southwestern college
SCEA
education association

SCEA Rep Council Minutes
Date Thursday, September 24, 2026
Time: 11:45-1:00

Zoom: https://swccd-edu.zoom.us/my/jettazoomroom33

Freddie Ball	Angelica Gonzalez	Yasmin Mossadeghi	Jenny Sabas	**Kevin Sweeney**
Peter Bolland	~~Veronica Guaracha~~	Katherine Ness Santana	Zahra Salehpoor	**Candice Taffolla-Schrieber**
April Brenner	~~Sophia Jimenez~~	~~Diana Newberry~~	Soraya Sandoval	Lisa Tiedmann
~~Rocio Casco~~	Kim Keach		~~Mohamed Sharif-Idiris~~	Liliana Tolson
~~Allen Chu~~	Grazyna Kubis	Roxanne Ocampo	Jacqueline Simon	Cem Tont
Alba Constenla Torrado	**Emily Lohorn Carpenter**	~~Jamie O'Conner- Florez~~	Bruce Smith	Naomi Trapp-Davis
Russ Corpron	**Eric Maag**	Maria Olivas	Liza Smith	Jennifer Vo
Errysteinn Frondarina	Ashley Majoros	Justin Pinnell	~~Michael Speyrer~~	Ryan Wash
	Geoffrey Martin	Jessica Posey	**Gail Stockin**	Ruff Yeager

Guests: Josue Arredondo, Lisa Ballesteros, Erika Behrmann, April Brenner, Phillip Diwa, Alex Juden, Caree Lesh, Abdishakur Omar, Brian Palmiter, Annette Rempt, John Rieder, Rob Shaffer, Sarey Torres-Kirby, Brittany Zemlick.

No:	Item:	Presenter:	Status:	Time:
1	**Approval of Agenda**	**Taffolla-Schreiber**	**Action**	**1 min**
Approved by consensus.				
2	**Approval of Minutes (9-10-2026)**	**Taffolla-Schreiber**	**Action**	**1 min**
Approved by consensus.				
3	**SCEA President's Report**	**Taffolla-Schreiber**	**Information**	**3 min**

I owe an apology to everyone who was here last week, and to everyone here right now, I owe an apology to all faculty in general, and very specifically to Dr. Trishana Norquist. During the first first of the 2026-2027 AETA MOU, Dr. Norquist was the first person to comment on the item. She is a subject matter expert, and my job is to listen with an open heart as the elected president of this body. Rather than do that, I was hugely defensive. I was disrespectful to Dr. Norquist. I interrupted her, and shook my head while she spoke. I engaged in back and forth dialogue which I know better than to do, because I follow Robert's Rules usually like it's the law of the land and I know better as a former Parliamentarian. I engaged in really poor communication that I regret.I didn't respect her truth and I was just flat out unprofessional and rude. My job is to listen to everybody in this space always, whether I agree with you, disagree with you, or have reasons to disagree. A reason to disagree does not excuse bad behavior and my behavior was bad. The last thing I want to do as your elected President is to create a chilling effect at Rep Council that reduces participation in any way. That is the absolute opposite environment I am trying to create and I regret deeply that I created such an environment on such an important issue, and I hope that I never make anybody feel unsafe or unwelcome, where feeling safe and welcomed is the goal. I promise to learn from this and will strive to be a better leader for you. I am truly sorry to everybody and very sorry to Trishana.

4	**Academic Senate President's Report**	**Lesh**	**Information**	**3 min**

Item 1: SWC is gearing up to higher 17 faculty this spring. (5 hires are currently being organized for this fall). There is very short turnaround time to form hiring panels. Please reach out to your constituents and who might want to be on these hiring panels.
Item 2: Policies and procedures need to be updated in preparation for our Accreditation visit. If you are interested in being on a policy and procedure update team please reach out to <clesh@swccd.edu>

5	**SCEA 2026-2027 Budget Approval**	**Smith**	**Action**	**15 min**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the SCEA 2026-2027 budget. Expenses in 2025-2027 are $68K. Seeking approval for $70K budget for 25-26 There is $5507.76 left in the Phil Lopez scholarship fund that Rep Council can decide what to do with. The budget was approved by unanimous consensus.

