

# American Samoa Community College

# **2021 Accreditation Visiting Team Bios**





Dr. Mary A.Y. Okada Guam Community College Team Chair

Dr. Mary Ann Young Okada is the longest serving president and chief executive officer of Guam Community College, beginning her tenure in June 2007. She is also GCC's first female president. Prior to serving as GCC President/ CEO, Dr. Okada held several financial positions within the college, including Vice President of Financial Affairs, Controller, and General Accounting Supervisor. Dr. Okada holds a B.A of Business Administration in Accounting and Management and an M.P.A. in Public Administration from the University of Guam, and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Phoenix.



Ms. Marlena Montague
Guam Community College
Team Assistant

Marlena Montague is the Assistant Director for the Office of Assessment, Institutional Effectiveness & Research at the Guam Community College. Marlena holds a Masters in Computer Information Systems from the University of Phoenix and a Bachelor's in Business Administration, Management Information Systems from California State University Long Beach. As an adjunct instructor, Marlena has taught courses in Office Technology and Mathematics. Marlena serves on the GCC assessment, technology, negotiations, faculty job specifications and evaluation, professional development, and accreditation committees. Marlena's accomplishments include the Association for Institutional Research Data and Decisions Academy, the Guam Chair Leadership Academy, the Community College Leadership Development Institute (CCLDI), the Summer Leadership Development Academy, and the GCC Transformational Leadership Academy. Some areas of specialization include: Certified A+ Professional, Oracle Database Administration, Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence Decision Support Systems, and over fifteen years of experience in automation and integration of business processes and services in higher education.





**Dr. David Williams**Solano Community College

Dr. Williams is the Vice President of Academic Affairs at Solano Community College (SCC). He is most proud of his work with corrections education and in promoting equitable teaching practices and removing systemic barriers to student success. He serves as the Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO) at SCC. He is the statewide Chief Instructional Officers Diversity Advocate and represents the group on the Rising Scholars Advisory Committee for formerly incarcerated students. Dr. Williams previously served as a dean at Folsom Lake College (FLC), where he oversaw various divisions including Visual & Performing Arts, Language & Literature, and Social & Behavioral Sciences. He was also the first Dean of Institutional Research at the college and was the campus Equity Officer. Prior to his administrative career, he was a Professor of Theatre History and Film, teaching at Texas Tech University, American River College, Cosumnes River College, and UC Berkeley. He has been an adjunct and full-time faculty member as well as a classified professional and classified manager at various institutions. He holds a Ph.D. in Theatre History from UC Davis.



**Dr. Jerry Saviano**Honolulu Community
College

I have taught English at Honolulu Community College for twenty-one years. In that time, I've served as Division Chair as well as Faculty Senate Chair. I've been active in helping improve articulation across the University of Hawaii system. In addition, I've helped lead campus efforts to improve success with underprepared students and participating in many campus and system efforts to improve student success overall. At Honolulu Community College, I regularly serve on standard accreditation committees. In 2016, I served on the site visit team for Evergreen Valley College. In 2019, I served on the site visit team for Gavilan College. In 2013 and 2017, I served as assistant to the site visit teams for Los Angeles Mission College and San Diego Mesa College. I have a PhD in English from the University of Hawaii.





**Dr. Madjid Niroumand** *Orange Coast College* 

Dr. Madjid Niroumand serves as the Vice President of Student Services for Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, California. He has more than 20 years of experience in higher education within the California Community College system. In his current role, Dr. Niroumand is responsible for the overall leadership, planning, budget, and compliance for Student Services Programs including: Enrollment Services, Financial Aid, Global Education, Student Equity and Achievement, oncampus Student Housing, EOPS/CARE/CalWorks, DSPS, Counseling, Health Center, Bookstore, Children's Center, Dean of Students Office, College Life, Outreach, Title IX and Student Relations. Dr. Niroumand has served in various roles at the College including Dean of Enrollment Services, Associate Dean of Student Services, Director of International Programs, Part-time Faculty, and as a Classified professional. Dr. Niroumand holds his doctoral and Master's degrees in Business Administration and his Bachelor's degree in Management and Operations. He is a proud graduate of a community college.



