The mission of the Classified Senate at San Diego City College is to influence, shape and recognize the roles and the achievements of the classified staff. Our goal is to provide our classified staff with support and professional enrichment to better serve our students and community in an atmosphere of mutual respect, responsibility, and collaboration.

Our continuous determination to meet our mission is targeted at supporting classified staff in achieving their personal and professional goals and to cultivate a positive educational community.

Getting to know your new Classified Senate

Welcome back to another successful year, Classified Staff! If the transition of a new President and the continuation of the celebration of City College’s 100 years aren’t racking your brains, you have a new Classified Senate walking in and ready to share with you information, and recognize and represent you. Here’s a closer look to your upcoming Classified Senate members:

- Yvonne Schmeltz is the Classified Senate President from 2014 – 2016. She would like to see us grow and build unity and trust between our Classified folks which is becoming increasingly difficult as we continue to grow. Despite having a hiring freeze these past few years, Yvonne is proud that we’ve all held it together…for the most part. We’ve lost some folks to retirement and transfers. We’ve added 5 new buildings, 27 new faculty members, increased our FTES, and all on the backs of fewer and fewer classified folks. Thanks to the last serving Classified Senate we now have an office to work out of and a supply budget to work with, which is a big deal. Organizing, connecting with individuals, inspiring involvement and commitment will be the key to achieving our mission. “Attack issues, not people. And allow our voices to rise up, be heard, and influence the decisions being made on our campus and at the district level. Our tools: ourselves!” – Yvonne Schmeltz

- Awana Payne is the Classified Senate Vice-President from 2014 – 2016. She is a Senior Clerical Assistant in EOPS. Awana has served on the SDCC Classified Senate previously as Secretary, Vice-President and President. She has served on several hiring committees and other campus committees as well over the years. Awana brings a wealth of knowledge and experience into the Senate this year and will work hard to complete our goals for the 2014 – 2016 term. She is very committed to supporting Classified employees and the goals of the City College campus. Awana looks forward to working closely with faculty and administration to ensure a cohesive work environment for all of us. Enjoy your semester. – Awana Payne

- Neary Sim is the Classified Senate Secretary from 2014 – 2016. She hopes for a successful two years and hopes her skills will expand the connections Classified Senate has with City College’s classified staff. When she is not involved in major projects from her main post and multiple committees, she is providing advice and knowledge to classified staff who seeks it. Her goal is to promote classified recognition and raise morale with her passion and high energy. “If you need me, I will be there!” – Neary Sim

- Angela Inthisane is the Classified Senate Treasurer from 2014 – 2016. She plans to bring her attention to detail and enthusiasm to the Senate. Her goal as a member of the Classified Senate is to encourage classified staff to share information and collaborate amongst each other. Angela feels this shift in paradigm will lift the morale of the campus even further. “Imagine the possibilities... if everyone puts their best foot forward, we would be unstoppable!” - Angela Inthisane
Did you know
You can be reimbursed for the fees you pay towards going to school.

Your Collective Bargaining contract allows for reimbursement of fees up to $2500.00 per fiscal year for Office/Technical unit members, $250.00 per fiscal year for Food Service unit members, and $500.00 per fiscal year for Maintenance & Operations unit member. (Article XV – Professional Growth)

There are two reimbursement payout periods during the fiscal year for the Office Technical unit members. The first one is in September and the second one is in March. For Food Service and Maintenance & Operations unit members, reimbursement is processed as soon as paperwork is submitted.

Employees must submit the completed tuition reimbursement form; receipts for registration, tuition, fees, and books; and a set of official transcripts within 60 days following the successful completion of the course(s) to the District Employee Relations Office.

If the educational institution is unable to provide the employee with a set of official transcripts within the 60-day timeline, the employee must submit the Declaration of Official Grade Report form to the Employment & Staff Development Office within the 60-day period following the successful completion of the course(s) in order to retain eligibility to obtain reimbursement.

Failure to submit either the set of official transcripts OR the Declaration of Official Grade Report form to the District Employee Relations Office within the 60-day period following the successful completion of the course(s) will result in forfeiture of any reimbursement request for said courses.

Forms are available at http://hr.sdccd.edu/hrforms.cfm under section “T” and the titles are:

- Tuition Reimbursement Declaration of Official Grade Report Submission
- Tuition Reimbursement Form

For more information, contact District’s Employee Relations Office at 619-388-6880.

Nobody who works full time should live in poverty or be forced to come to work when they are too ill to do so. Please decline to sign any petition you encounter. There are no legitimate petitions in circulation, regardless of what the signature gatherers tell you.

Here’s what you can do to help:
1. If you see a signature gatherer, call or text the following decline to sign hotline: (619) 930–3300.
2. Inform as many people as possible that the earned sick days and minimum wage policy HAS PASSED, and that any signature gathering effort is an attempt to TAKE IT AWAY!!
3. Tell your friends: DON’T SIGN ANYTHING!
4. Volunteer and/or take the pledge not to sign the anti-sick days anti-minimum wage petitions here: http://www.raiseupsandiego.org/

This will affect our Classified folks too! Come to the next AFT liaison meeting to find out how!

We are pleased to report that the San Diego City Council voted to override Mayor Faulconer’s veto of the City of San Diego minimum wage increase. In response, moneyed interests have already launched a petition drive to force a citywide election in a low turnout off-year in an attempt to overturn this new ordinance and take a very reasonable 75 cent minimum wage increase (to a whopping $9.75/hour) and five earned sick days away from over 170,000 working San Diegans.

Please decline to sign any such petition and tell your friends, family, and students to do the same.

As we have seen in the very recent past, the tendency of the petition gatherers is to say anything to get the signatures they are getting paid to gather.

Next AFT Membership Meeting: Thursday, September 4th, 3:00–4:30pm at the Handlery Hotel 950 Hotel Circle North San Diego, CA 92108

Next City AFT Liaison Meeting: Wednesday, September 10th, 1:00 – 2:00pm in MS-550

Come yourself or send a representative from your area!!! Bring your hourlies or encourage them to come!
Solve the puzzle by searching for words found in the newsletter (there are 12 different words), and send your answer to ainthisa@sdccd.edu by 9/22/2014. You will be entered in a drawing to win a mystery prize delivered to you by one of your Classified Senate Executive Board members. Good luck!
The Classified Senate would like to offer you the opportunity to share your point of view.

We would like to know your opinions, questions, and/or concerns about, and not limited to, the current environment in your office or department and/or bargaining agreement. This will also be an opportunity for you to share with the Classified community new updates from your office and/or committees you attend, and to share ideas to better meet the Classified Senate mission.

Pencil in the following Fall 2014 dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 25, 2014</td>
<td>2:30 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>D-121A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 22, 2014</td>
<td>2:30 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>D-121A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 20, 2014</td>
<td>2:30 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>D-121A</td>
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See you soon!

Reminders

San Diego City College Centennial Founder’s Week

SDCC Foundation Gala Reception/Dinner/Entertainment
September 8, 2014 | The Prado, Balboa Park
6:00 – 8:00 pm
Contact Douglas Gary: dgray@queanda.com

Spirit Day/Music/Dance Clubs
Come dressed in your favorite era!
September 9, 2014 | Curran Plaza
11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Community Open House and Alumni Day at City College
September 11, 2014 | SDCC Campus
11:30 am – 4:30 pm

For more Centennial events, go to http://centennial.sdcity.edu/