6	**SCEA Governing Board Seat Endorsement: Ellis-Vizcarra**	**Maag**	**Action**	**15 min**
A motion was made and seconded to support an endorsement for Selena Ellis-Vizcarra Governing Board seat 4. There are four people running for this position. Current Governing Board member Corina Soto did not ask for an endorsement. Another candidate, Aimee Cuellar-Martinez asked for an early endorsement in Spring 2026, but the Rep Council voted not to support her endorsement. The final candidate named Trevor Andersen was contacted. But no response was given. All that is known is that he is listed as a "father and businessman." Two different Reps spoke in favor of Selena for being an independent thinker and a supporter of faculty and students. A question was asked about how much support can be given for a candidate who is supported this late in the election cycle. The response is that the SCEA would support her in any way possible by hosting events and outreach within the current budget as no additional funds are available. It is essential that there is SCEA Rep and Unit member support by participating in canvassing, post card events, and outreach activities. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed by consensus to support endorsement. [15 yes votes, 11 no votes, and 3 Abstentions]				
7	**Ratification of AETA MOU**	**Taffolla-Schrieber & Yanow**	**Action**	**15 min**
A motion was made and seconded to approve the AETA MOU. SCEA reached an agreement to appropriately compensate the hours of work (196) x the average lab rate which equates to $15,000. The $15,000 stipend will be paid over three years. One caveat to the MOU is that AETA mentors cannot receive a stipend as both a participant and a mentor simultaneously. Since the last Rep Council meeting, members of the AETA team met with Vice President Maag to discuss the MOU and have expressed their support for the current MOU, but are concerned that the mentors will not be able to start until their training stipend has been paid out. SCEA leadership met with District leadership and have come to an agreement to have ongoing cohorts of 15 AETA participants per year moving forward. In the future, negotiations will take place to increase the cohort sizes to 25 people. Even with an approval of the MOU, it will still need to be ratified by both parties. A motion was made and seconded to postpone the vote for the AETA Mou approval to the October 8 meeting. The motion did not pass. [12 yes votes, 17 no votes]. The vote to approve the AETA MOu was approved by consensus.				
8	**Purchase of Tickets: *Dyin' for Dracula***	**Shafer & Yeager**	**Action (Time Sensitive)**	**10 min**
A motion was made to approve purchase of 50 tickets for the play *Dyin' for Dracula.* The play was written by two faculty members and the premise is there is a play rehearsal for *Dracula*, however there is an actual Vampire in the cast. The motion passed by consensus. For tickets contact ROB SHAFFER (619) 552 7065. Dates are: OCT 7-10, 14-16, 7:30 PM OCT 17, 2 PM. Please Provide name, date, how many tix.				
9	**SCEA Safety Committee Report**	**Rieder, Lucero Canan, & Newberry**	**Information**	**5 min**
The SCEA Safety committee met last week. One of the topics discussed was the creation of a deportation challenge fund in the event that a student is detained by the ICE. A simple case can run as much as $5000. The funds could potentially be housed in the Foundation and would be disseminated with help of the DREAMER Center. This topic will be brought to the Rep Council for further discussion.				
10	**PAC Organizing Update**	**Lohorn Carpenter, Sweeney, & Maag**	**Information**	**5 min**
Item 1: Tonight at the Balboa South (290 3rd Ave) from 5:00-7:00pm a postcard party will be held to support Governing Candidate Robert Moreno. The SCEA goal was to write 1000 postcards and there are 250 cards to go in order to meet this goal. Please RSVP to attend and get a drink on the SCEA. (Their milkshakes bring all the reps to the yard). **Item 2:** The Prop 3 Day of Action took place. Over 100 students participated and followed our instagram page, and hundreds of ice creams were passed out. **Item 3:** SCEA set a goal to get 100 'likes' on the Instagram posts and that goal was recently reached. Please keep it up as this exposes visibility for the Political Action Committee. **Item 4:** A bowling event is being planned for the end of the year party. Please contact Kevin Sweeney for questions or comments related to the end of year event planning.				
11	**Adjournment**			
Next meeting: Thursday, October 8, 2026				