

STUDENT SENATE FOR CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES



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Board of Directors | Regular Meeting Agenda | August 23, 2025

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

President Reyes called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

B. Roll Call | 5 Minutes

President Reyes
Vice President Chris Chandler
Vice President of Regional Affairs Cody Jarvis
Interim Vice President of Legislative Affairs Aisha Nagpal
Vice President of Finance Federico Caion Demaestri
Vice President of Communications Brandon Maskey
Legislative Affairs Director, Region I Caitlin Wheetley
Regional Affairs Director, Region II Kevin Hill
Legislative Affairs Director, Region II Claire Densmore
Regional Affairs Director, Region III Davina Malbrough
Legislative Affairs Director, Region III Ode Kunthar
Regional Affairs Director, Region IV Vivek Sharm
Legislative Affairs Director, Region IV Maria Blaze
Regional Affairs Director, Region V Garrett Wilkinson
Regional Affairs Director, Region VI Oscar Rivera
Legislative Affairs Director, Region VI Lucia Landeros
Regional Affairs Director, Region VII Destiny McLemore
Legislative Affairs Director, Region VII Jasmine Varkey
Regional Affairs Director, Region VIII Flo Cudal
Legislative Affairs Director, Region VIII Carlo Flores-Olsen
Regional Affairs Director, Region IX Valerie Pamphile
Regional Affairs Director, Region X Yonatan "Yogi" Hernandez
Vice Chair, Region X Christopher "X" Ruiz

Members Absent:

Regional Affairs Director, Region I Mario Prudencio (excused)
Legislative Affairs Director, Region IX Myisha Jackson (absent)

With 23/25 present, a quorum was established.

The mission of the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC) is to enrich the collegiate experience for all California community college students by pursuing policies that will improve student access and success while engaging and empowering local student leaders, as well as honoring equity and diversity.

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C. [Brown Act AB 2449 Teleconference Exemption Requests](#) | 2 mins

No action.

D. Adoption of the Agenda | 5 mins.

The SSSCC Board of Directors will consider any amendments to the agenda.

Motioned, seconded, (RAD VIII Cudal) to approve the agenda. No objections. Motion carried.

E. Consent Agenda | 5 mins.

1. [Meeting Minutes](#). *The Board of Directors will approve the July 19, 2025, meeting minutes.*

Motioned, seconded, (RAD IX Pamphile) to approve the consent agenda. No objections. Motion carried.

F. Public Comment

Public comment was made.

II. SPECIAL ORDERS

A. [Oath of Office](#)

President Reyes performed the swearing-in ceremony for Interim VPLA Alisha Nagpal and LAD I Wheatley.

B. [Community Agreements](#)

The SSSCC Board of Directors reviewed the SSSCC-approved Community Agreements.

C. Chancellor's Office Report

Stacey Shears, Vice Chancellor for Student Services, updated members on the Chancellor's Office activities. Here is a link to [her report](#).

D. Executive Committee Report

Vice President Chris Chandler reported on the Executive Committee's actions and activities. The report is linked below with other Internal Committee reports.

E. [Executive Director Report](#)

Executive Director Dr. Julie Adams updated members on the activities of staff and highlighted areas in her report. Here is [a link to her presentation](#).

F. California Community College Board of Governors Report

Love Adu, student member on the Board of Governors, provided a report to the SSSCC Board of Directors on updates regarding the entire system. She also announced that Maria Blaze, our own LAD Region IV, was appointed to the Board of Governors as the second student board member. Here is a [link to her report](#).

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G. Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Report

Mitra Sapienza, ASCCC North Representative, reported on behalf of the ASCCC. She shared that she has updated ASCCC leadership on SSCCC resolutions calling for collaboration between the two organizations. This includes co-authoring articles for the ASCCC newsletter on student trustee empowerment and related topics, coordinating fall plenary sessions and webinars, and developing toolkits and other shared resources.

H. Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) Liaison Report

Dr. Oranit Limmaneeprasert, FACCC President, reported on the activities of the FACCC Liaison, including meetings and events, as well as legislation. She noted she will share a resolution about AB1705 with SSCCC and made a support request.

I. California Community College Student Affairs Association (CCCSAA) Liaison Report

Tyler Strohl, CCCSAA Liaison, provided a written report. His report updated members on CCCSAA activities, including the October Student Leadership Conference and monthly webinars for advisors.

III. BUSINESS

A. [Request for support of the creation of a new discipline, “Mental Health Counselor”](#)

Abby Burd, Acting President, and a mental health counselor at MiraCosta, shared the background and reason for her request to create a new discipline of “Mental Health Counselor”. The proposal would guarantee that mental health counselors have the minimum qualifications to serve the diverse populations of students at California Community Colleges. Currently, general counselors are commonly used to counsel students, but they often lack the minimum qualifications or experience to serve our students with mental health issues effectively. Members expressed their support for the proposal. Here is a [link to her presentation](#).

Motioned, seconded, (VP Chandler) to add the Mental Health Counselor to the Disciplines List. The motion was approved unanimously.

By consensus, a statement will be provided in support of the proposal, along with the use of the SSCCC logo.

B. [Common Course Number Update](#)

Michelle Grimes-Hillman, Visiting Executive at the CCC, and Cheryl Aschenbach, CCN Director with the ASCCC, provided an update on the implementation of Common Course Numbering. They shared background information and the project’s vision, noting that six student-facing courses will be available starting in 2025 this fall. They emphasized the importance of advocacy for common course numbering—encouraging students to

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spread the word about its role in improving transfer pathways and other benefits. They also asked the SSCCC to utilize the provided resources to facilitate communication with students through social media. Here is a [link to their presentation](#).

