

JK Wood Award



The JK Wood award is named after J. Kevin Wood and is given out by the Warren Residential Life team to an individual who has shown outstanding dedication to the Warren College, UC San Diego and the greater San Diego community.

Kevin served as Resident Dean of Warren College from 1986 to 1992. The constant educator, Kevin taught our community about the rich history of the black-American cowboy rooted in his hometown of Boley, Oklahoma. He attended Oklahoma State University, earning a bachelor's degree in Psychology and Speech Pathology. He later earned a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Western Michigan University.

Kevin's life ambition was to be a philanthropist, someone who gives to those in need. He might not agree, but to those who knew him, he achieved his life ambition several times over. Kevin was noted for volunteering his time to several groups in the San Diego community and encouraged others to help those in need. Through his generosity, he touched the lives of all who knew him.

Kevin played a pivotal role in the planning and expansion of the Warren Student Activity Center (SAC), and the building of the Warren Residence Halls, former graduate student housing (now undergraduate housing in Brown and Bates Halls) and the Canyon Vista (CV) Administration Building. The Canyon Vista Administration Building included the Canyon Vista Marketplace, a student lounge, the Warren Residential Life Office, custodial office space, and Dining Innovation Center. The student lounge in CV is named in honor of him.

Kevin received numerous honors and awards for his role as an educator and community leader, confirming the significant influence he had on others. He inspired many to earn degrees in higher education. He was the ideal mentor, who made many realize their potential, encouraging them to grow, learn and laugh.