



2024-25 LEAGUE HIGHLIGHTS

AN ANNUAL REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS, COLLABORATION, AND PARTICIPATION

# A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO



ocial and political observers of the contemporary era employ the term acceleration to capture the speed by which information and technological change influence our lives. Struggling to keep pace, it's challenging to recall even the relatively recent past with much clarity and accuracy. Into this complex and frenetic world of higher education leadership, your colleagues at the League give you the 2024-25 edition of League Highlights.

Although we can't promise it will slow the pace of change or reduce the complexity of our world, we hope it serves as a useful reminder of some of the important work in which we have engaged over the past academic year to advance the essential mission of this most important sector of higher education.

We invite you to disable your electronic devices, close your office door, and rediscover how you and your colleagues engaged in collective advocacy at the local, state, and national levels. How we promoted the community college baccalaureate degree and thus increasing access and opportunity to place-bound students with quality, affordable programs; increased policymaker's

and journalist's understanding of the antiquated and harmful 50 Percent Law: and nurtured and supported the professional development of vour executive assistants and board secretaries via participation in the League's increasingly popular Executive Assistant's Workshops.

Our collective voice and collaborative advocacy are a necessary condition of a muscular and effective political advocacy. Despite the remarkable diversity of our students, institutions, local economies, histories, and contexts, the League shares your desire to coalesce and to advocate with a consistent and resonant narrative that results in increased understanding and financial and political support for the vital work occurring at your colleges and in the communities that you serve.

Larry Galizio, Ph.D.

**President & CEO** 

Community College League of California



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# THE LEAGUE AND YOU



he Community College League of California is proud to partner with 100% of California's community colleges, a testament to the strength and unity of our membership. Our collective impact is driven by the voices, leadership, and commitment of our members—each of you playing a vital role in advancing student success and institutional excellence. In this report, we are pleased to highlight and celebrate the voices of our members, whose insights and experiences reflect the power of collaboration and the shared mission that defines California's community colleges.

"The DEIA Committee proudly presents annual sessions at trustee conferences, inspiring bold leadership that champions inclusion. Together, we create environments where all are heard—and in doing so, we affirm that diversity is not just a value, but a catalyst for student success."

**Sue Chan, Greg Pensa, Trisha Murakawa**On behalf of the DEIA Taskforce

"Together, we lead as one system—amplifying one another's voices to expand opportunity and drive innovation. Our collective efforts strengthen colleges, uplift communities, and ensure every student is supported on their path to success."

**Sunita "Sunny" Cooke, Ph.D.**President/Superintendent, MiraCosta College

"I came into my trustee role with strong financial, operations and board experience. Despite this preparation, the Excellence in Trusteeship Program certification has increased my trustee skills. I value the opportunity to learn from my peers about issues affecting students at Chabot and Las Positas colleges and how we, as elected officials, can support our colleges' work."

Stephen Lanza,

Trustee, Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

# **2024-2025 BY THE NUMBERS**



Leading Community Colleges in California, hosted 12 guests and offered 327 minutes of content to listeners.

WE CONTINUE TO HAVE Over 240 hours of continuing education and leadership development were offered this year. MEMBERSHIP

In partnership with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, the League helped form a coalition of 100 community colleges to oppose proposed cuts to the Pell Grant and risk-sharing proposals in the Federal Budget Reconciliation Bill.



Over 400 members joined us on Advocacy visits representing California Community Colleges in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.



Community College League of California (CCLC) has partnered with PARS (Public Agency Retirement Services) for almost 10 years to provide 19 **community** college districts with the Pension Rate Stabilization Program



## **LEAGUE BOARDS**





The League consists of three boards, one operational board and two policy boards. The League Board of Directors manages the operations of the organization and consists of representatives from the two policy boards: the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges (CEOCCC) and the California Community College Trustees (CCCT). What sets the League apart is that our organization is guided by the direction of California Community College leaders – both CEOs and trustees.

