Mt. SAC professor Phillip D. Maynard Dies

UBLISHED: January 13, 2014 at 3:24 a.m

Phil Maynard, 57, professor of Speech and Communication at Mt. San Antonio College, was recently named to the State Academic Senate.

Mt. SAC has lost a popular professor. Phillip D. Maynard passed away on Jan. 4 at age 66. He taught speech classes on the Walnut campus for 23 years.

“This is a sad moment for Mt. SAC as the college mourns the passing of one of its most celebrated and popular faculty members,” said President Bill Scroggins in a release.

He not only was a valued faculty leader on our campus, but he was also an impactful leader statewide to improve the quality of instruction for millions of students throughout California,” Scroggins said.
Mt. SAC Mourns the Death of Professor Phillip D. Maynard

By Melanie C. Johnson, Diamon Bar Patch Staff Jan 8, 2014 10:35 am PT

Mt. San Antonio College Communication Professor Phillip D. Maynard, who taught speech classes at the college for 23 years, passed away on Jan. 4 at age 66.

"This is a sad moment for Mt. SAC as the college mourns the passing of one of its most celebrated and popular faculty members," said Mt. SAC President Bill Scroggins. "He not only was a valued faculty leader on our campus, but he was also an impactful leader statewide to improve the quality of instruction for millions of students throughout California."

Maynard began teaching at Mt. SAC full-time in 1990. He was actively involved in addressing diversity on campus through extensive faculty training, and he developed the college's inter-cultural communication course. He served as an advisor to various student organizations at Mt. SAC, including the Muslim Student Association, the Inter-Cultural Awareness Council, the Associated Students, and others. He also mentored innumerable students across all cultures and was highly regarded by those he taught in his popular speech communication classes and by those he coached on Mt. SAC's nationally ranked Forensics Team.

"Phil's passing is a tremendous loss for the entire Mt. SAC family, particularly his current and former students as well as his campus colleagues," said Humanities and Social Sciences Dean Jim Jenkins. "He had a passion for teaching in a dynamic way that uniquely connected with students. They truly admired him."

During his distinguished tenure at Mt. SAC, Maynard served as president of the Academic Senate and in 2004 was appointed to serve on the State Academic Senate, which represents faculty throughout California's community college system. In 2002, he delivered the keynote address at Mt. SAC's 56th Commencement, and he earned numerous honors, including the Educator of Distinction Award in 2010, the Community Service Award of the National Council of Negro Women in 2012, and the National Campus Faculty Award in 2001, given by the Center for the Study of Diversity in Teaching and Learning.

Prior to coming to Mt. SAC, Maynard worked as an executive director for an urban social service agency and later served as deputy director for CETA, one of the first government-funded job-training initiatives for low-income persons.

Maynard received his bachelor's and master's degrees from California State University, Fresno.
In Memoriam of Phillip Maynard

March 2014

Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC) Communication Professor and former ASCCC Executive Committee member Phillip D. Maynard, who taught speech classes for 23 years, passed away on January 4, 2014 at age 66.

Phil received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from California State University, Fresno and began teaching at Mt. SAC full-time in 1990. He was actively involved in addressing diversity on campus through extensive faculty training and developed the college’s inter-cultural communication course. He served as an advisor to various student organizations at Mt. SAC, including the Muslim Student Association, the Inter-Cultural Awareness Council, the Associated Students, and others. He mentored innumerable students across all cultures and was highly regarded by those he taught in his popular speech communication classes and by those he coached on Mt. SAC’s nationally ranked Forensics Team.

As a highly regarded and respected professor, Phil delivered the 2002 graduation keynote address at Mt. SAC’s 56th Commencement. He earned numerous honors, including the Educator of Distinction Award in 2010, the Community Service Award of the National Council of Negro Women in 2012, and the National Campus Faculty Award in 2001, given by the Center for the Study of Diversity in Teaching and Learning.

In 2005, Professor Maynard was instrumental in creating the “Knowledge Is Power” Black College Fair at Mt. SAC with some 30 institutions represented including 21 historically black colleges and universities as well as local public and private mainstream universities. The Black College Fair continues to this day reaching thousands of students.
Phil served as President of the MT. SAC’s Academic Senate during his tenure and was an active participant in creating the college’s first-ever Student Equity Plan. In 2006, Phil was elected to serve as a Representative-At-Large for the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges and continued to serve until 2010. Phil was a member of the Equity and Diversity Action Committee, the Elections Committee, and the Nominations Committee and as Chair of the Faculty Development Committee he organized the first ever Academic Senate Teaching Institute held in 2007. He also served on the Chancellor’s Office Advisory Committees on Basic Skills and Equal Employment Opportunities, where he brought a determined voice for faculty and students.

Phil empowered and challenged faculty locally and at the state level to achieve equity in hiring, student success, and faculty participation, and always with his gentle presence, reminded his colleagues to see all people with compassion and grace. He led by example, encouraging his colleagues to think beyond classroom boundaries; and his strength of character and optimistic outlook on life contribute to his persistence in the face of life changing circumstances.

Phil never rode a train he didn’t enjoy, never missed the chance for Häagen Dazs vanilla ice cream or a Lakers game, and never lost his enthusiasm for serving students. The ASCCC extends its deepest condolences to Professor Maynard's family and friends.
The Mt. San Antonio College Student Equity Plan is dedicated to Professor Phillip Maynard, who worked tirelessly for over 20 years to make student equity both as priority and a reality at Mt. SAC. Phil championed the student equity cause at Mt. SAC before it was mandated by the state. He co-chaired the Student Equity Committee and Mt. SAC's Equity for All Project through the Center for Urban Education at USC.

Diversity issues were always at the forefront for Phil throughout his academic career as a professor and coach in the Communication department. Phil distinguished himself as a leader, advocate, and ardent supporter of affirmative action, equity and diversity on campus as well as throughout the state through his involvement with the Academic Senate. He provided diversity training to hundreds of faculty members at Mt. SAC and across the nation.

Phil advised various student organizations, including the Muslim Student Association, the Intercultural Awareness Council, the Associated Students, the Bridge Program, the Aspire Program and others. In 2005, Phil played a key role in creating Mt. SAC's Black College Fair, which has evolved into a university transfer forum, targeted for African American students.

Phil also played a pivotal role in formulating the college's first-ever Student Equity Plan and advocated for the development of an intercultural communication course that serves as the foundation for a multidisciplinary AA degree in intercultural understanding at Mt. SAC.

He was awarded the National Campus Faculty Award from the Center for the Study of Diversity in Teaching and Learning in 2001 and the Community Service Award of the National Council of Negro Women in 2012. In 2006, the College’s efforts were recognized by the State Chancellor’s Award for Best Practices in Student Equity.

Phil Maynard was our leader, our anchor, and our "north star" until his untimely death in January 2014. Although we miss him dearly, his work is recognized on a daily basis through the innovative educational support our students receive at Mt. SAC.