**Dr. Mia Kelly** *Merritt College* 

Dr. Mia Terrez Kelly currently serves as the Director of Health Services for the four Peralta College health clinics that serves the health needs of students. Dr. Kelly is a Registered Public Health Nurse with clinical expertise that spans over 20 years in the Intensive and Cardiac Care Units. In a duo role as nursing faculty, her research focus on Remediation Strategies to Improve the Success and Retention of Nursing Students supports data driven, evidence-based remediation strategies to guide student success and promote retention. In the community, Dr. Kelly's passion lies in bridging health care disparities for our most vulnerable, underserved populations with the ultimate mission of empowering and optimizing wellness through education. Through an integration of best-practices, presentations, program development, education, and resource referral, important topics such as heart health, obesity, exercise, and nutrition, are addressed.





**Dr. Ram Subramaniam** *Foothill College* 

Ram Subramaniam (he/him) received undergraduate degrees in chemistry and engineering from India. He obtained his doctorate in chemistry from the University of Kentucky following which he did a post-doctoral fellowship at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. He was a visiting assistant professor of chemistry at Hamilton College for two years and following that was an assistant professor of chemistry at Santa Clara University. He joined De Anza College in 2008 as a chemistry instructor. During his nine years at De Anza College, he held various roles including chemistry department chair, college curriculum committee co-chair, co-chair of the general education taskforce, and member of the college accreditation team. He joined Foothill College as the dean of STEM in 2017. During that time he has served on the Guided Pathways committee, Equity & Education committee, Basic Skills workgroup, program review committee, institutional planning and budget committee, and negotiations team.



**Dr. Sunyeen Pai** *Kapi'olani Community College* 

Dr. Sunny (Sunyeen) Pai is the Digital Initiatives Librarian at Kapi'olani Community College in Honolulu, Hawai'i. She is responsible for the college's institutional repository of digital collections and oversees the college's Testing Center and open computer lab. She is an advocate for open educational resource development at all ten institutions in the University of Hawai'i system. Her academic and professional backgrounds include work in librarianship, information technology, communications, and social science.





**Ms. Cheryl Vila**College of the Marshall
Islands

Originally from the Philippines, having worked and resided at Marshall Islands for more than a decade, my family of five considers the Marshall Islands as our home. I currently serve as the Director of Institutional Research and Assessment (IRA) at the College of the Marshall Islands (CMI). I also serve as the Chair of the Data Governance Committee and the Institutional Review Board. Before assuming the position as Director of IRA, I taught Mathematics and Computer/Computer Science at Pacific community colleges and at a university in the Philippines for 18 years. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and a Master's degree in Mathematics from the University of the Philippines and took courses in Demography from the same university.



Ms. Iris Ingram
Rancho Santiago
Community College
District

Iris Ingram was appointed Vice Chancellor of Business Services for the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) effective July 6, 2021. As Vice Chancellor, Ms. Ingram serves as Chief Business Official for the District. Her responsibilities include all business operations for the district, including Budgeting, Payroll, Accounting, Accounts Payable, Internal Audit, Facility Planning & District Construction Services, and Purchasing Services. Additionally, Ms. Ingram oversees the management of all district capital construction projects including those funded by Measure Q, a Facilities Improvement bond authorization for \$198 million for capital improvement projects at Santa Ana College that was passed by the voters in November 2012. In her role as Vice Chancellor, Ms. Ingram provides strategic direction on budget and fiscal matters districtwide and serves as the district's liaison to the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee for Measure Q. In addition, she chairs and serves on various participatory governance committees throughout the district as well as several Board committees.





Ms. Suzanne Wakim
Butte Community College

Suzanne is Coordinator for Distance Education and Student Learning Outcomes at Butte Community College in Northern California. She is also a biology instructor who has designed and developed over a dozen biology courses in multiple modalities for multiple institutions. She is a course facilitator for the California Online Network of Educators, a project facilitator for the ASCCC OER Initiative, and a certificate facilitator for Creative Commons.