IN MEMORIAM

DEAN MURAKAMI, PAST FACCC PRESIDENT



Dean Murakami was a superhero. He had the soul of Sir Galahad, the heart of Mother Teresa, the charisma of FDR, and the wisdom of Solomon. He was a titan in California higher education politics who knew all the members of the legislature and senate. He was the definition of bravery. It never mattered that he was always going up against forces that are infinitely better funded and nationally powerful. He was there to defend the poor, the weak, and the imprisoned using his mind and wits. Beyond the countless ways Dean served the California Community Colleges, the Los Rios District, his union, and our faculty, students, and communities, Dean is responsible for inspiring a whole new generation of statewide leaders.

Dean was a core advocate for the community college system, for labor, and for progressive politics in California for decades. He quietly worked as a relentless advocate to better the lives of the working class, contributing to the greater good of California's democracy, and inspiring a new generation of statewide leaders. In honor of this work, FACCC posthumously named him the 2021 John Vasconcellos Advocate of the Year.

DR. PAUL BALTIMORE, FACCC COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR AND

2019 MARGARET QUAN AWARDEE

Dr. Paul Baltimore was a proud union advocate, *FACCCTIVIST*, and faculty leader who worked tirelessly for his students and colleagues. A Philadelphia native with a passion for history, Paul shared his enthusiasm with students at all three of the Los Rios Community Colleges.

Paul was a long-time adjunct professor who didn't own a car and would ride the light rail from midtown Sacramento to Folsom Lake College. He was a champion for adjunct faculty and told *Sacramento Magazine*, "It's a gigantic problem nationwide that transcends teaching. Over the last couple of decades, there's been this move away from full-time permanent positions to temporary, part-time contract employees. The idea now that you can get a full-time job is like a remote dream. I think lawmakers need to be vigilant about the exploitation that this is creating."



In 2019, FACCC awarded him the Margaret Quan Part-Time Advocate of the Year Award for his dedication to our system. He was a talented writer and researcher who regularly contributed to *FACCCTS*, and was the chair of the FACCC Communications Committee. Paul exemplified what it means to be a leader.