#### 2024-25 LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### **OFFICERS**

Roger Schultz, Chair, Supt/President, Mount San Jacinto CCD (CEOCCC)

Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg, 1st Vice Chair/Treasurer, Trustee, Kern CCD (CCCT)

Deborah Knowles, 2nd Vice Chair/Secretary, Sacramento City College (4CS)

Julianna Barnes, Immediate, Past-Chair, Chancellor, South Orange County CCD (CEOCCC)

#### **DIRECTORS**

Andra Hoffman, Trustee, Los Angeles CCD (CCCT)
Suzanne Lee Chan, Trustee, Ohlone CCD (CCCT)
Sunita Cooke, President, Mira Costa College (CEOCCC)
Willy Duncan, President, Sierra College (CEOCCC)
Barbara Dunsheath, Trustee, North Orange County CCD (CCCT)
Amparo Medina, Oxnard College (4CS)
Char Perlas, Superintendent/President, Siskiyou Joint CCD (CEOCCC)

Loren Steck, Trustee, Monterey Peninsula CCD (CCCT)

#### 2024-25 CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES BOARD

Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg, President, Kern CCD

Suzanne Lee Chan, President-Elect, Ohlone CCD

Barbara Dunsheath, First Vice President, North Orange County CCD

Loren Steck, Second Vice President, Monterey Peninsula CCD

Andra Hoffman, Immediate Past President, Los Angeles CCD

Jonathan Abboud, Santa Barbara CCD

Zara Ainge, Student Trustee, Foothill-De Anza CCD

Jose Alcala, Riverside CCD

Hortencia Armendariz, Imperial CCD

Dorothy Battenfeld, Sonoma County CCD

Barbara Jean Calhoun, Compton CCD

Judy Chen Haggerty, Mt. San Antonio CCD

Yvette Davis, Glendale CCD

Ines De Luna, Napa Valley CCD

Deborah Ikeda, State Center CCD

Danny Kelley, Redwoods CCD

Mary Ann Lutz, Citrus CCD

Deana Olivares-Lambert, Chaffey CCD

Trisha Murakawa, El Camino CCD

Jesse Ortiz, Yuba CCD

Greg Pensa, Allan Hancock CCD

Bernardo Perez, Ventura County CCD

Marisa Perez. Cerritos CCD

Carmen Ramirez, Merced CCD

Roberto Rodriguez, Palomar CCD

Tammy Silver, Pasadena Area CCD

Barry Snell, Santa Monica CCD



### 2024-25 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES BOARD

Roger Schultz, Area 9, President, Superintendent / President, Mount San Jacinto CCD

Willy Duncan, Area 1, President-Elect, Supt/President, Sierra CCD

Char Perlas, At-Large, Vice President North, Superintendent / President, College of the Siskiyous

Julianna Barnes, At-Large, Immediate Past President, Chancellor, South Orange County CCD

Sunita Cooke, Area 11, Superintendent / President, Mira Costa CCD

Bradley Davis, Area 4, Chancellor, West Valley-Mission CCD

Erika Endrijonas, At-Large, Superintendent / President, Santa Barbara City College

**Dyrell Foster, At-Large, President, Las Positas College** 

Carole Goldsmith, Area 3, Chancellor, State Center CCD

Barry Gribbons, Area 8, President, Los Angeles Valley College

Mojdeh Mehdizadeh, Area 5, Chancellor, Coast CCD

Artemio Pimentel, Area 2, President, Folsom Lake College

Angelica Suarez, Area 10, President, Orange Coast College

Brenda Thames, Area 7, Superintendent / President, El Camino CCD

Chris Vitelli, Area 3, Superintendent / President, Merced CCD

Kevin Walthers, Area 6, Superintendent/President, Allan Hancock College

# **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

n 2024-25, the League partnered with more than 100 organizations, colleges, and individuals to advocate for California's community colleges at both the state and federal levels. With significant federal policy changes on the table, the League proactively engaged our state's representatives in Washington, DC, sharing concerns of how numerous proposed changes would affect California's community college budget and funding priorities.

At the state level, the League entered the budget season focused on securing **stability**, **predictability**, and **flexibility** for community colleges. Key priorities included a cost-of-living adjustment for our districts, fully funding enrollment growth, and creating a flexible block grant to that supported our students.

The League worked collaboratively with the college's CEOs, Trustees, and other statewide partners, to engage with policymakers in Sacramento concerning some of the proposals found in the Governor's May Revision. These joint advocacy efforts resulted in several changes in the final 2025-26 Budget Act that:

- **1.** Rejection of the retroactive rebenching of CCC to TK
- **2.** Adoption of an additional \$100 million in one-time funds in 2024-25 to support enrollment growth
- **3.** Reduction of the deferral from \$531 million to \$408 million
- **4.** Adoption of \$60 million in one-time funds for a Student Support Services Block Grant and \$20 million in one-time funds for Emergency Financial Aid

