

Nomination Statement for Susie Huerta, Language Arts Division
Submitted by David Marasco

Susie Huerta has been a Language Arts instructor teaching English and Creative Writing at Foothill since 2005. From 2008 to 2021 she was the coordinator and English instructor in the Puente program, guiding fellow first-generation students on their educational journeys.

In addition, Susie was the co-coordinator of Foothill's Honors program from 2019 to 2022 and led its transition from a prior model based in elitism to one that believes that the honors curriculum can be for all students. This has changed both the idea of who can be an honors student, and how many students have seen themselves.

From the start of her time at our college, Susie has been a fierce advocate of Ethnic Studies in the curriculum. In the 2020-21 academic year she was a key member of the team that founded Foothill's Ethnic Studies department, and along with Hilda Fernandez was one of the authors of the Introduction to Latinx course outline of record

In her time at Foothill, Susie has served in many Shared Governance roles. For the English Department she has served on college-wide committees such as Basic Skills and Transfer. She was the facilitator for the Equity & Education Council.

On a personal note, it is easy as a faculty member of color to become discouraged at Foothill. Progress towards equity can be slow, and suffers setbacks. Susie's eloquence, determination, passion, strength, and intelligence inspire me and restore a belief that positive change is possible. Susie Huerta has a long track record of service, with a focus on progressing racial equity both for her own students by her own teaching and mentoring, and for all by addressing structural issues in the way the college operates. We are lucky to work with her, and should forward her as a candidate for the Hayward Award.