



For immediate release: **April 22, 2022**

Triton College Faculty Members Receive Award

Dr. Richard Chan, M.D., and Michael Mago Honored at Board Meeting

RIVER GROVE, Ill. – Triton College faculty member Dr. Richard Chan, M.D., received the Outstanding Full-Time Faculty of the Year Award and adjunct faculty member Michael Mago received the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty of the Year Award.

Dr. Chan and Mago were presented to the board of trustees on April 19.

Dr. Richard Chan, M.D., began working at Triton College in 2013 as an adjunct faculty member. He started working as a full-time faculty member in 2014. Dr. Chan is a member of the Science Department and teaches microbiology, anatomy/physiology and pathophysiology.

"I always wanted to be a doctor," he said. "I went through the whole career path to be a doctor. When I started doing my rotations, I had to mentor newer students. I loved teaching. I just found it exciting."

Dr. Chan said he started working part time at Triton while doing his residency and really took a liking to it. He withdrew from his residency and decided to become a full-time faculty member.

“Teaching turned into a passion of mine,” he said.

Dr. Chan started SciMAD (Science and Medical Advanced Degrees) a pre-health professions club on campus for students pursuing graduate coursework. He serves on the Professional Development Committee and is a mentor for TRIUMPH (Triton Undergraduate Men Pursuing Higher Education) and TEAM (Triton Employees as Mentors).

Besides all that, Dr. Chan also volunteers regularly at the Community Health Free clinic, accumulating over 600 hours of service since 2013.

“It feels amazing to win the Outstanding Full-Time Faculty of the Year Award,” Dr. Chan said. “It’s such a huge honor. There were so many other people nominated, so I’m shocked and grateful that I received the award.”

Dr. Chan feels the Triton community is “friendly” and “welcoming.”

Adjunct faculty member Michael Mago started working at Triton in 2017. Mago teaches accounting classes at Triton.

Mago began his career in the accounting field and felt that something was missing.

“I had to advise and tutor students while I was pursuing my master’s degree,” Mago said. “One of the students I helped said they saw me as a teacher. The light bulb just went off.”

Mago is also an adjunct faculty member at Roosevelt University and Harper College. He said he is proud that his father graduated from Triton in the 1970s, and feels the community has been a great place to work.

“It feels really good to win this award,” he said. “This award proves that I did my job as an educator.”

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ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE

Triton College is a two-year college dedicated to helping members of the 25 Western Cook County communities in our district and beyond to achieve educational, professional and personal success. Located in River Grove, IL, Triton offers more than 110 degree and certificate programs on its 110-acre campus, featuring a comfortable, friendly and diverse atmosphere. Triton holds classes at several satellite locations as well and offers online learning opportunities. Triton’s dedicated faculty and staff work to provide high quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 12,000 students each year. Triton College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at www.triton.edu.