

Debbie Boroch Developmental Educator Award

6/02/16

The Developmental Education Study Team is pleased to announce that the Debbie Boroch Developmental Educator of the Year Award winner for 2016 is Lori Walker, Professor of Learning Assistance. Congratulations, Lori!

Our award evaluators noted that Lori practices authentic assessment in her classes, and emphasizes problem solving in real world contexts. Student comments agreed:

"As long as you listen to Lori it would be impossible to not be successful."

"What I am learning from Study 80 and 100 will help me succeed in school and in life."

"Instead of giving us stress, she kind of takes it away."

Lori Walker has been a full-time professor at Mt. SAC for the past 16 years teaching Writing, Math, and STDY Student Success courses in Learning Assistance. Lori was also co-director of the Developmental Education Faculty Certificate program for 10 years. She has her M.A. and Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University where her dissertation focused on using brain-based learning developments to create successful, student-centered learning communities in higher education. Previously, Lori served as a professor, Assistant Dean, and Associate Dean at Cal State Fullerton. Her love of teaching brought her to Mt. SAC where she can be in the classroom full-time. Lori also teaches Kundalini yoga, a practice which has found substantial support in the scientific literature for expanding the brain's capacity for learning and development.

We'd like to acknowledge our other finalists for the award: David Beydler, Math; Regina Martinez, Business; Donna Necke, Continuing Education; and Shari Wasson, Fine Arts. All of them are outstanding instructors and the evaluators were impressed with every nominee. The Developmental Education Study Team would like to thank our humble evaluators, a manager and a faculty member, who wished to remain anonymous this year. We know that you put a lot of work into this process.

Once again, congratulations to Lori!

--Bailey Smith

Director, Learning Assistance Center
Member, Developmental Education Study Team