

November 16, 2023

24-073

2024 PATRON AWARD NOMINATION

PREPARED BY: Christina Kline, Executive Director, PCC Foundation

APPROVED BY: PCC Foundation Board of Trustees
Dr. Adrien L. Bennings, President

STRATEGIC THEME: Belonging: Transform our learning culture toward creating a sense of belonging and well-being for every student

REPORT: In 2007, the PCC District Board established the Portland Community College Distinguished Patron Award to recognize extraordinary levels of service to the College. Nominees are made by the PCC Foundation and the PCC President and then submitted to the PCC Board for approval. The award, an annual college honor presented by the PCC Board of Directors, goes to a person or organization that has made a significant contribution to ensure student access to education. Since 2012, commencing with the first gala, the award has been presented during the PCC Foundation's annual gala. The Patron Award will be presented during the 2024 PCC Foundation Gala on April 27, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency Portland at the Oregon Convention Center.

To date, Patron Award recipients include: Richard and Sharon Helzer; Doreen S. Margolin (posthumously, 2007); Norma Jean Germond (2008); Barbara Raz; Mary Holmström (2009); Lee and Virginia Finders (posthumously) (2010); The James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation (2011); Intel Corporation; The Oregon Community Foundation (2012); No award in 2013; Ross Lienhart and Sheila Edwards-Lienhart (posthumously) (2014); The Renaissance Foundation—Irving Levin and Stephanie Fowler (2015); Meyer Memorial Trust (2016); Betty Duvall (2017); Robert Wimmer and Howard Butzer (2018); Chris and Tom Neilsen (2019), PCC Retirees (2020); Anne Naito-Cambell; The Honorable Margaret Carter (2021); No award in 2022; Craig H. Neilsen Foundation (2023)

2024 Nominee: Denise Frisbee

Denise Frisbee served on the College Board from 2005 to 2021, representing Zone 1 for four terms. She served as Board Chair from 2008-09 and again from 2012-14. She also served two terms as the President of the Oregon Community College

Association (OCCA), the statewide organization representing Oregon's 17 community colleges.

Director Frisbee co-chaired the successful 2017 PCC bond measure and served as the Board liaison for the 2008 bond campaign. She also served on the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) governance and policy committees.

In 2014, Director Frisbee was honored with the OCCA's Howard Cherry Award for Outstanding Board Member, the highest state honor for community college trustees. In 2019, she received the Chuck Clemans Award for exceptional service from OCCA in recognition of her service as OCCA President. She also received a Distinguished Service Award from the City of Lake Oswego in 2011.

In addition to her service on the College Board, Director Frisbee and her husband Robert recently served as committee members on the PCC Foundation's *Campaign For Opportunity*, helping raise more than \$46 million for student success. They have endowed the Denise and Robert Frisbee Legislative Intern award and are both Champions for Opportunity. Director Frisbee is a member of the Amo DeBernardis Legacy Society, which honors donors who leave PCC in their estate plans.

2024 Nominee: Senator Michael Dembrow

Michael Dembrow is the state senator for District 23, covering portions of NE and SE Portland and the city of Maywood Park. First elected by voters in 2008 to the state house, he is serving his third elected term in the Senate after being appointed to the seat in November 2013. Voters re-elected Michael to the Senate in November 2014 and again in 2016 and 2020.

Senator Dembrow currently serves as Chair of the Senate Education Committee and as the Co-Chair of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Natural Resources. He also sits on the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education and the Joint Committee On Legislative Policy and Research.

Senator Dembrow was an English instructor at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus in North Portland. He has been teaching writing and film studies at the college since 1981, and served as the President of the PCC faculty union for 16 years. In 2007, he was appointed to the State Board of Education. Michael's passion for film drives his involvement in

the Cascade Festival of African Films, which he helped create in 1991. The Festival, which Michael is co-director of, has grown in size each year since its founding.

RECOMMENDATION: The PCC Board of Directors present the 2024 Patron Award to Denise Frisbee and Senator Michael Dembrow.