Simultaneously, the League was actively engaged in the legislative process in Sacramento. Despite the adoption of a new bill limit in the Legislature, this year brought significant number measures that impact our colleges, including the return of previously introduced bills and new proposals responding to recent federal developments. The League is closely monitoring a wide range of measures, with a focused advocacy effort centered on two key bills this year:

- Opposing AB 90 (Jackson): This bill would require the governing board
  of each community college district to annually vote on establishing an
  overnight safe parking lot program, designating at least one parking
  lot with 50 spots per campus for students to use as overnight housing.
  The Governing Board must vote on the plan until it is approved.
- AB 1400 (Soria): Community colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program AB 1400 authorizes up to 15 community college districts to establish a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing program. The bill requires participating colleges to have a nationally accredited ADN program and for priority to be given to districts in underserved nursing areas. The pilot program would sunset in 2035.

As California navigates ongoing fiscal uncertainty and evolving federal dynamics, the League remains committed to strong, coordinated advocacy that supports student success and institutional resilience. Our partnerships with college leaders and stakeholders continue to be key in shaping policy that advances access, equity, and opportunity across the state's 116 community colleges.



"Community colleges serve the state's most diverse student and our students deserve access to a high quality affordable and accessible nursing education. We are ready to provide BSN prepared nurses to the workforce."

**Dr. Wolde-Ab Isaac**Chancellor of Riverside Community College District

# **2024-2025** - LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

### **Opposed Bills**

AB 90 (Jackson): Public postsecondary education: overnight student parking

Awaiting hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 226 (Cabaldon): Community colleges: territory transfers between districts

Awaiting hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee

AB 340 (Ahrens): Employer-employee relations: confidential communications

Awaiting hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee

AB 374 (Nguyen): K-14 classified employees: payment of wages: itemized statements \*Oppose unless amended In the Senate Appropriations Committee, awaiting the suspense file hearing

AB 850 (Pacheco): Institutional Debt Transparency Act Held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1109 (Kalra): Evidentiary privileges: union agentrepresented worker privilege

Awaiting hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 1163 (Elhawary): Employees: workplace violence prevention plans: topics and trainings Held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1247 (Garcia): Classified employees: school districts and community college districts: contracting out: training requirements

Held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee

SB 494 (Cortese): Classified school and community college employees: disciplinary hearings: appeals: contracted administrative law judges

Awaiting hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee

### **Supported Bills**

AB 323 (Fong): Strong Workforce Program: work-based learning opportunities

Awaiting hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 335 (Gipson): The Designation of California Black-Serving Institutions Grant Program

Held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 363 (Bryan): Community colleges: CalWORKs Recipients Education Program: eligibility and services Held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 537 (Ahrens): Community colleges: California College **Promise** 

Awaiting hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 648 (Zbur): Community colleges: housing: local zoning regulations: exemption

Awaiting hearing in the Senate Local Government Committee

AB 731 (Fong): Pupil instruction: dual enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways partnerships Awaiting hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 1400 (Soria): Community colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program Awaiting hearing in the Senate Education Committee

ACR 40 (Fong): Student financial aid: Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) data Awaiting adoption in the Assembly

SB 761 (Ashby): CalFresh: student eligibility Awaiting hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee





### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION**

This committee meets regularly to review state legislation, state budget, and related issues, and provide guidance on League advocacy strategies and priorities. The Advisory Committee on Legislation then makes advisory policy recommendations to the League's policy boards, which then determine formal positions.

John Hanna (Chair). Trustee. Rancho Santiago CCD

Paloma Arnold, VP Student Services, Santa Barbara City College (CSSO Representative)

Cheryl Aschenbach, President, Academic Senate for

California Community Colleges (ASCCC)

Dorothy Battenfeld, Trustee, Sonoma County CCD

Jack Beresford, Director of Communications and Public Relations, San Diego CCD

Leisa Biggers, Director of Human Resources, Los Angeles CCD

Heather Brandt, Student Trustee, City College of San Francisco

Ryan Brown, Marketing and Public Information Officer, San Jose-Evergreen CCD

Laura Casas. Trustee. Foothill-De Anza CCD

Ruth Cossio-Muniz, Regional Workforce and Employer

Engagement Director, Rancho Santiago CCD

Jill Dolan, Director of Public Affairs, Mt. San Antonio College

**Diane Fiero.** Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, Coast CCD (ACHRO Representative)

Ann-Marie Gabel, Vice Chancellor Finance & Administration,

South Orange County CCD (ACBO Representative)

Angélica Garcia, Superintendent/President, Santa Rosa Junior College

Kristen Gonzales, Director, Public & Governmental Relations.

