

# **Advisor Newsletter**

### **Announcement**

#### Dear Advisors,

I recognize the challenges we are all facing, in light of recent executive actions affecting students. We understand the difficulty of staying updated with all the evolving factors and implications, and we are actively working to compile relevant information to help guide our efforts in supporting our students.

In this context, the SSCCC has taken a firm stance in support of undocumented students and mixed-status families. Please see the statement on the right, where we outline our commitment to ensuring these students feel supported and protected. This commitment is further detailed in our Student Action Plan, <u>Chapter 4- Anti Racism- A Student Plan of Action Undocumented Students.</u>

If you come across any helpful resources that may assist students in navigating these changes, please don't hesitate to share them with me. We want to ensure these resources reach our students as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your continued dedication to supporting students within the community college system.

# ANTI-RACISM A Student Plan of Action Undocumented Students

stands in solidarity with the thousands of undocumented students and mixed-status families within the California Community College system who have been dispraportionately affected by recent federal policies and actions. In these uncertain times, many of our students face unprecedented challenges, experiencing fear and anxiety regarding their safety, education, and livelihoods.

The SSCCC reaffirms its unwavering commitment to advocating for undocumented students and mixed-status families. We remain steadfast in our support for DACA recipients and immigrant students who came to California in pursuit of higher education and a better future.

To strengthen our advocacy, we will continue collaborating with th University of California (UC), California State University (CSU), and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to ensure a unified effort in supporting affected students. Additionally, we will continue to work with legislators to push for policies that protect the educational opportunities of all students, regardless of immigration status.

Adopted by the Delegates April 6, 2024



## **Student Leadership Opportunity**

There are a number of opportunities for your student leaders to serve at the state level. As you may know, the SSCCC nominates students to serve on the <u>Board of Governors</u> and the <u>California Student Aid Commission</u>. **Both applications are open this year** and available on our website at the link above. Please encourage your student leaders to apply for these very important positions.

We also have our Regional and Executive Board positions open. More information about the timeline for the Executive Officers can be found at <a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/jhi/high-regional-no.1001/

If you have any questions about any of these positions, please reach out to Dr. Julie Adams at <u>jadams@ssccc.org</u>

#### **Events**

#### Advocacy Day / March in March

• Date: March 4

• Location: Sacramento

• Register here

ASACC March Pre-Session

• Date: March 14

• Location: Washington DC

Information Survey and RSVP

#### **General Assembly**

• Dates: April 4-6

• Location: Los Angeles

• Register here

**Note:** If you plan to attend the General Assembly, we recommend departing after 4:00 PM on Sunday, April 6. Currently, we have over 70 resolutions that will be debated on Saturday and Sunday. While we will try to be as efficient as possible, there will be many important resolutions that will be discussed that afternoon, and we want to ensure we don't lose quorum.

# **Legislative Update**

The Student Senate Board of Directors have been proactive in their legislative advocacy efforts and, during their last meeting, took official stances on several bills currently in the legislative cycle.

We are proud to sponsor AB-409 (Arambula), a bill that will permanently codify our previous legislation, AB-1855 (Arambula), into law. This ensures students can participate in student government meetings remotely without being required to disclose their public addresses.

This groundbreaking legislation originated from our resolution process when students urged us to advocate for the continued use of COVID-19 Brown Act exemptions. By securing this policy, we have created a pathway for students from all backgrounds to engage in advocacy, particularly benefiting disabled students, student parents, and those from our most vulnerable communities.

Now, Student Body Governments can pass a resolution requesting their Board of Directors' approval to implement these exemptions—expanding access and amplifying student voices across the board. Please watch for more information about a toolkit that your student body association can use to develop the resolution and communicate with your Board of Trustees.

For more information on how to implement AB-1855 on your campus, please contact our Legislative Affairs Specialist, Mikala Hutchinson at mhutchinson@ssccc.org.

#### The Board has also voted to co-sponsor several other bills:

- **SB 271 (Gómez Reyes)** will help student parents access financial aid, childcare, and other essential resources. It expands the definition of childcare within basic needs services and ensures coordination with the Child Care Local Planning Council and local Resource and Referral agencies to assist student parents in securing subsidized care. The bill also requires basic needs centers, financial aid offices, and child development centers to inform student parents about all available campus resources.
- **SB 98 (Perez)** mandates that schools and college campuses immediately notify students, parents, faculty, staff, and community members if immigration officers are present on the premises.

For more information on how to get involved in our legislative advocacy efforts, or for any questions, please contact our Executive Director Julie Adams at jadams@ssccc.org

# **Vacant Positions**

We are currently seeking interns for <u>Region VI</u> and <u>VIII</u> and would greatly appreciate it if you could share this opportunity with your SBA.

For more information about the position, please refer to the attached job description.

# Follow us! Let's build collective power together!

