Important Dates

Executive CommitteeFebruary 3, 2025 *Virtual*

Board of Directors

February 7-8, 2025 (Santa Ana - Region VIII)

Executive Committee

February 28, 2025 *Virtual*

Advocacy Day

March 4, 2025 (Sacramento - Region II)

March in March

March 4, 2025 (Sacramento - Region II)

Board of Directors

March 7-8, 2025 (Berkeley - Region III)

General Assembly

April 4-6, 2025 (Los Angeles Airport Westin)

Other region meetings and events are on our website calendar *here*.

President's Update

Dear SSCCC Family,

As we embark on 2025, I want to take this moment to share updates, acknowledge the challenges we're facing, and remind you of the resilience and strength we hold as a community.

First and foremost, our hearts go out to everyone affected by the devastating wildfires in Southern California. These fires continue to displace many in our community, including college students. In response, the SSCCC released a Wildfire Emergency Scholarship to assist any community college students impacted by these events. We received over 500 requests for scholarships. We are evaluating these requests and will open the scholarship if we have additional funds. Please watch social media for more information.

We appreciate Governor Newsom's recently released budget and his continued commitment to California's community colleges. The focus on expanding credit for prior learning aligns with our mission to enhance accessibility and support students in transitioning successfully into the workforce. We look forward to engaging in meaningful discussions on how we can strengthen pathways for our students and ensure their success.

Next month, the SSCCC Board will visit Santiago Canyon College and other colleges across Southern California. We will connect with students, hear about their experiences during these challenging times, and collaborate on solutions to support their success. Your voices are central to everything we do, and we look forward to these critical conversations.

Continue...



Join the SSCCC for a Special Pre-Session Event at ASACC's Conference in Washington DC

Are you passionate about federal advocacy? Are you planning to attend the 2025 National Student Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C., from March 15–18, 2025?

In partnership with the American Student **Association of Community** Colleges (ASACC), we are excited to offer a presession to their conference. This session will provide California student leaders with advanced training to build the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to engage with congressional representatives effectively. Our program aligns with ASACC's agenda to enhance your overall experience.

The pre-session will occur at the same hotel as the ASACC Conference and is offered at no cost to California Community Colleges. We hope you'll join us!

If you're interested in attending, please complete this survey to share more about your plans and preferences.

In February, a delegation from SSCCC will travel to Washington, D.C., to meet with elected officials. Our mission is to bring the concerns of California's community college students to their attention. We will advocate for marginalized student populations, including undocumented students and those within the LGBTQIA+ community, to ensure their needs are addressed and supported at every level.

While these are undoubtedly challenging times, I want to offer hope: We will rise from the ashes. As Californians and as students, we have proven time and time again that our resilience is unmatched. Together, we will create the future we want to live in, one filled with opportunity, equity, and progress for all.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our mission and for standing strong as leaders in your communities. I am proud to serve alongside you, and I look forward to the work we will accomplish together this year.

In solidarity,

With gratitude,

Ivan Hernandez, President

Anti-Racism: A Student Plan of Action: Chapter 5 - LGBTQ+

We are developing the fifth chapter of the Anti-Racism: A Student Plan of Action. If you are unfamiliar with the first four chapters, please check them out on our website at this link. We cover such issues as barriers related to African American and Black students, Asian Anti-Hate, Native American and Indigenous students, and Undocumented Students. Chapter 5 will focus on LGBTQ+barriers and concerns. We held our first focus group at the Advocacy Academy in December and will hold another one in February. Whether you're an ally or part of the community, we hope you will join us during our next webinar. If you're interested in participating, contact VP Josh Simon at vp@ssccc.org. Look out for our webinar announcement in February on our calendar at this link.

General Assembly

With spring just around the corner, we are excited to host our General Assembly at the LAX Airport Westin in Los Angeles on April 4 - 6, 2025. Join us for this annual gathering, where we will debate resolutions, elect Executive Officers and Regional Representatives, and offer professional and leadership development opportunities. More details are provided below.

- Registration is now open for the SSCCC 2025 General Assembly! Take advantage of our Early Bird registration, available now through February 16th. Don't miss out on discounted rates—secure your spot today by registering through Whova!
- Election Updates:
 - The Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC) will hold elections for its 2025-26 Board Officers during the General Assembly in Los Angeles from April 4–6, 2025. Available positions include President, Vice Presidents for Regional Affairs, Legislative Affairs, Finance, and Communications.
 - The Election Webinar will be held on February 10. Please check our calendar for more information.
 - Intent to Run applications for Executive Officers is due by February 24, and elections at the General Assembly on April 6. Check out our website for more deadlines at this link.
 - Regional Officer elections will be held on April 5. For more details, review the Elections Policy and visit the <u>provided link for information on regional positions</u>.
- Resolution Updates:
 - The deadline for submitting resolutions is fast approaching! Be sure to submit your resolutions by February 14, 2025—Valentine's Day. Join us for the Resolution Webinar on January 28th at 6:00 pm. For more information, please check out this flyer.
 - If you have any questions about the resolution process or need assistance, please reach out to LAD Region III and resolutions Chair Brandon Maskey at ladregioniii@ssccc.org or Dr. Julie Adams at jadams@ssccc.org. We are also holding

Resolution Office hours on a variety of dates. Check out this flyer for more information.

