

February 2024



# SSCCC Connect



Fresno

## Mark Your Calendars!

### **Executive Committee**

March 1, 2024 (virtual)

### **SSCCC Advocacy Day -**

Morning of March 7, 2024  
(Sacramento)

### **March in March -**

Afternoon of March 7, 2024  
(Sacramento)

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

March 8 - 9, 2024  
(Los Angeles)

### **General Assembly**

April 5 - 7, 2024  
(Santa Clara Marriott)

### **Executive Committee**

April 12, 2024 (virtual)

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

April 19-20, 2024  
(Anaheim)

**Other region meetings and events can be found on our Online Calendar**

## President's Update

Happy February!

February brings a wealth of cultural and historical significance with Black History Month and Lunar New Year, alongside the joyful festivities of Valentine's Day. I encourage everyone to embrace these occasions, stay warm, and take the opportunity to celebrate and deepen our understanding of their importance.

Starting the month off strong, the SSCCC had the privilege of going to our nation's capitol in Washington, D.C., to advocate for students on the federal level. This was a momentous occasion as we saw unprecedented activity across all partners and were able to band together towards our shared vision of furthering the CCC initiatives we work year-long for. From the Faculty Association of the California Community Colleges to the Chancellor's Office, students remained at the center of the advocacy visits. Our SSCCC representatives worked hard to represent all California's community college students. Though it was sub-30 degrees at times, it was a truly astounding experience for all as we head into this legislative cycle strong.

Following the DC trip, we traveled to Fresno for our February Board of Directors Study Session and meeting. The day prior, I, SSCCC staff, the Region V RAD, and Region V LAD had the privilege of meeting with student government officials from Fresno City College.

During our discussion, we covered a range of topics, including pressing local issues, ongoing student government initiatives, and how SSCCC can offer support to their endeavors.

Continue...





## Join Us for the SSCCC Advocacy Day and March in March - March 7

Don't miss out on the opportunity to shape the future of California's community colleges! Ready to be a part of the change? RSVP now and let your presence make a powerful impact!

During Advocacy Day, participants will meet with Legislators to advocate for fully implementing Cal Grant reform, continuing to fund affordable student housing, modifying the Brown Act to make participating in student body associations more equitable, and requiring every college campus to accept EBT.

See you at the Capitol on March 7 – together, we'll make history!

### Advocacy Day:

Morning of Thursday, March 7, 2024.

Registration has closed. For those who have registered, the training webinar is scheduled for Thursday, February 29 at 1 pm and will be recorded. Please keep an eye on your inbox for more information about the training webinar. Meeting schedules will be emailed out the week of March 4.

### March in March:

Thursday, March 7, 2024

- **12:15 - 2:00 pm** Gather at Sutter Health Park (the River Cats Stadium) in West Sacramento. Buses can remain parked at the stadium throughout the event.
- **2:00 - 2:15 pm** Begin marching
- **3:00 pm** Arrive at the Capitol for the rally
- **4:30 - 5:00 pm** Participants depart

[RSVP here](#)

The next day, we held a study session on the 50% Law at Clovis Community College, where we had the honor to hear from representatives from both the Community College League of California and the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges and asked countless questions about the implications of the 50% Law. We also hosted a student forum with Clovis Community College, a testament to SSCCC's goal of educating and listening to students on pertinent issues and student engagement.

As we get into the weeds of the legislative cycle and student body associations (SBA) start scheduling lobby days, please know that the Student Senate has countless resources to support you. These resources range from the SBA to the federal level for student advocacy. I implore you to ensure your respective SBA is on the ground with your local representatives to ensure your voice is heard on what is troubling students.

In Service,  
Cassandra Flandre-Nguyen

**In response to the question "What does Black History Month mean to you," our Executive Assistant De'ja Corbin shared why this month is particularly important to her as a Black woman.**

**"Black History Month is important to me and my family because it signifies the importance of African Americans and their impact on American society. This month is about celebrating black joy, community, resilience, resistance and movements that have contributed to advancements around the world. Black history is an ongoing history and there is so much worth learning and exploring!"**

**De'ja Corbin was raised in the Bay Area and currently resides in Elk Grove, California. She also spent some of her childhood in San Diego, California, not knowing she would return years later to pursue her college dream. De'ja received her Bachelor of Science in Hospitality and Tourism Management with an emphasis in Restaurant Management from San Diego State University. Before joining the SSCCC, she gained administrative experience at the Brigantine Corporate Office in San Diego. In her spare time she loves to travel and cook for family and friends.**



**BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH**



### **Resolutions Now Available**

During the upcoming General Assembly, SSCCC delegates will discuss and debate resolutions submitted by students and sponsored by student body associations, SSCCC Board of Directors, Regions, and caucuses. The first packet of resolutions for discussion and debate is now available. We're excited to announce there are over 50 resolutions for the delegates to discuss, which is a tribute to the work our members have done!

We encourage you to review the resolutions with your student body associations and send us any amendments by March 8th. To assist you with amending resolutions, we will offer a webinar on **February 29, 2024 - 4:00 pm** to help you understand how to amend resolutions and submit them. Watch for more information about the webinar. Any amendments are due by **March 14th**.

### **Elections**

In addition to resolutions, next year's SSCCC Executive and Regional Officers will be elected during the General Assembly. Regional Officers will be held on Friday, April 5th at 6:30 pm and Executive Officers on Sunday beginning at 9:00 am.

The processes for each of the elections are different. You can find the process for Regional Officers at this [link](#) and the process for Executive Officers at [this link](#). We have also held two webinars to provide you with information about each of the roles and the process—you can find them at [this link](#).

# Board Member Spotlight

## REGION I



Lisa Baker is a reentry student who recently earned her AS in Business Management and is now completing her AS in Business Administration to transfer. She aspires to transfer to the Political Science program with an emphasis on environmental policy at Cal Poly Humboldt. A mom of two, and a believer in a brighter future, Lisa is working to become a leader, organizer, and problem-solver in service to the sustainability movement. She loves serving the students of Mendocino College, performing in community theater, and exploring the beautiful state of California.



Cole Militano (He/Him/His) is working to complete his associate degree and transfer to Chico State where he hopes to obtain his bachelor's and master's degrees. He wants to work in either a government capacity or as a consultant or director for Government Affairs in the civilian field. Cole is passionate about leadership and helping others. He wants to make meaningful and lasting change in the world to make it better for those who must live in it, which in this case, is everyone. In his free time he enjoys eating out with colleagues or friends, playing volleyball, or relaxing at home. He's a real homebody!

## REGION II



Olivia Garcia-Godos Martinez (She/Her/Hers) is a Peruvian-American autistic disability rights activist and is currently enrolled at Sacramento City College. She first started her community college career in 2017 at San Joaquin Delta College before transferring to Sacramento City College in 2020. She started her student government journey during the pandemic and it flourished after she was diagnosed with Autism. She is also a past Puente Project student.

Olivia is passionate about DEIAA, especially disability rights advocacy. She hopes to get more students involved in student government and to improve disability services for all disabled students. Outside of advocacy work, she works at her college's pride center, likes listening to Kpop & Jpop (any music really), watching sports, and hanging out with her dog, Thunder.



John (Jay) Doherty is an economics student at American River College. He plans to transfer to a university in the Fall of 2024. Jay is majoring in economics to better understand the way institutions function financially, from the federal government to nonprofit organizations. With this understanding, he plans to work to make the economy more socially and environmentally responsible. In his free time, Jay enjoys reading and playing card or board games.