Marketing & Communications, MiraCosta College

Bobby Gosal, Dean of Student Services, Sierra College

Brittany Grice, VP Human Resources, Glendale CCD

Connie Gutierrez, Dean of ACCESS & Wellness, Mt. San Antonio CCD

Eric Harnish, VP Public Info, Advocacy & External Relations, College of the Canyons

Peter Hidalgo, Trustee, Mt. San Antonio CCD

Anne Kepner, Trustee, West Valley-Mission CCD

Annie Koruga, VP Legislative Affairs, Student Senate for California

Community Colleges (SSCCC), Ohlone College

Julie Kossick, Associate Vice Chancellor, Human Resources, North

Orange County CCD (ACHRO Representative)

Iris Li, Student Trustee, Foothill-De Anza CCD

Kate Mahar. Associate Vice President of Innovation and

Strategic Initiatives, Shasta College

William McGinnis. Trustee, Butte-Glenn CCD

Amparo Medina, Area Representative, California Community

Colleges Classified Senate (4CS)

**Laura Metune.** Senior Director of Government Relations

and Grant Development, Lake Tahoe CCD

Isabel O'Connor, VP Instruction, San Diego Mesa College (CCCCIO Representative)

**Daren Otten.** Superintendent/President, Copper Mountain College

LaTonya Parker, Vice President, Academic Senate for

California Community Colleges (ASCCC)

Narges Rabii-Rakin, Dean of Humanities and Social Science, Cerritos CCD

Meredith Randall, President, Golden West College

Bernie Rhinerson, Trustee, San Diego CCD

LaShe' Rodriguez, Director of Government Relations, External

Relations & Strategic Communications, Riverside CCD

Mario Rodriguez, Trustee, Palomar CCD

Theresa Fleischer Rowland, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services

and Student Success, Chabot-Las Positas CCD

Julie Schorr, Trustee, Grossmont-Cuyamaca CCD

**Gregory Smith, Chancellor, San Diego CCD** 

Kai Stearns, District Director, Public and Government Affairs, North Orange County CCD

Elliot Stern, President, Saddleback College

Omar Torres, President, De Anza College

Lena Tran, Interim Chancellor, Yosemite CCD

Jesus Vega, VP Student Services, Reedley College (CSSO Representative)

Maria Luisa Veloz, Legislative and Government Relations Officer, Los Angeles CCD

Tram Vo-Kumamoto, VP Instruction, Saddleback College (CCCCIO Representative)

Matt Wetstein, Superintendent/President, Cabrillo CCD

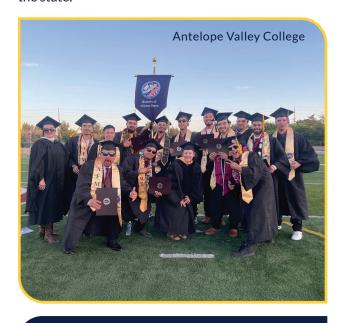
Andrea Wittig, Director, Office of the President, Trustee Services,

Government Relations & Strategic Initiatives, Cerritos CCD

Linda L. Zorn, Chair COADN Legislative Action Committee, Butte College

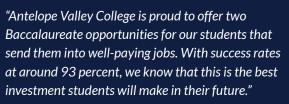
## **BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAMS**

he Community College League of California continues to lead statewide efforts to elevate the visibility and advancement of community college baccalaureate degree programs (BDPs). In 2024-25, 51 BDPs are offered or in development across 42 California community college campuses. In partnership with districts, industry leaders, and educational organizations, the League engages in ongoing legislative and political advocacy to support the identification and implementation of high-demand degree programs. Additionally, the League provides educational panels and workshops to inform CEOs, trustees, and college professionals about the process and pathways for launching BDPs, while actively promoting and increasing awareness of both existing and emerging programs across the state.



"Our bachelor's degree programs are a powerful extension of our mission to serve communities that have been historically underserved by higher education. Programs like Biomanufacturing at Los Angeles Mission and Pierce Colleges, Dental Hygiene and Aviation Maintenance at West, and Respiratory Therapy at Valley and East Los Angeles Colleges provide students with high-quality, affordable pathways to high-demand careers. These degrees not only transform lives—they help build a more equitable workforce and meet critical needs across California.

