



African American California Community College  
Trustees and Administration Association

---

**President** Barbara Calhoun, Trustee – Compton Community College \* **Vice President** Nichelle Henderson, Trustee – Los Angeles CCD  
**Treasurer** Ricky Shabazz Ed.D., President – San Diego City College \* **Secretary** Kerri Webb, Public/Govt. Relations Director–El Camino CCD  
**Parliamentarian** Crystal Jackson Ed.D., Trustee – West Hills Community College

## April 17, 2025 Caucus Emergency Meeting Minutes

Meeting Began: 6:05 p.m. / Meeting Ended: 7:58 p.m.

### SUMMARY

The meeting covered was convened to discuss the current White House Administration’s “Dear Colleague Letter” (DCL) and the subsequent Executive Orders (as of April 17, 2025). Several attendees expressed their concerns and shared the overall sentiments on their campuses amongst students, faculty and staff. Action strategies were brainstormed, but the next steps were not fully identified due to concerns of possible retaliation from government oversight committees.

### DISCUSSION

#### **Thuy Nguyen Presented Prop 209 Overview (Power Point attached)**

Legal Counsel, Thuy Nguyen gave a 20-minute presentation on the historical context and purpose of Prop 209. This was requested by the Caucus Board to assist in the comprehension of the DCL’s referencing of this law as it pertains to DEIA considerations in college admission processes.

#### **Concerns on Campuses**

Several meeting participants shared the various experiences and feelings expressed on their respective campuses and how the DCL and subsequent Executive Orders may influence the upcoming Black Student Success Week activities and Black Graduation celebrations, in addition to student success services that currently serve predominantly Black students.

Some colleges have decided to continue with their events and services “as is” without any changes. Some colleges are considering changing the names of these events and services to make it more inclusive. Many of the colleges represented at the meeting shared that they are currently going through their websites, social media, and other promotional materials to delete or change names, descriptions, or phrases that may be considered problematic under the DCL and March 14 Executive Order.

### **Discussion on What the Definition and Future of Black Student Success Should Mean**

There was a passionate discussion amongst colleagues about the what the “struggle” is for Black students today compared to what they were in the past. A very thoughtful discussion organically came up about the need to re-identify what the needs of Black students are as opposed to what they were decades ago. Some mentioned that many of the prevailing priorities of Black administrators, faculty and staff may no longer align with the shifting landscape of the needs and circumstances that current students are facing.

The discussion led to a conversation about the need to recognize and promote the importance of certification in skilled trades. Caucus Chairperson Barbara Calhoun strongly expressed how the current economic landscape is shifting labor needs, thus creating a greater demand for skilled tradespeople and workforce development.

### **Black Serving Institution Designation**

Compton College President Dr. Keith Curry gave a presentation on the types of programs, initiatives and services that are currently provided on his campus. He provided several links (below) and resources for how to apply for the statewide Black Serving Institution designation. Applications are open and the first deadline is Friday, June 6.

<https://www.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/community/central-office-for-the-advancement-of-black-student-success/Pages/california-black-serving-institution-application.aspx>

<https://www.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/community/central-office-for-the-advancement-of-black-student-success>

<https://losangelesrc.org/los-angeles-county-nursing-2035-initiative-takes-aim-at-addressing-looming-nursing-shortages/>

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/institutions/community-colleges/2025/04/04/la-community-colleges-csus-partner-nursing>

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoY2RINjRIYzItNWZhOS00NzllLWJiYzktYWJiMzAzOWE3OWZkIiwidCI6IjMyMjE2YTg0LTJiNjQtNDFlZC04ZWlxLTl0MmU5YzI2ODVjMSIsImMiOjZ9>

### **NEXT STEPS**

- Barbara: Announce the awards nomination process at the May Trustee Conference in Lake Tahoe (May 9-11)