



The Community and Technical College Leadership Development Association would like to announce the presentation of the Award of Excellence in Leadership.

The Award of Excellence in Leadership is a prestigious annual award that was developed to honor an outstanding member of the Washington Community and College System. The honoree is an administrator or exempt employee who has made significant contribution to the Washington CTC system in terms of creating educational opportunities and reaching out to the community.



At the CTCLDA Summer 2018 Conference the Board was honored to present this award to Dr. Karen Bolton. Karen was nominated for her work as the Director of Guided Pathways for Olympic College. Since arriving at Olympic College Karen has been recognized for her commitment to closing the achievement gap for first-generation students and students of color. Karen shares this passion with her in work with the Students of Color Conference, the Faculty of Color Mentoring Program, and working with the first cohort of the Social Justice Leadership Institute.

Karen started her journey in higher education by returning for her GED and continuing on to complete her Doctorate. She knew the value of both leadership and education as a result of her 20 years in the United States Navy.

In the past year, the President of Olympic College, Dr. Mitchell appointed Karen as the lead of the college's efforts to implement Guided Pathways. She has been working to engage faculty, staff, and administrators in an examination of the processes, policies, and procedures for how student enter and complete the programs at Olympic College. Under Karen's Leadership, the college is working towards increased student enrollment, with a focus on underserved and represented populations. Due to Karen's efforts the college is expected to have a full implementation of the Guided Pathways model within the next few years.

Karen is also a well-respected faculty member instructing courses such as Introduction to Leadership, Human Relations in the Workplace, and Leading/Facilitating High Performance Teams. Due to all of these experiences, Karen is also a highly sought after speaker for both public and private organizations.

For all these contributions and more, the CTCLDA is proud to present Dr. Bolton the recognition of the award and \$1000 to continue her efforts of personal and professional development.

The Community and Technical College Leadership Development Association

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