Alberto J. Román, DPA Chancellor, Los Angeles Community College District



Jennifer Zellet, Ph.D. Superintendent/President, Antelope Valley College



Shasta College

"The Shasta College Bachelor's in Health Information Management program has seen strong results since its launch in 2016. In 2025, we celebrated our largest graduating class and continue to grow this all-online, affordable program to help students advance their careers and support the future of healthcare through skilled information management."

Frank Nigro, Ph.D. Superintendent/President, Shasta College

## FIFTY PERCENT LAW

#### MODERNIZING COMMUNITY COLLEGE FUNDING:

Reforming the Fifty Percent Law to Support Student Success

he California Fifty Percent Law, enacted in 1961 to prioritize classroom instruction, no longer aligns with the needs of today's diverse and non-traditional community college students. Success now depends on holistic support services—such as mental health care, technology access, academic advising, and basic needs assistance—that are restricted by this outdated statute. While originally meant to safeguard instructional quality, modern

policies and union protections already ensure strong student-instructor ratios. Reforming the law would allow colleges the flexibility to invest in comprehensive, evidence-based supports that reflect today's educational landscape and promote equity, ensuring California Community Colleges can meet 21st-century student needs and fulfill the state's goal of a truly student-centered system.



"In this day and age, technology expenditures are a must for our colleges and our students. But right now, they don't count toward student success."

Ronald Gerhard, Chancellor, Chabot-Las Positas Community College District



"What we need is the need is the ability to make fewer decisions based on complying with a 1961 vision of the classroom and more flexibility based on what the students need."

**Tawny Dotson**, *President*, *Yuba City College* 

The Fifty Percent Law must be modified to reflect the current higher education landscape and better serve students.

## **HEARING FROM OUR STUDENTS**

he League actively champions student voice as a vital part of statewide advocacy and decision-making. Through the Student Trustee Advisory Committee (STAC), students provide input on legislative priorities and share insights into the challenges facing their districts. This year, STAC members also partnered with League staff to help reshape key student trustee publications, ensuring the materials reflect current student experiences. In addition, the CCCT Board continues to reserve a seat for a Student Trustee elected by their peers—an important role that strengthens student representation at the highest level of League governance.

Student perspectives were front and center at this year's Annual Legislative Conference during the session Amplifying Today's Students, which featured five student trustees from across the state. The League also supported student-led panels and speakers at partner conferences and encouraged student participation in legislative visits, offering opportunities to speak directly with elected officials. These experiences empower students to share their unique perspectives and advocate for the needs of California community colleges.

#### 2024-25 Student Trustee **Advisory Committee:**

- Zara Ainge, Foothill De Anza CCD
- Ambyr Baham, LACCD
- DeSean Chavis, Shasta-Tehama-Trinity CCD
- Reagan Barnum, Palomar CCD
- Chris Chandler, Southwestern CCD
- Sanjana Sudhir, Santa Clarita CCD
- Anthony Spinozzi, Sonoma County CCD
- Hesma Valdes. Rio Hondo CCD
- Irene Wong, Pasadena Area CCD
- Dylan Myers, San Joaquin Delta CCD
- Cody Jarvis, Cabrillo CCD
- Sharla Clemente, South Orange CCD





"My experience on STAC was incredibly empowering. It was one of my first times being in a leadership role and at first I felt incredibly overwhelmed. The support I had not only from CCLC, but my fellow Student Trustees was instrumental to our success as a committee. I was able to make true friends and meet other students who are equally as passionate about the community college system as I am."

#### Zara Ainge

2024-25 Student Trustee. Foothill - De Anza Community College District

## **EDUCATION SERVICES**

he League's Education Services department delivers professional development programs that support continued learning for stakeholders across California's community colleges. For CEOs, the League offers leadership development at every career stage through the CEO Strategic Leadership Program (CSLP), led by current and former community college CEOs. Programs include the New CEO Workshop and First-Year Experience Program for onboarding and mentorship, and the CEO Leadership Academy for those in their first three years. The CEO Symposium offers annual peer engagement, while the Vineyard Symposium provides an invitation-only retreat for CEOs in their first four years to explore leadership dynamics with experienced mentors.

For Trustees, the League's education programs are designed to help board members lead effectively and make informed decisions. Trustees can earn the Excellence in Trusteeship Program (ETP) Certificate through offerings such as the Effective Trusteeship Workshop, the Board Chair Workshop, and the Annual Trustees Conference, which includes peer-led sessions and the CCCT annual meeting and elections. Additionally, the Student Trustees Workshop introduces student leaders to the responsibilities of serving on a district board. These leadership offerings are anchored by the League's signature event, the Annual Convention, which brings together multidisciplinary teams from across the system to explore critical issues and opportunities shaping the future of California's community colleges.



