

THE RICH DIVERSITY OF CPTC'S
STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF
ENHANCES LEARNING AND INSPIRES
INNOVATION.

YOUR UNIQUE
STORY
(CULTURE, AND
PERSPECTIVE
BRING LIFE
TO OUR
COLLEGE.

YOU BELONG HERE—
AND WE'RE PROUD TO
HAVE YOU IN OUR CPTC
FAMILY.

(CPTC ME,
JOY(E LOVEDAY
(SHE/HERS)

President

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from the Department of Education (Carl D. Perkins Act).



DIVERSITY IS ALL ABOUT EMBRACING THE RICHNESS OF MULTIPLE IDENTITIES.

BEING A LESBIAN, BLACK, WHITE, AND NATIVE AMERICAN FEMALE, I UNDERSTAND FIRSTHAND NO SINGLE NARRATIVE DEFINES ANY ONE PERSON OR GROUP OF PEOPLE. I LIVE IN THE IN BETWEEN SPACES, WHERE COMPLEX HISTORIES MEET, WHERE TRADITIONS INTERSECT, AND WHERE UNDERSTANDING IS BOTH NECESSARY AND DEEPLY PERSONAL. IT MEANS ADVOCATING FOR INCLUSION, AND FOR ALL VOICES TO BE HEARD. BUT IT ALSO MEANS GRAPPLING WITH TENSION – RECOGNIZING PRIVILEGE IN SOME SPACES, WHILE FACING PREJUDICE IN OTHERS.

MOST OF ALL,

DIVERSITY TO ME IS ABOUT CONNECTION, BUILDING BRIDGES, AND HONORING THE FULL HUMANITY IN OTHERS

AS I HOPE THEY WILL DO FOR ME.

(PTC) ME,
AMY EHLERS
(SHE/HERS)

Employee Benefits Specialist

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WHEN I THINK OF WHAT DIVERSITY MEANS TO ME, I THINK OF THE QUOTE FROM THE FILM MAKER, AVA DUVERNAY. SHE SUMMED IT UP VERY WELL BY SAYING,

"WHEN WE'RE TALKING ABOUT DIVERSITY, IT'S NOT A BOX TO CHECK. IT IS A REALITY THAT SHOULD BE DEEPLY FELT AND HELD AND VALUED BY ALL OF US."

WE ARE ALL HUMAN AND WE SHOULD ALL LOVE OTHER AND TREAT OTHERS HOW WE WANT TO BE TREATED.

(PTC) ME,
(HAS L. GARDNER SR.
(HE/HIS)

M.E.C. Coach & I-Best Step Instructor,
Construction Program

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BORN IN MEXICO AND RAISED IN AMERICA,
I HAVE LEARNED THE BEAUTY OF LIVING
WITH MANY CULTURES. GROWING UP, I
EMBRACED BOTH MY ROOTS AND THE DIVERSE
WORLD AROUND ME. I'VE COME TO
DEEPLY APPRECIATE THE UNIQUENESS,
TRADITIONS, AND STRENGTHS THAT
EACH CULTURE OFFERS.

DIVERSITY ISN'T
JUST SOMETHING
I WITNESS—IT'S A
PART OF WHO I AM.

IT HAS SHAPED MY VALUES, BROADENED
MY PERSPECTIVE, AND INSPIRED ME TO
CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES WHILE FINDING
COMMON GROUND WITH OTHERS.

(PTC) ME,
EDGAR MORALES
(HE/HIS)

**Workforce Development
Eligibility Program Assistant**

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THE DISABILITY COMMUNITY IS JUST AS MUCH A PART OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION – WHEN WE PROVIDE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO AN INDIVIDUAL, THE BENEFIT EXTENDS BEYOND THAT ONE PERSON AND POSITIVELY IMPACTS THEIR COMMUNITY. THINK OF HOW SUBTITLES, RAMPS, SPEECH TO TEXT ARE NOW PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE, AND THE BETTERMENT THEY HAVE GIVEN TO SOCIETY: EACH OF THOSE WERE FIRST CREATED TO PROVIDE ACCESSIBILITY TO THE DISABILITY COMMUNITY.

AS A PERSON WITH INVISIBLE DISABILITIES WHO FACED A LACK OF ACCESS AND DISCRIMINATION IN THEIR EDUCATION,

I STRIVE HARD TO ADVOCATE FOR AND SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

AS I HAVE BEEN THERE. MY BIGGEST AMBITION IS TO ENSURE THAT ALL STUDENTS HAVE ACCESSIBLE AND ADAPTABLE EDUCATION AT CPTC, AND SEE OUR STUDENTS SUCCEED NO MATTER WHAT.

