#33-0073702*



## Upcoming Foundation Events

- **Donor Reception and Theater Show:  
A Midsummer Night's Dream**  
April 28, 2023
- **Scholarship and Awards Ceremony**  
May 16, 2023
- **Opportunity Car Draw**  
May 25, 2023
- **Courtyard of Honor**  
Oct. 19, 2023
- **Ribbon Cutting, Language Arts Building**  
Fall 2023