
LOS MEDANOS
COLLEGE

Honors Program

February 8, 2024

Dear Academic Senate Colleagues,

Scott Cabral, a superstar astronomy professor who is retiring at the end of this semester, is most deserving of the Teacher of the Year award. Scott is a tireless educator, a champion of students, and a science evangelist. In my thirty years at LMC, he has never said “no” to any request I have brought his way, no matter how time-intensive or demanding. He teaches Astronomy for both Honors and the Transfer Academy every year, has mentored dozens of Honors Contracts, and is always willing to show up to events early to move furniture and stay late and make sure the trash gets emptied. Scott has given up countless weekends to chaperone trips for various groups around the state and even volunteers to drive the van when needed. He has attended every single Bay Honors Faculty Roundtable and Honors Symposium (always as a moderator!) and even served on the Symposium Proposal Committee multiple years which requires over 20 hours of work each time.

One of the most amazing things Scott has done has been to serve as “astronomer in residence” for the annual MESA Winter Retreat and the fall Honors Yosemite Retreat. For the last 15 years Scott has spent countless hours schlepping gear to the Sierras to run an interactive star-gazing activity specifically tailored to that weekend’s night sky which is one of the highlights of the event. In addition, Scott also served as the lead faculty for LMC’s Academic Competition for over ten years and is still the main organizer at our college for the East County Science Fair. This requires coordinating with all our feeder high-schools and serves hundreds of budding scientists every year. He is a true servant-scholar.

Scott has been at LMC for almost 25 years and is about to retire. I’m not sure what we’ll do without him, but being recognized as “Teacher of the Year” would be one way for LMC to thank him for his dedication and generosity.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Saito

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