EVERY DAY I TELL MYSELF TO BE THE PERSON I NEEDED, AND I HOPE I CAN BE THAT PERSON FOR YOU.



CPTC ME,
SARAH ADDINGTON
(SHE/HERS)

Manager of Student Disability Services

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I BELIEVE THAT IN OUR GARDEN,
**EACH PERSON IS A RARE
BLOSSOM SINGING THEIR
UNIQUE SONG.**

BENEATH OUR FEET, THE ROOTS
INTERTWINE IN SHARED STORIES
AND BELONGINGNESS.

WE MUST CARE FOR
EVERY SPROUT AND
FLOWER WHILE
KNOWING THAT EACH
MAKES OUR GARDEN
STRONGER, BRIGHTER,
AND SO MUCH
DEEPER.

(PTC) ME,
EMILY ENGLISH
(SHE/HERS)

**Assistant Director of Grant
Development**

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"DIVERSITY IS NOT HOW WE DIFFER.
DIVERSITY IS ABOUT EMBRACING
ONE ANOTHER'S UNIQUENESS."

-OLA JOSEPH.

I LIKE THIS QUOTE BECAUSE IT SERVES AS
A REMINDER THAT WHILE IT'S OFTEN
TIMES EASIER TO SEEK COMFORT IN
THE THINGS WE KNOW, GROWTH AND
BEAUTY IS IN THE THINGS WE ARE
UNFAMILIAR WITH.

BY STEPPING OUTSIDE OF
OUR USUAL SPACES AND
EMBRACING CHANGE WE
BECOME OPEN TO NEW
IDEAS, EXPERIENCES
AND PERSPECTIVES.

(PTC) ME,
JEALISA AGUILAR
(SHE/HERS)

Fiscal Specialist 2, Accounts Payable

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"NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER
OF BEING SEEN." -BRENE BROWN

DIVERSITY GOES BEYOND
THE TANGIBLE DIFFERENCES
WE SEE AND INCLUDES LAYERS
THAT ARE HIDDEN BENEATH.

ONLY THROUGH
AUTHENTIC
CONNECTION AND
CONVERSATIONS
CAN WE BEGIN
TO TRULY BUILD
RELATIONSHIPS,
AND CREATE A
COMMUNITY.



(PTC) ME,
(ELIANA TUPUA
(SHE/HERS)

Instructor, Nursing

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"BUT I AM NOT TRAGICALLY COLORED.
NO, I DO NOT WEEP AT THE WORLD—I AM TOO
BUSY SHARPENING MY OYSTER KNIFE."

— ZORA NEALE HURSTON

THERE IS JOY, FOR ME, IN BEING BLACK. I LOVE MY SKIN, MY
HAIR, MY HERITAGE, MY COMMUNITY...EVEN DOWN TO THE
WAY I WEAR MY EARRINGS, I LOVE IT ALL. OFTENTIMES, WHEN FOLKS TALK ABOUT
"DIVERSITY" IN THE ROOM, THEY USE DEFICIT LANGUAGE
FOR PEOPLE WHO LOOK LIKE ME.

THEY MAKE JUDGMENTS ABOUT WHAT WE
CAN AND CAN'T DO. FOR ME, IT'S NOT ABOUT
IGNORING RACISM AND ALL SYSTEMS OF OPPRESSION
PRESENT IN THE WORLD.

IT'S ABOUT FIGHTING THEM
WHILE TAKING JOY IN MY
BLACKNESS, IN UNDERSTANDING
THAT I AM THE OPPOSITE OF
A DEFICIT.

MY BLACK SELF IS, IN FACT, GLORIOUS.

(PTC) ME,
TOLU TAIWO
(SHE/THEY)

Associate Director
for EDI & Campus Climate

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"WE ALL SHOULD KNOW
THAT DIVERSITY
MAKES FOR
A RICH
TAPESTRY,

AND WE MUST
UNDERSTAND THAT
ALL THE THREADS OF
THE TAPESTRY ARE
EQUAL IN VALUE
NO MATTER
THEIR COLOR."

– MAYA ANGELOU,
POET AND CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST



(PTC) ME,
KEISHAWNA A. SMITH
(SHE/HERS)

Entry Services Coordinator

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