



Cohort #5 Members



**Francis
Baylen**

ITS

I've been with the ITS Division for 21 years. I started as the Computer Lab Specialist for Fine Arts, then I became a Computer Systems Support Technician in 2017. I am also the lead technician for Humanities. I am a true native to Long Beach, where I was born and raised (I lived within a 2 mile radius). I am a product of the Long Beach educational system: LBUSD, LBCC, and CSULB. I earned my MBA from the University of Phoenix.

I miss playing basketball in the North Gym during our lunch break. We called it the "Lunch Basketball League (ECC LBL)!" I am an avid fisherman, I try to venture out the ocean at least twice a month. If I'm not out fishing, then you'll probably find my wife and me at Disneyland.



**Charlene
Brewer-Smith**

Cosmetology

Originally from Texas, Charlene has lived in California most of her adult life. Before becoming a cosmetology professor, she obtained her commercial drivers license and drove a 78-passenger school bus for 16 years with the Los Angeles Unified School District. During her time at LA Unified, she promoted to a state certified school bus instructor. She started her hair business while driving the bus.

Charlene has taught cosmetology for 15 years at El Camino College and other local community colleges. She is a tenured professor with a Master degree in Education Administration, a Bachelor in Organizational Leadership, and an Associate Degree in Cosmetology. She teaches all aspects of cosmetology and instructs students aspiring for careers in beauty including hair styling, nails, and make-up. She continues to work in the industry at a salon where she serves clients in her spare time. She currently serves as a Senator on the El Camino College Academic Senate, serves on the EMTI (Equity Minded Teaching Institute) committee, and is a member of the El Camino College Industry & Technology, Division Curriculum Committee. She also coordinates the Engaging police and community project and has served on several faculty evaluation and hiring committees.

She is a mother of three adults, two girls, and one boy and loves good movies, tasty food, entertaining music, a refreshing mimosa and getting her skate on at the rink. I am very blessed to work in a capacity that aligns with my destiny.



**Veronica
Casillas**

Counseling

Veronica is excited to be part of the ECC community working for the college that serves her community. Her past employment experience includes working for a non-profit, high school and she had multiple roles working at other community colleges.

Veronica earned her BA degree at LMU, MS from CSUN and EdD at CSULB. During her free time, Veronica enjoys spending time with her two sons.



**Cynthia
Hoover**

Life Sciences

I started at El Camino College as a Life Sciences Lab Tech in 1999. The Zoology labs inspired me to volunteer with South Bay Wildlife Rehab (www.SBWR.org) from 2008-2011. They specialize in the rehabilitation and release of raptors (birds of prey). Over the years, I have enjoyed taking classes on campus. The Administration of Justice class provided the opportunity to participate in an internship at the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office in 2003. In 2005, I taught a summer bridge math program at Animo Charter High School in Inglewood. And also taught the Solving the Mystery of the Owl's Dinner workshop for the Onizuka Space Science Day from 2008-2013. In 2015, I completed the Pharmacy Technician program through the Community Education Department and have had my license since 2016.

Prior to working at ECC, I was a Quality Control Lab Tech for a private company. I graduated with a B.S. in Kinesiology & Dance from CSU, Hayward in 1992. For a few months that year, I performed with a small modern dance company in the Oakland area.

During the 2020 campus closure, I learned how to sew. With a friend, we made and donated close to 200 masks to healthcare workers, colleagues, friends and family. It was a great time to learn a new skill and give to the community.

In my spare time, I enjoy reading, painting and watching my adorable dogs chase the cat...and the cat chase the dogs. My 2022 goals are to read one book a month and learn to play the ukulele.



**Camila
Jenkin**

*Library & Learning
Resources*

I started at El Camino as a student, and now am lucky enough to work alongside some of my former instructors! I studied English and from day one was impressed by the huge diversity of life experiences represented at El Camino College.

I transferred to UCLA as an English major, then took a year to volunteer with the South Bay Literacy Council where I gained a passion for working with communities on literacy goals. I decided to pursue a Master of Library & Information Science degree and almost immediately realized I wanted to be part of a community college setting again.

While studying for my MLIS I lived in Seattle for two years and still love the PNW! I hope to visit again soon. I returned from grad school and six months later was hired as a PT librarian at ECC. The following year a full time position opened and I am excited to now work as ECC's Outreach Librarian!



