

NEWS

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El Camino College Swim Coach and Professor Sets New National Swim Record

Traci Granger, El Camino College swim coach and professor, recently secured two national swimming titles.

Granger, a kinesiology professor, set a new national record for the women's 45 and over age division in the 50-yard butterfly with a time of 26.78. Her award-winning time broke a record that had stood for the past six years. In addition, Granger's time would have also won the women's 40-44, 35-39, and 30-34 age divisions.

Granger also swam the butterfly leg on the first place and national champion 200-yard mixed medley relay, logging a time of 1:51.80 for the 45 and older age division.

"I have been swimming competitively all my life," Granger said. "About five years ago I started training again and then I thought I would compete. I have been close to winning for two years, but never did – then, it happened. I didn't even know."

Granger has been an assistant coach at El Camino College since 1992. Before coming to El Camino College, Traci was the head swim coach at California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo. At Cal Poly, Traci developed several All-American and national qualifying athletes. As an athlete, Traci was an All-American sprinter and an NCAA Division II Championship finalist. She is currently one of the top Masters swimmers in the nation in her age group.

She moves into a new age division next year and still plans to compete. She enjoys her 5 a.m. daily workouts at the Plunge in Torrance, swimming alongside friends, some who swim competitively, others who don't.

"I like the camaraderie of the people I swim with," she said. "It's a great workout and a good time."