"Serving as a CEO is an incredibly demanding role and it's easy for personal well-being to fall to the bottom of the list. With that in mind, we're reimagining CCLC's leadership development programs to place a stronger emphasis on peer learning, active problem-solving, and building a supportive network. Our goal is to make it a valuable experience that will support CEO's in sustaining the critical and impactful work they do every day."

Kristin Clark, Ed.D.
Retired Chancellor, West Hills CCD



## **EDUCATION SERVICES**

#### **CEO Strategic Leadership Program Advisory Committee**

Comprised of CEOs only, the CEO Strategic Leadership Program (CSLP) Advisory Committee is responsible for identifying and reviewing needs for the educational and professional development programs provided specifically for CEOs.

Jill Stearns (Co-Chair), Superintendent/President, Cuesta College

Larry Galizio (Co-Chair), President/CEO, Community College League of California

Seher Awan, President, Mission College

Jeannie Kim, President/CEO, Santiago Canyon College

**Tina King, President, San Diego College of Continuing Education** 

Daniel Walden, Superintendent/President, Victor Valley College

Jennifer Zellet, President, Antelope Valley CCD

Shouan Pan, Chancellor, Yuba CCDD

#### **Advisory Committee on Education Services**

The Advisory Committee on Education Services (ACES) identifies and reviews the educational and professional development programs offered to the colleges, particularly those targeted to trustees and CEOs.

Kathleen Burke, Co-Chair, Deputy Chancellor (Interim), Los Angeles CCD

Mary Strobridge, Co-Chair, Trustee, San Luis Obispo County CCD

Betty Ho, Trustee, Ohlone College

Crystal Jackson, Trustee, West Hills CCD

Dianne McKay, Former Trustee, Ventura County CCD

Uduak-Joe Ntuk, Trustee, Long Beach City CCD

Ann Ransford, Trustee, Glendale Community CCD

Greg Schulz, Superintendent/President, Citrus College CCD

Wanden Treanor, Trustee, Marin CCD

Yovani Jimenez, Trustee, Kern CCD

Jim Moreno, Trustee, Coast CCD



At the 2025 CEO Symposium, Arizona State University President Michael Crow engaged CEOs in a conversation about strengthening partnerships that expand access to affordable bachelor's degrees through seamless transfer pathways, formal articulation agreements, and robust student support.



Angela Kersenbrock, President of the Community College Baccalaureate Association, inspired attendees at the 2025 Annual Trustees Conference with insights on advancing community college baccalaureate degrees as an equitable, inclusive, and affordable pathway to a bachelor's degree.

# **EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS PROFESSIONAL IMPACT PROGRAM**

he League's commitment to enhancing professional development opportunities for executive assistants to CEOs, governing boards, and other administrative leaders through the Executive Assistants Professional Impact Program, led to record participation at the 2024 Executive Assistants Leadership Workshop in Burlingame. A total of 137 executive assistants from districts across the state attended the event, which focused on expanding skills, deepening knowledge, and strengthening professional capacity.

Building on that momentum, the 2025 Executive Assistants Legal Issues Workshop was held in the spring alongside the Annual Trustees Conference. With 95 attendees, this workshop focused on recent legal and policy updates, helping participants stay current on key compliance issues affecting California community college districts.





"Attending the Executive Assistant Workshops has been a turning point in my career—each session has sharpened my skills, expanded my confidence, and opened doors to new professional growth. With each conference, I walk away with a brand-new outlook and a renewed motivation to implement fresh tools and ideas that will elevate my work to the next level. Special thanks to the incredible Dr. Jane Wright and her fantastic team for offering these transformative conferences and creating such a valuable space for professional development."

Kimberly Gibbs, Executive Assistant, Office of the Chancellor, Yosemite Community College District



### **RESEARCH & REPORTS**

he Community College League of California strengthens the voice of community colleges in the policy-making process by advancing research that highlights innovation and impact across the system. Through a focus on expanding access to information, statewide developments, best practices, and training opportunities, the League supports informed decision-making at all levels.

