

southwestern college

 education association

SCEA Rep Council Minutes

Date Thursday, February 27, 2025

Time: 11:45-1:00

Zoom: <https://swccd-edu.zoom.us/j/82902856479>

Najah Abdelkader	Sylvia Garcia-Navarette	Katherine Ness Santana	Jenny Sabas	Candice Taffolla-Schreiber
Lisa Ballesteros	Veronica Guaracha	Jamie O'Conner-Florez	Marina Laneri Schroeder	Liliana Tolson
Darcie Bell	Pete Herrera	Maria Olivas	Mohamed Sharif-Idris	Cem Tont
Peter Bolland	Eleonora Innis	John Pickelle	Jacqueline Simon	Marie Vicario
Emily Lohorn Carpenter	Geoff Johnson	Justin Pinelle	Bruce Smith	Ryan Wash (Sub: Rebecca Johnson)
Victor Chavez	Alana Lozada	Jessica Posey	Liza Smith	Ruff Yeager
Allen Chu	Eric Maag	Andrew Rempt	Michael Speyrer	
Russ Corpron	Michael Meehan	John Rieder	Gail Stockin	
Veronica Corral	Yahid Mohammadrezaei	Rosa Runcie	Kevin Sweeney	

Guests: Josue Arredondo, Erika Behrman, April Brenner, Bill Coe, Meg Eckles-Estrela, Rebecca Johnson, Tinh-Alfredo Khuong, Caree Lesh, Brian Palmiter, Antonio Barquilla Pandero, Natalie Petrasko, Tobeka Robin, Alicia Rodriguez, Laura Trueblood.

No	Item:	Presenter:	Status:	Time:
1	Approval of Agenda	Taffolla-Schreiber	Action	1 min
Approved by consensus.				
2	Approval of Minutes (2-13-2025)	Taffolla-Schreiber	Action	1 min
Approved by consensus.				
3	SCEA President's Report	Taffolla-Schreiber	Information	3 min

Item 1: Please be attentive to the February Pay advice. If you were working with the district last year from July 1 to Dec 31, 2024 it should reflect a retroactive payment that represents the 5.07% increase in pay. The updated pay schedules can be accessed on the Human Resources website. **Item 2:** Thank you to the 22 people who attended the first SCEA Governing Board Dinner Club. Increasing engagement at Governing Board meetings is imperative to hear District messaging first hand and stand in solidarity with Classified Staff. **Item 3:** The California Teacher's Association (CTA) Spring conference will be held in Irvine. Eleven delegates can be sent and all expenses are reimbursed for travel, food and lodging. At this event the WHO award is granted to exceptional union delegates and this year's SCEA WHO award recipient will be Emily Lohorn Carpenter.

4	Academic Senate President's Report	Lesh	Information	3 min
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Item 1: FHP usually takes place in the Spring; however the District has informed the FHP committee that currently the District is over the Faculty Obligation Number (FON) by 32 faculty members so no hires will take place. Therefore, Faculty Hiring Prioritization (FHP) applications will not be submitted this year. **Item 2:** The Potentially Inauthentic Students Committee has continued to meet. There has been a narrative that faculty on the committee have agreed to drop bots from Spring Class and cancel classes if they went below 55%. However, faculty on the committee did not agree to this. The Committee had discussed running a pilot to examine the late start Spring classes to determine how suspected Bots could be handled. So far this semester approximately 900 BOTS have been dropped from fast-track courses and waitlists.

