



2021 Outstanding Teacher of the Year Consuelo Carrillo

Consuelo Carrillo, an instructor at Pima Community College, has been named Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

Consuelo has been profoundly committed to the adult education field and profession for nearly twenty years, starting when she obtained her High School Equivalency Certificate in 2000 after taking classes in Pima Community College's Adult Basic Education for College and Career program. She later served as an AmeriCorps member with Pima's Family Literacy Corps for two years. During this time Consuelo became a student ambassador for the adult education program by sharing her story and advocating for adult education with community leaders, and she was awarded an AmeriCorps Community Leaders award. She was hired by Pima Community College in 2010, and has continued her dedication to the profession in her role as an instructor and most recently as an instructional coach and Professional Learning Community lead for math.

"Consuelo has a gift for communicating in a gentle way by asking thoughtful questions and actively listening. Because of these skills, Consuelo has long excelled in all of the roles she has taken on in Adult Education," said Jodi Perin, Assistant Manager, Pima Community College. "She also understands the value of continually evolving both her own practice and our organization's adult education programming to serve our students."

Consuelo was recently asked to help develop and teach a class through a partnership with Microsoft due to her background in computer science and math as well as proven ability to successfully coordinate and support teams. The partnership involves managing a team of industry volunteers who will assist in teaching the Python coding language. Recognizing the exciting potential for adult education students, she worked hard to learn Python herself and to lead efforts to launch the class in January 2021.

Inspired by advice from her father to "Learn as much as you can, because no one can take your education away from you," Consuelo exemplifies a passion for teaching and lifelong learning, setting an example that both her students and fellow educators emulate.