This year, the League released two reports that inform strategy, professional development and outreach:

- CEO Tenure & Retention Report: In December 2024, the League released the 11th update of the CEO Tenure & Retention Study, featuring a dynamic dashboard that visualizes over 100 years of California Community College CEO data, highlighting trends, diversity, gender gaps, and strategies to support longer, more inclusive leadership tenures.
- Modernizing California Community College Funding: Reforming the Fifty Percent Law to Support Student Success: The report highlights the urgent need to reform or eliminate California's Fifty Percent Law (enacted in 1961). which limits funding flexibility and restricts colleges from fully investing in critical student support services.



The League's Research and Data Center features interactive dashboards that showcase key trends and characteristics of California's community colleges, providing valuable insight to leaders, advocates and policymakers.

Visit the Research and Data Center for these reports and data about district composition and trustees and elections



## DISTRICT SERVICES

#### PARS: PUBLIC AGENCY RETIREMENT SERVICES

Community College League of California (CCLC) has partnered with PARS (Public Agency Retirement Services) for almost 10 years to provide 19 community college districts with the Pension Rate Stabilization Program (PRSP), a comprehensive solution that empowers districts to take control of their long-term pension liabilities. The PRSP currently has over \$3 billion under administration for over 320 public agencies. This program is an IRS-approved, IRC Section 115 irrevocable trust that gives districts flexibility and control of assets to proactively manage and stabilize future CalSTRS and CalPERS costs while concurrently building a rainy-day fund for times of budgetary uncertainty. Key benefits of prefunding in the PRSP include:

- **Cost Stabilization**
- Local Control
- Low-Cost Investment Flexibility
- Rainy Day Fund

"Citrus Community College District is thankful to PARS and CCLC for providing the Pension Rate Stabilization Program (PRSP), an innovative, flexible and lowcost option to proactively manage long-term STRS and PERS employer pension expenses. By strategically prefunding future pension obligations in the PRSP, Citrus CCD can stabilize its general operating budget during times of economic uncertainty, maintaining long-term financial stability. Thanks to PARS/CCLC's personalized service and regular plan reviews, we are confident that our future retiree pension benefits remain protected in the PRSP, providing peace of mind for future budget cycles."

#### **Claudette Dain**

Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services, Citrus College

#### RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS JOINT POWERS AGENCY

The program allows districts to invest in both long- and short-term portfolios designed to reduce the annual cost of retiree health benefits. Districts maintain control of their contributions and distributions as each participating district sits on the JPA board of directors. Meketa Investment group and US Bank work with the JPA Board of Directors and the League to manage the portfolio. Assets are poised to reach \$300 million this year, lowering fees for all participating and new members.



2025 CEO Retiree Recognition Dinner

# **DISTRICT SERVICES**

#### **LIBRARY**

The Community College League of California (CCLC), in partnership with the Council of Chief Librarians, provides a statewide Library and Technology Resources program that supports all 116 California community colleges. This program offers cost-effective access to thousands of research databases, essential digital tools, and a unified Library Services Platform (Alma & Primo) used by 110 colleges. It combines centralized coordination with local campus autonomy to streamline cataloging. discovery, and resource sharing. By reducing redundancy and enhancing access to high-quality academic resources, the program advances student success, operational efficiency, and equity in library services.

In 2024-25, The League's Library & Technology Resources hosted 25 informative Wednesday Webinars, open to all CCC library staff, ranging from key software developments on commonly used library technologies to improving search results to better student success.



San Diego Mesa College

#### POLICY & PROCEDURE SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

#### STATEWIDE POLICY & PROCEDURE SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

The League's Statewide Policy & Procedure Subscription Service provides all 73 California CCDs with 404 legally vetted templates reflecting State/ Federal law and regional accreditation standards to ensure legal compliance/ adherence and guide critical organizational processes. During the 2024-25 academic year, the Service issued three legal updates to all California community college sunscribers. The Special Summer 2024 legal update addressed the 2024 Title IX revisions issued by the U.S. Department of Education necessitating significant revision to seven board policy/ administrative procedure templates. The Fall 2024 Legal Update #45 and Spring 2025 Legal Update #46 encompassed revisions to 67 documents.

In addition, the 2024-25 academic year saw increased attendance at both.

Policy & Procedure Subscription Service Workshops and included improved and extended programmatic content of four hours per Workshop addressing legal analysis, foundational tenets, and best practices presentations plus idea exchange between districts.

#### FEDERALLY-COMPLIANT POLICY & PROCEDURE SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

The League's Federally-Compliant Policy & Procedure Subscription Service for 16 community/technical colleges in Oregon and Wisconsin addressed policy/procedure-related questions and disseminated a Special Summer 2024 Title IX Legal Update plus an annual legal update #7 to assist those colleges with compliance and align with revisions in Federal law (U.S. Code and Code of Federal Regulations).