**Julie
Land**

*Special Resource
Center*

I am thrilled to get to participate in the ECC Pride Program, having "waited and hoped" during the pandemic! Seems like yesterday, but I started here at El Camino College in Fall 2005 as a full-time Specialist with the ECC Special Resource Center. I am a Certified Learning Disabilities Specialist, a Physical / Visual Disabilities Specialist, and Instructor / Curriculum Writer of Educational Development. I'm proud to be part of the SRC team, serving students with disabilities. My educational / professional background includes two Master's Degrees, along with certification as a Wilson Reading System Dyslexia Practitioner and Educational Therapist / Professional, with AET (Association of Educational Therapists). Prior to my assignment at El Camino College, I was a Counselor at other community college campuses, first a Bi-lingual Retention Counselor and then Counselor to Disabled Students Programs & Services.

My great loves, off-campus, include my amazing husband of 46 years, our two dear sons, and our irresistible, one-year old grandson: cutest and smartest grandchild in the world! I love classical music, especially the Italian operas of Mozart. I enjoy cooking, gardening, and water aerobics.

Since Day #1 here at El Camino College, I have felt great pride at being a full-time faculty member. I look forward to expressing this with fellow participants, both Certificated and Classified, in ECC Pride Cohort #5. Thank you for this opportunity!



**Marlow
Lemons**

*Mathematical
Sciences*

Marlow Lemons comes to El Camino College with over 15 years of diverse teaching and leadership experience from community colleges and university systems. Dr. Lemons began his career at El Camino as the Associate Dean of Mathematical Sciences in 2018. He then transitioned into the role of Dean of Mathematical Sciences in July 2020.

Before joining ECC, Dr. Lemons was Professor and Chair for the Department of Mathematics and Physics at Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology in Boston, Lecturer of Statistics at Qatar University, and Advanced Instructor of Statistics at Virginia Tech.

Dean Lemons earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Georgia Southern University in 2001, his Master of Science degree in Statistics from the University of Georgia in 2003, and his Ph.D. in Educational Research and Evaluation from Virginia Tech in 2014.

In his spare time, Dr. Lemons enjoys home repair projects, walking on the beach, and winning a brand new car on game shows like The Price is Right.



**Edward
Matykiewicz**

*Automotive
Technology*

Chicago native with B.A. & A.A.S. degrees in automotive technology. My Bachelor's is from Southern Illinois University Carbondale & Associates in Applied Science is from Moraine Valley Community College. I've earned 13 Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certifications while working in the automotive industry for the last 17 years. I have experience ranging from automotive repair, software development, adjunct, & full-time instruction.

I've been teaching the requirements set by ASE Education Foundation, as well as alternative fuels as a full-time instructor at El Camino since 2015. Strong Workforce & Perkins grants have allowed me to expand collegiate programs for dual enrollment, non-credit adult education, & non-credit manufacturing offerings. I've also worked to improve student outreach, retention, & completion by receiving the opportunity to take part in the Pathways Project.

The automotive world is not only my life's work but is also my passion from working with friends' various automotive projects & appreciating SOCAL's car culture. I'm looking forward to traveling once again enjoying different sites, & experiences around the globe especially anything automotive. Outside of automotive, I appreciate the art of craft beer brewing, AHL hockey, live music, cycling, and trying my best at botany in my spare time. Lastly, I'm fortunate to enjoy the many cuisines offered throughout Los Angeles & am always seeking out new finds.

Hidden talent: Left Handed



**Dylan
Meek**

Welding

I spent the first portion of my adult life employed as a structural and aerospace welder before joining the El Camino Faculty as a full-time welding instructor in 2016.

I am an avid reader of science fiction, fantasy and history. I discovered the joy of collaborative story telling through Dungeons and Dragons as an eight year old boy and have never stopped playing.

My favorite season is summer. When the snows melt and the mountains become accessible I spend most of my free time camping and backpacking in the Sierra Nevada with my Wife. I suppose my hidden talent would be juggling.



**David
Moyer**

Fine Arts

I joined El Camino College in Fall, 2019 after accepting a position as Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies. In 2020, I assumed the role of Director of Instrumental Music and Applied Music Coordinator. I'm ecstatic to be a part of the Warrior family!

I'm a Los Angeles native, an alumnus of Hamilton High School's Academy of Music (LAUSD), UCLA (BA in Music Performance), CSUN (Teaching Credential), and USC Thornton School of Music (MM and DMA in Jazz Studies). I'm honored to be able to contribute to the cultural and musical lives of our students and campus community at ECC.

In addition to my work at ECC, I am a professional saxophonist and am active as both a session and touring musician. I am passionate about jazz, the saxophone, and all things music.

