

## **Important Dates**

Executive Committee
October 11, 10am - 11:30am
Virtual

### **Board of Directors**

October 18 - 19
Region IV - Monterey

#### **Executive Committee**

November 1, 10am - 11:30am *Virtual* 

### **Board of Directors**

November 8 - 9
Region IX - Westin Rancho Mirage

### **Advocacy Academy**

November 22 - 24 Region II - Sacramento

### **Executive Committee**

December 6, 10am - 11:30am *Virtual* 

### **Board of Directors**

December 13 - 14
Region II - Sacramento

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

## **President's Update**

Dear Student Leaders,

My name is Ivan Hernandez, and I'm honored to share my first newsletter as President of the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC) for the 2024 - 2025 academic year. Before being elected President, I served as SSCCC Vice President, Student Trustee for the Contra Costa Community College District, and President of the Associated Student Body at Diablo Valley College. My previous experiences will help me lead the SSCCC to new heights.

As someone from multiple marginalized and historically silenced communities, I am deeply committed to uplifting and amplifying the voices of our 2.1 million California Community College students. As I mentioned during the 2024 General Assembly, we will focus on accountability, outreach, and student representation to ensure that we effectively advocate for your voices at both the state and federal levels.

This year, the board of directors, regional officers, delegates, and staff will play crucial roles in supporting YOU. Change begins within our colleges, and as student leaders, we will rely on you to help create the changes you want to see in our system. I encourage you to join the SSCCC family by running for regional officer positions, participating in SSCCC caucuses, attending webinars, conferences, and meetings, and getting involved in our participatory governance committees (we offer \$25 per hour for committee participation). We have the resources to leave our system stronger than ever!

Since July 1, we've been hard at work—holding SSCCC meetings, attending system partner conferences, training our Board and Regional Officers, collaborating with UCSA and CSSA, representing the student voice at statewide governance committees, and, of course, having fun along the way! At SSCCC, we are committed to our students, and all of our work is done with appreciation, love, and support for the incredible potential within our colleges.

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## Vacant Positions

Region I

 Vice Chair and Legislative Affairs Director

Region II

 Vice Chair, Legislative Affairs Director, Treasurer, and Communications

Region III

 Regional Affairs Director

Region IV

Legislative
 Affairs Director
 and
 Communications

Region V

 Treasurer and Communications

Region VI

Treasurer

Region VII

Treasurer and Communications

Region VIII

Vice Chair

Region X

Communications

September 20 -Special Elections

Region V and VI

Link to position descriptions.

I'd also like to give a special shoutout to San Diego College of Continuing Education for becoming SSCCC's newest member, bringing us to 117 Member Senates! We are thrilled to welcome them into our community, and in September, the SSCCC Board of Directors visited San Diego to congratulate them in person.

Our board is eager to connect with you all through regional Delegate Assembly meetings, conferences, and other events throughout the year. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your SSCCC President. I'm always here for you, so please don't hesitate to reach out at president@ssccc.org.

With gratitude, Ivan Hernandez, President



## **Become a stronger student leader!** *Register to attend Advocacy Academy today!*

The SSCCC is hosting its second annual Advocacy Academy from November 22 to 24, 2024, at the Sheraton Grand in downtown Sacramento. This event will equip students with the skills to become agents of change on campus and within their communities. Whether your focus is political advocacy, community organizing, policy reform, or connecting with fellow students, the workshops at Advocacy Academy will give you the tools for developing essential skills like negotiation, effective communication, and networking. Don't wait to secure your spot!

Early registration is now open until September 22nd at <u>this link</u>. After this date, the registration costs will increase.

Hotel registration is also now available at <u>this link</u>. Rooms sell out quickly, so reserve your room today!



## **Executive Board Spotlight**



**President**Ivan Hernandez



Vice President
Joshua Simon



**VP of Regional Affairs**Robert Alexander



**VP of Legislative Affairs Annie Koruga** 



**VP of Finance**Alicia Gan



VP of Communications
Alexis Bravo



## Are you registered to vote?

SSCCC is rallying all 116 colleges to join the <u>Ballot Bowl</u>, a friendly competition among California's higher education systems.

If you're already registered, that's fantastic! But let's take it a step further: inspire your friends, family, and neighbors to register and vote, too. Together, we can create a wave of change that echoes far beyond the polls.

Join SSCCC staff for voter registration information sessions on October 16 at 3:00 PM and October 23 at 11:00 AM. We'll provide all the details about voting deadlines, strategies, and essential information. Plus, you'll have the chance to earn gift cards and raffle entries! For more information check out our website.

This is our moment to shine. Let's make a resounding impact in the Ballot Bowl and show that our voices matter!

## **2025 Legislative Priorities**

Every year, the SSCCC Board of Directors passes priorities to guide the organization's advocacy efforts. In anticipation of the 2025 legislative year, the SSCCC board requested that the Legislative Affairs Committee rank the following priorities. These priorities are summarized for length below:

- **Support for Disenfranchised Students**: Advocate for comprehensive inclusivity training, support for single parents, emergency safety measures, and multilingual resources to create a more inclusive and supportive environment for all students.
- College Affordability: Work to extend the California College Promise Program to three years, support federal legislation for two years of free community college tuition, push for biweekly pay for student workers to reduce financial barriers to education, fight for Cal Grant Reform, and continue to spread awareness that college affordability goes beyond tuition costs.
- **Student Support:** Ensure sustainable mental health data collection, advocate for legal clinics, extend basic needs resource center hours, promote needs-based parking permits, enhance access to menstrual products, and provide comprehensive support to meet student needs.
- **Ensuring Equity**: Advocate for equitable data disaggregation, proportional office hours for part-time faculty, comprehensive student equity plans, and establishing Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act committees, ensuring all policies are committed to equity, diversity, and student success.





## Get Involved at the State Level

The SSCCC appoints students to over 25 statewide Participatory Governance committees. Volunteering for these committees allows students to influence policies across all 116 California community colleges. These appointments require a commitment of attending four to five meetings a term. Students are compensated \$25 per hour for attending meetings and writing a brief report.

Each month, we highlight a new governance group that needs student representatives. If you're interested, please submit an application via this link.

### **Assessment Advisory Committee**

- This committee reviews and makes recommendations concerning all assessment instruments used by districts and colleges.
- Rising Scholars Advisory Committee (RSAC)
- Provide technical assistance and guidance to the community college system to continue building a strong foundation for success among our currently and formerly incarcerated students.

#### Veterans

 Provide the Chancellor's Office advice and support on policy and programs related to veterans services.

# Seeking Student Nominations for the California Community Colleges Board of Governors

The SSCCC is accepting student nominations for the California Community Colleges Board of Governors. The California Community College system operates under a participatory governance structure, with the Board of Governors for the California Community Colleges playing a key role in policy formulation and strategic guidance for the system's 73 districts and 116 colleges. Board members, appointed by the Governor, work closely with state and federal officials and other state agencies.

Students currently enrolled in a California community college with a minimum of five semester units, or the equivalent, and who were enrolled for at least one semester before their appointment are eligible to apply for the student position on the Board of Governors. We are also seeking students new to the CCC system, whether they are recent high school graduates or entering from the workforce.

Find more information on our website at this link.





## Follow us!

Let's build collective power together!



