

# ALL FACULTY SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

AFA Report to the Board of Trustees, March 11, 2025

Anne Donegan, AFA President

Hello President Chabon, Trustees, President Garcia, and the college community:

Thanks to all the public comments and reports tonight, open communication is key to democratic institutions. Congrats to everyone getting tenure and moving on in the tenure process. Great job!

Last month, I attended the FACCC Advocacy and Policy Conference with a great contingent from SRJC, 8 faculty members and SGA president Garcia and Trustee Spinozzi. We met with staffers from Mike McGuire's and Chris Rogers' offices. We discussed important issues like allowing students have the choice to take pre-transfer level English and Math courses, assuring that students are counseled by real Counselors and not AI generated bots, and that all CCC students learn about civics and how the gov't is supposed to work by taking history and political science courses.

While at this conference, there were also discussions about how community colleges are funded vis a vis UCs and CSUs. As I am sure many in the room are aware of, currently Sacramento requires cc students to take 15 units to be considered full time, while CSU and UCs are compensated for a full-time student who only has to take 12 units. This is a huge disparity and undercuts CCC funding. This is something that we all can work together on: administration, the board, faculty, classified, and students....let's all put pressure on the Chancellor's Office and the state legislature to fix this injustice.

I also attended meetings with the PRT team focusing on how we can be a better Hispanic Serving institution. Here are some real tangible things SRJC can do towards this effort: Pay non-credit EMLS faculty fairly! EMLS faculty members serve our most vulnerable students, and their classes help fund SRJC with the same apportionment as credit classes. Yet our district, pays them 30% less than faculty members who teach credit classes, this is unconscionable and does not uphold the values of an institution who claims to care about diversity and equity. Likewise, for 2 years in row, this District has decided not to hire a full time Historian who teach courses on the History of Latin America or the History of Mexico!!!, at an HSI institution? Does that make sense to anyone? Budgets should reflect our values; this position needs to be filled.

Over the past month, I have also attended meetings about the impending cuts at SRCS and SSU. In both cases, I have seen the same pattern: years of mismanagement of the budget and enrollment, and then administrators yell that we have a CRISIS: We must have cuts!!!! This is a cautionary tale.

At a legislative townhall at SSU, Assembly member Damon Connolly stated " SSU Administrators Must acknowledge failure in their mismanagement of budget. And you must have a transparent plan to rebuild trust."

While yes this is a cautionary tale, I want to commend our District in their transparent plans of working towards a balanced budget. This is a very good thing, but I would urge the district to not only look at classified and faculty employees when cuts are considered, I respectfully urge you to also look at the number of administrators and their salaries.

At this same legislative town hall at SSU, State senate pro tem Mike McGuire (a SRJC and SSU grad), stated this: " I arrived at SRJC with an 8th grade reading level. I took pre-algebra. I want to thank the amazing faculty and counselors at SRJC and at SSU. SRJC and SSU changed my life."

Finally, I want to end that AFA as always calls for transparency about safety issues. We are still waiting for the District to fully explain why they willingly broke the law in regards to 911 routing and why a fire hose was used to bring water to Bailey.