5	Part Time Update	Johnson	Information	10 min
<p>The first Part-time Outreach Session will be held on March 12th, from 3:00-4:30 PM via zoom. It will include a negotiations update, a legislative update, a discussion on how to access thousands of discounts by downloading and using the MyDeals app, and as always, open discussion on issues anyone wants to bring up. It, as all sessions, is open to ALL faculty.</p> <p>A special shout out to fellow part-timer Jacqueline Penhos, who arranged for ten students to join SCEA PArt-time Rep Geoff Johnson and CCA State Council Rep Josue Arrendondo for the March in March.</p> <p>As many of you know, now is a trying time in CA and the nation. What is needed now more than ever is our collective power, a power achieved through union membership. Thank you to all who are members, but the power we have can only and has to be increased by all of us working to bring aboard new members.</p>				
6	Bargaining Update	Eckles	Information	10 min
<p>Item 1: The Bargaining team met with the District on Friday 2/21, and meetings were set up for every Friday for the next five weeks. Item 2: Article VI on Evaluations was brought to a Tentative Agreement (TA) Friday 2/21. A more formal, fair, and robust evaluation process for Categorically Funded faculty for has been created that is comparable to other faculty evaluations. Item 3: Tomorrow, the “Leaves” article will be brought to the table, and will focus on Sabbaticals and holding faculty eligibility for faculty who serve in leadership roles. For any questions about Bargaining, please reach out to Meg Eckles (meckles@swccd.edu).</p>				
7	PAC Reverse Dues	Taffolla-Schreiber	First Read	20 min
<p>The Political Action Committee (PAC) is charged with getting labor-friendly Governing Board members elected. In 2026, three Governing Board seats will open up. Currently those seats are held by Don Dumas, Robert Moreno, and Corina Soto. In the past, Rep Council was asked to transfer lump sums of money into the PAC during election cycles. Moving forward, the SCEA is interested in taking a portion of the already collected dues, and allocating it to the PAC fund. Using a Reverse Dues process, \$2 dollars per Part-time member, and \$4 dollars for each Full-time member will be contributed unless a member decides to opt out.</p>				
8	BOTS and 2nd 8-Week Courses	Taffolla-Schreiber	Information	15 min
<p>Item 1: On Approximately 2/13/25, VPAA Agdasi and SWC President Sanchez communicated with the SCEA President and Academic Senate President that the intention for the second 8-week classes was to purge Bots off of rosters giving one week (until T 2/25) for those suspected inauthentic students to come in and verify authenticity. At that time, the message delivered to Union and Senate leadership was that the intention was to follow the contract exactly with regard to dropping low-enrolled classes. On 2/18, an email was delivered from VPSA Fischer to Deans that stated “Classes that do meet the required minimum enrollment prior to the start date of the class will be dropped and cancelled in accordance with the contract.” Coupled with District messaging to faculty on how to drop bots from courses, SCEA leadership interprets this as partnering with the District while simultaneously getting punished for doing so. On T 2/25 VPSA Fischer attended the Academic Senate and communicated that approximately 45% of students on the waitlists for the second 8-week courses were Bots and the system will not allow those students to be purged from the waitlists now. Union leadership has requested that faculty be given a one-week period in that 8-week session to manage their course rosters and waitlists, purging bots and offering add codes to students in need. Item 2: Union Leadership is currently working on making sure that if online courses are negatively impacted by having a high-level of inauthentic students, so that there is a decrease in regular effective contact, a decrease in student participation, and low retention, that faculty are not held accountable for this in their evaluations. An initial MOU has been drafted and is currently under review.</p> <p>Several Union members voiced concern and frustration about the time required to deal with bots and how this has also negatively affected classroom rapport. Another Union member pointed out that in the School of EHSBS approximately 1500-1600 suspected inauthentic students have been identified. Another union member raised concern that bots will negatively impact future enrollments as students see waitlists filled and go in search of other enrollment opportunities.</p>				
9	Organizing Update	Lohorn Carpenter	Information	10 min
<p>Item 1: The SCEA is forming a group of volunteers to participate in the SWC Child Development Center’s (CDC) “Garden Work Party” on Friday March 7 from 8am-12pm. This event is to help clean up the garden at the CDC. For more information call or text SCEA Organizing Chair Emily Lohorn Carpet at (619) 857-3042. Item 2: The SCEA</p>				

Dinner Club #2 will be a watch party on Monday March 17th at the SCEA Office (BLDG 13) at 5:30pm. Games and food will be hosted. **Item 3:** An SCEA game night is currently being planned. more information to come soon.

10	Adjournment			
Next meeting: Thursday, March 13, 2025				