



Vivian Knight, Head of the Business Department and Accounting Instructor at PCC

## Who Am I?

My name is Vivian Knight, and I serve as the head of the Business Department and as an accounting instructor at Pima Community College, roles I have embraced for the last decade. Born and raised in Taiwan, I relocated to the U.S. twenty years ago and began my academic journey at Pima as an ESL student. This pivotal experience profoundly shaped my educational philosophy and leadership style.

Drawn to Pima's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and academic excellence, I found alignment with my own values and an opportunity to contribute meaningfully. My background as an Asian Pacific Islander (API) has been integral in shaping my educational ethos, emphasizing resilience, adaptability, and the importance of cultural identity.

In my roles, I am committed to enhancing the educational experience for both the courses I teach and those I manage. I believe deeply in making education accessible and equitable, echoing the inclusivity that was so crucial to my own academic journey. Throughout my tenure, I have introduced innovative strategies to ensure our online offerings reflect the quality and engagement of our in-person classes, striving for parity across all formats.

The importance of representation and cultural identity is ever-present in my work. My heritage has not only informed my worldview but has also guided my professional path, instilling a duty to uplift others and cultivate an academic environment where every student feels seen and supported. I actively mentor emerging educators, particularly those from diverse backgrounds, passionate about guiding their professional growth as I was once guided.

My story at Pima is one of full circle, from student to leader, continuously inspired by my roots to champion educational practices that foster inclusion and illuminate paths for all. This narrative underpins my belief in the transformative power of education as a tool for empowerment, fueling my ongoing mission to nurture a community where everyone, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to excel.