Outside of my professional life, I am a avid surfer, home cook, and am always looking for my next street taco fix. I live with my wife and dog in Culver City.



**Grace
Ou**

*Institutional
Research & Planning*

Grace joined the Institutional Research and Planning office as a Planning Analyst in May 2019, although she has been a student at El Camino since 2015 where she discovered her love of swimming. She also has been mentoring El Camino international students in her free time since 2014.

She has worked in marketing analytics and strategy at the Target Corporation, Charles Schwab, Bank of America and the Harvard University alumni association. She also has over 11 years of experience in global strategy at World Vision International where she worked as an internal strategy consultant and traveled to over 37 countries across 6 continents.

Grace received her MBA with a focus on Marketing and MS in Information Systems from Boston University. She is also an alumna of UC Berkeley and UCLA. She is fluent in Taiwanese and has a pandemic puppy named Cocoa.



**Cyndy
Parral**

*Special Resource
Center*

Meet Oliver, he is one of the reasons I smile everyday. My name is Cyndy, not Cynthia. If you call me that, I think I am in trouble.

I have worked at El Camino College as a part time Sign Language Interpreter for over 15 years. I went through our interpreter training program (1998-2001) and in January of 2017, I officially started my full time position with the college. This was a huge accomplishment. Interpreters are very aware of the scarcity of full time positions and I was honored to have one here.

I was raised in Gardena. I received a bachelors degree in psychology from California State University, Fullerton.

During the pandemic I started roller skating again (it had been over 30 years). I am still very cautious and slow but I am embracing this fear and enjoying every minute. Even the minutes when I fall and it hurts.

I am eager to get to know people on campus that are not a part of my SRC family. Delighted to be a part of cohort #5.



**Martha
Perez**

Counseling

I am an ECC alumni and have been working in the Counseling and Student Success office since 2001. I started as a student worker in 2000 and became part of the Classified workforce in 2005. My current position is a Student Services Advisor for the Student Success Program and ECC Connect. I obtained my Bachelor's Degree from CSULA in Business Administration with an option in Management, and I am currently pursuing my MPA from CSUN and anticipate to finish this Fall.

My hobbies include spending time with family and friends, hiking, traveling, cooking, binge watching shows or movies, working out, self-care, and just started cycling with my husband and four children.



**Brenda
Threatt**

Veteran Services

MAJ Threatt is the Assistant Director of Veteran Services at El Camino Community College, overseeing the programs and services that assist veteran students in achieving academic success, graduation, and ultimately, successful careers. Additionally, MAJ Threatt is a military officer serving as a chaplain with the 224th Support Battalion, California State Military Reserve (Army Component). MAJ Threatt was the previous Executive Director of U.S.VETS Long Beach which provided daily housing and services for homeless veterans. She has held positions with the City of Los Angeles addressing homelessness and in the Mayor's Office as the Veteran Liaison and South Los Angeles Area Director.

MAJ Brenda Threatt was born and raised in Los Angeles, CA., attended St. Mary's Academy and Los Angeles High Schools; California State University, Los Angeles; and San Francisco Theological Seminary, San Anselmo, CA. She holds degrees in Theology including a Master of Divinity. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Public Administration at California Baptist University. MAJ Threatt has numerous military certifications, citations, and awards for her work in the community with veterans and vulnerable populations. In 2001, MAJ Threatt designed the 9-11 commemorative license plate for the State of California which has raised millions of dollars to fight anti-terrorism in the State. MAJ Threatt's credo is from Anne Frank - June 12, 1942 Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp, Germany: "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."



**Sandra
Uribe**

History

Sandra Uribe was raised in South Gate, California. She is a first generation college student. She double majored in history and Chicano Studies while minoring in sociology at UC Irvine. Sandra then attended and graduated from UC Riverside with M.A. in history.

Her thesis, *The Queens of Diamonds: Mexican American Women's Amateur Softball in Southern California, 1930-1950*, examines local softball teams as a means to analyze issues of gender, race, community, and identity. She is a co-author of *Mexican American Baseball in the Pomona Valley*. She has also collaborated with the Smithsonian Museum on a new exhibit ¡Pleibol! In the Barrios and the Big Leagues, which showcases stories of Latino/as and illustrates the historic role baseball and softball has played as a social and cultural force within Latino communities across the nation for over a century.

She has been teaching history at El Camino College since January of 2016. Sandra enjoys spending time with family, traveling and taking architectural photography. She hopes to travel to all 50 states.