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CALIFORNIA TEACHER CORPS NAMES TWO NEW MEMBERS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Organization representing California's alternative certification programs welcomes Dr. Clara Amador-Lankster and Nancy J. Wales to its Board of Directors

Sacramento, Calif. – The California Teacher Corps today announced that its members have elected two new candidates to its Board of Directors – Dr. Clara Amador-Lankster and Nancy J. Wales. The California Teacher Corps is the premier organization representing the more than 100 alternative certification programs in California, addressing teacher preparation issues and ensuring that high-quality teachers are able to teach in public schools that need them the most.

“I am pleased to welcome these two talented educators to our Board of Directors, where they will bring to the California Teacher Corps a wealth of unique knowledge,” said California Teacher Corps President Patricia Pernin. “With both of these two experienced leaders, we will be stronger in our mission to support high-quality alternative certification programs to prepare the next generation of California teachers.”

Dr. Clara Amador-Lankster’s career has centered on English as a foreign language, English as a second language, bilingual and dual language education in the United States and abroad. Holding degrees in sociology of education, elementary education, bilingual teaching methodologies, educational leadership and policy analysis for culturally and linguistically diverse students, she has taught in multiple and diverse urban settings from K-12 schools to post-graduate degree programs. Currently, she is the program lead for National University and teaches graduate level courses in the Teacher Credentialing Program, Master of Education and Master of Arts in Teaching. Her research is centered on the analysis and implementation of quality alternative teacher certification programs for California from the perspective of intake protocols, diagnostic and summative assessment of teaching performance, and program cost-effectiveness analysis.

Dr. Amador-Lankster was awarded the distinction of becoming a Fulbright Senior Specialist since 2009 and has become a visiting professor, researcher, scholar and international consultant for many universities and schools in Colombia, including her last assignment for the Center of Science and Technology in Medellin, Colombia.

Nancy J. Wales is currently the program manager for the Teaching Intern Program in Alameda County, a position she has held since 2005. Prior to 2005, she taught in the public schools for 40 years teaching kindergarten through graduate school students. She has also served as a Peer Assistance and Review support staff, BTSA support staff, professional development provider, district reading coordinator, and Reading First content expert. In addition, she taught teacher preparation classes as an adjunct professor at California State University East Bay.

Wales earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Western Illinois University and her master of science at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. She has continued professional growth throughout her career by participating in coursework, professional meetings, workshops and professional learning communities.

The California Teacher Corps' Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that the organization is viable, properly governed and properly managed. Teacher Corps bylaws specify that the board shall consist of one representative from each Intern Region ([there are six across the state](#)) as well as a representative from a special education program, a district intern program, a university intern program, the immediate past president, and one member at large. Board members are elected by the Teacher Corps' general membership at the Annual General Meeting for a two-year term and may be elected for three-two year terms for continuous service of six years.

About the California Teacher Corps

The California Teacher Corps is a nonprofit organization established in 2009 with the goal of placing 100,000 highly-qualified teachers in California's communities by 2020. The Teacher Corps provides a unified voice for the state's alternative certification programs, effectively and proactively addresses teacher preparation issues facing California and recruits the best and the brightest professionals to teach in the public schools that need them most. CA Teacher Corps membership trains second-career teachers, and others committed to working in hard-to-staff schools, who have deep subject-area expertise and who remain in the teaching profession. For more information, visit the California Teacher Corps at www.cateachercorps.org.

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