Stay tuned for more updates as we approach the General Assembly—looking forward to seeing you there!



Need Help With Your Resolution(s)?

Attend Resolutions Committee Office Hours!

Dates:

January 28th @ 6 - 7 PM (Tues)

January 30th @ 6 - 8 PM (Thurs)

February 4th @ 8 - 9 PM (Tues)

February 6th @ 6 - 7 PM (Thurs)

February 11th @ 6 - 7 PM (Tues)

February 13th @ 6 - 7 PM (Thurs)



Scan For Zoom Meeting Links!





SSCCC Advocacy Day and March in March

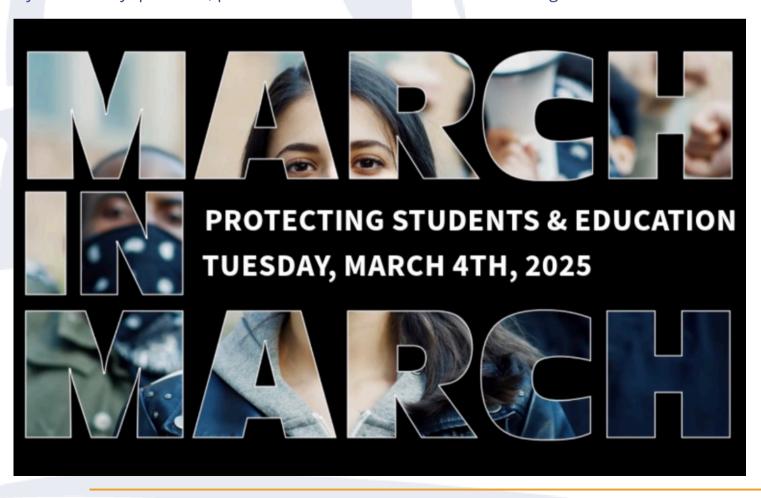
The Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC) invites you to our annual **SSCCC Advocacy Day on March 4, 2025 in Sacramento!** The SSCCC Annual Advocacy Day will be followed by the historic March in March, where students from across California will unite to march to the Capitol to promote students' rights.

Participants will start the day with us at **1021 O Street, Sacramento** for morning advocacy visits. Here, you'll have the chance to meet with legislators and their staff to voice the critical concerns of California's community college students. To ensure you feel confident and prepared, we'll provide virtual legislative training ahead of the event and on-the-spot guidance before your meetings. **RSVP now!**

Following the morning's advocacy visits, we will regroup at Southside Park, located at 2115 6th Street, to join the March in March alongside hundreds of other students and faculty. Together, we'll march to the Capitol, amplifying the call for students' rights, basic needs, and support. The day will culminate at the west end stairs of the Capitol with powerful speeches from student leaders, faculty, and legislators who will inspire us to continue driving meaningful change for our students statewide.

This is your chance to be part of a movement, make your voice heard, and shape the future of California's community college students. We can't wait to see you there!

If you have any questions, please reach out to mhutchinson@ssccc.org



Highlight Love Adu - Board of Governor's Appointment and Process

Every year, the SSCCC sends nominations to the governor for a student appointment to the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges sets policy for all 73 districts and 116 colleges.

The student appointee is instrumental in providing the student voice at the highest level of participatory governance in California community colleges. Love Adu, Cypress College, was appointed as the newest member of the Board of Governors in January alongside Casey Chang, Mission College, who has been serving for a year. You can read each of their bios on the Board of Governors website at this link. Watch a live-stream interview with Love on Thursday, January 30, at noon.

If you're interested in serving on the Board of Governors student members, check out the process on the link on our website <u>here</u> where you will also find the application.

Accomplishments Burden Free Materials

The SSCCC has long championed the fight for burden-free instructional materials. This was largely driven by resolutions passed by student delegates at the General Assembly that laid the foundation for SSCCC's affordable materials advocacy.

This amplification of student voices led to a major victory: the California Community Colleges Board of Governors passed a resolution to address the rising cost of textbooks and materials. Key components of their resolution include:

- Prioritizing Student Needs: Policies to alleviate financial burdens by ensuring students have equitable access to required materials before their courses begin.
- First-Day Access to Zero-Cost Resources: Ensuring students no longer face delays or costs that hinder their academic success, with a focus on providing free resources from day one.
- Systemwide Best Practices: Institutionalizing strategies prioritizing affordability and accessibility across all California Community Colleges.

This accomplishment is a powerful reminder of what student advocacy can achieve. Through the dedication and voices of students across California, the push for burden-free materials is finally becoming a reality. Today, we celebrate this victory together, knowing it's a big step toward making college accessible and fair for everyone.

Follow us!

Let's build collective power together!