# **TELLING OUR STORY**

his year, the League strengthened both external and internal communication through expanded media outreach, the launch of a new, user-friendly website, and increased social media engagement. These efforts enhanced visibility, improved access to resources, and supported timely, transparent communication with members and the public.





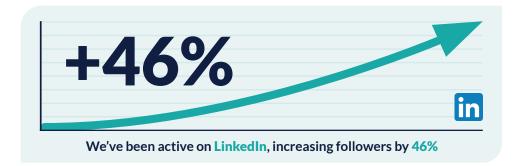
two-thirds higher than the national average.



February 2025 editorial discussion with the Chronicle of Higher Education in Washington, D.C.



The League launched its new dynamic website with dedicated sections for professional learning, state and federal advocacy, district services, and ongoing resource for members.



## **FINANCE**

he Financial Services Department plays a vital role in supporting every Member organization, managing interactions related to dues, event registrations, and sponsorships. As the League's centralized financial hub, the department ensures accurate and responsible stewardship of all revenue and expenditures.

Beyond internal operations, the department extends its expertise by serving as the fiscal agent for more than a dozen statewide community college groups. This includes managing financial accounting, processing sponsorships and registrations, and assisting with membership-related activities. Through these collaborations, the team provides not only dependable financial services but also valuable guidance on effective financial practices.

Over the past year, the department achieved significant results, including a reduction in operational costs across the organization through strategic contract renegotiations and system upgrades that enhanced efficiency. The successful completion of the annual audit further reinforced the League's commitment to transparency and financial integrity.

#### **League Financial Services Proudly Support:**

Scholarships and Student Recognitions, including this year's College for All Californians Scholarship, and the Phi Theta Kappa honor cords and award certificates.

Sponsorships: Black Student Success Week, COLEGAS, 2024 AACCCT Reception, Capitol Fellows Alumni Association Reception, PTK -In Kind Sponsorship, CLI In-Kind Sponsorship





"Working with Sarah and the finance office this year has been such a positive experience. Sarah and her team are not only incredibly helpful and timely with financial documents, but they're also genuinely supportive of our work. Their kindness, reliability, and partnership have truly made a difference for our organization."

Trisha Albertsen, California Community Colleges Classified Senate

#### Fiscal Agent services for several affinity groups and caucuses including:

- Affordability, Food, & Housing Access Taskforce
- African American California Community College Trustees and Administration Association
- Asian American Pacific Islander Trustees & Administrators
- California Association of Black School Educators
- California Association of Latino Community College Trustees & Administrators
- California Community College Baccalaureate Association
- California Community Colleges Classified Senate
- California Community Colleges Veterans Caucus
- California Community College Women's Caucus
- California Latino School Boards Association
- Community College Association Executives
- Community College Public Relations Organization
- **Equity Avengers**
- LGBTQ+ Caucus





**Larry Galizio**President and CEO



**Natalie Sidarious** Senior Director of District Services



**Kristy Kingsbury** *Program Coordinator, District Services* 



**Agnes Lupa** Senior Executive Assistant



**Jocelyn Avalos**Office Associate



**Sarah Kiesling** Chief Financial Officer



**Deborah Adkins** Accounting/Facilities Specialist



**Michael Alexander** Accounts Payable Specialist



Jeannette Cheng
Educational Services Coordinator



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Kristal Padilla Legislative Advocate



**Jimmy Madrigal** *Manager, Meetings & Events* 



**Kristen Bautista** *Events & Sponsorship Associate* 



**Lori Bachand** Senior Director of Communications



Kaylie Schmidt Communication Specialist

### **League Consultants**



**Tom Downs** Federal Advocacy Consultant



**Jonathan Lightman** State Advocacy Consultant

#### **OUR MISSION**

As the professional membership association of the California Community College districts, the League empowers its members to transform the lives of our diverse students and strengthen communities statewide through advocacy, leadership development, district services, coalition building, and policy advancement.

#### **OUR VISION**

California Community Colleges as the global model for community-based public higher education with an unparalleled commitment to access, equity and achievement.

# **CORPORATE PARTNERS**

The League would like to extend a special thank you to our 2024-25 Corporate Partners.

### PRESIDENTIAL PARTNERS











Governance solutions for education.



## **ASSOCIATE PARTNERS**





