C. [Executive Director 2025 - 26 Goals](#)

President Reyes presented the Executive Director's goals for 2025-26.

Motioned, seconded, (VP Chandler) to approve the 2025 - 26 goals as amended to change the process to be presented in October 2025 and the hiring process in February 2026.

Motioned, seconded, (RAD VIII) to extend the contract of the Executive Director to December 2026. Yes - 22, No - 1 (RAD VII McLemore). Motion passed.

D. [2025 - 2026 Legislative Priorities](#)

Alisha Nagpal, Interim Vice President of Legislative Affairs, and Mikala Hutchinson, Legislative Specialist, updated members on past legislative priorities and presented draft priorities for 2025 - 26. Their presentation can be found at [this link](#).

Motioned, seconded (VPRA Jarvis) to approve the legislative priorities as presented as 1) Equity, 2) Basic Needs, and 3) Academic Access and Success. Yes - 19, No - 2 (RAD McLemore and LAD Vaskey).

E. [SSCCC Land Acknowledgements Presentation](#)

Jacob Roe, SSCCC Tribal Liaison, made a presentation on the development of an SSCCC Land Acknowledgment. He reviewed California Indian history, the current Native population in California, the community college system, and the Chancellor's Office land acknowledgment. Roe emphasized that good acknowledgments require consultation with Tribal Nations and should serve as a starting point for building relationships, not a replacement for action. The SSCCC proposal will include creating a permanent Board-level acknowledgment and developing region-specific acknowledgments in consultation with Tribes, phased in over one to three years. The plan underscores the principles of sovereignty, respect, and transparency, positioning SSCCC to lead student governance in this area. A link to his presentation can be found [here](#).

F. [USSA Update](#)

President Jerry Reyes provided an update on the USSA partnership. Members discussed the challenges of engaging with a young organization experiencing growing pains, including professionalism and inclusivity concerns. While participation provided an opportunity to share SSCCC's expertise, the Interim Governance Committee's (IGC) SSCCC members noted that much of the IGC work occurs in closed session without minutes, limiting transparency. The consensus was that SSCCC should model

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professionalism, advocate for greater openness, and continue updating the Board on developments. The recommendation is to extend grace, monitor the organization's growth, encourage transparency, and invite IGC members to make meetings public.

G. Caucus Engagement and Involvement

RAD II Hill, Caucus Chair, updated members on the discussions of the Caucus Committee. The committee brainstormed ideas to expand the roles and functions of caucuses, including creating an Inter-Caucus Council, increasing campus outreach through tabling, developing training webinars, building a Canvas training module, and producing a caucus workbook. The next steps will focus on three key areas: engagement, retention, and empowerment. He will bring back updates in the future.

H. Elections Policy Revision

Executive Director Adams reported on the discussion and recommendations of the Elections Task Force. The task force did not feel that the Elections Policy needed significant revisions before the Special Election in September; however, they did recommend one revision to add the disallowance of mass communication - email, text, and direct messaging.

Motion, seconded (VPRA Jarvis) to approve the revision as presented.

I. Federal Regulations Negotiator Sponsorship

Vice President Chris Chandler informed members about an opportunity to nominate SSSCC Board members to serve as negotiators to the U.S. Department of Education for the RISE and AHEAD committees' negotiated rulemaking process. Members discussed and nominated the following individuals for each of the positions. The vote count is also listed below.

Nominations - RISE

- RAD IV Sharma - 2
- RAD VII McLemore - 6
- LAD VII Vaskey - 5
- RAD X Hernandez - 9

Nominations: HEAD

- VP Chandler - 5
- RAD IV Sharma - 1
- LAD VI Landeros - 9
- LAD VIII Flores-Olsen - 6

Motioned, seconded, (VP Chandler) to approve sponsoring RAD X Hernandez for RISE and LAD VI Landeros for HEAD, and to sponsor their participation. Motions passed.

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I. REPORTS

A. Executive Officer Reports | Additional Oral Reports

- a. [President](#)
- b. [Vice President](#)
- c. [Vice President of Regional Affairs](#)
- d. [Vice President of Legislative Affairs](#)
- e. [Vice President of Finance](#)
- f. [Vice President of Communications](#)

B. RAD Region Reports | Additional Oral Reports

[Submitted Reports: Y] [Not Submitted: N] [Vacant: V]

R I	R II	R III	R IV	R V	R VI	R VII	R VIII	R IX	R X
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

C. LAD Region Reports | Additional Oral Reports

[Submitted Reports: Y] [Not Submitted: N] [Vacant: V]

R I	R II	R III	R IV	R V	R VI	R VII	R VIII	R IX	R X
Y	Y	Y	Y	V	Y	Y	Y	Y	V

D. Internal Operating Committee Reports | Additional Oral Reports

- I. [Audit Committee](#)
- II. [Caucus Committee](#)
- III. Communications Committee
- IV. [Conference Committee](#)
- V. [DEIAA Subcommittee](#)
- VI. [Executive Committee](#)
- VII. Finance Committee
- VIII. [Internal Affairs Committee](#)
- IX. [Legislative Affairs Committee](#)
- X. Region Finance and Fundraising Committee
- XI. [Regional Affairs Committee](#)
- XII. [Resolutions Committee](#)

E. External Reports

F. [Action Tracking](#)

A simple tracking of tasks assigned by the Board of Directors to members or staff.

II. INFORMATION (Written information only)

A. [External Committees](#)

B. [Internal Committees](#)

III. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.