



Greetings!

To assist you in reporting to your department colleagues, please see the following summary of our last Representative Assembly meeting, held on **Thu. Oct. 30**. (And apologies for the delay in getting this to you.) Follow the hyperlinks for more information.

SMCFA 2025-2026 BUDGET APPROVED BY THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

The budget was presented by the Treasurer and approved with 61 yay votes and two abstentions.

RELEASE OF THE [OIR INCIDENT REPORT](#)

This is the “Independent Evaluation of Santa Monica College’s Readiness and Response to October 14, 2024 Campus Shooting”

- There were 29 findings in the report (click for details), ranging from poor communication and a need for improved coordination with SMPD and SMCPD, to revisiting approaches to disciplinary action, and addressing nepotism. The report also recommended ensuring managerial changes and changes to expectations are communicated clearly and effectively to the whole division; emphasized the need to continue outreach to those affected in the college community; and recommended developing a campuswide code of civility.
- Two final recommendations focus on greater transparency and a process to involve the whole college community in the decision making process.:
 - The process for considering these recommendations should be transparent and inclusive.
 - The College should develop an implementation plan for any accepted recommendation and report to its community regarding the plan’s progress.
- [De-escalation training](#), on campus, November 5, 11A - 1P, Business Building 255; Lunch will be provided. Space is limited.; RSVP by emailing Alfaro_Nancy@smc.edu
- Some discussion regarding the district’s pattern of failing to follow through, and skepticism about the administration’s will to be accountable and proactive about recommendations in this report.

WELLNESS COURSE UPDATE

- A pilot program focused on faculty wellbeing was introduced this semester, open to RA members.
- There were 19 who engaged with it. Feedback has been positive, and the consensus from the participant survey was that the course was helpful in addressing burnout, low morale, etc.
- In the RA meeting, a number of participants added their positive comments
- There is a form posted in the course materials for participants to use to obtain their stipend.
- Next, the FA will assess how we can move this program forward and ideally, offer it to a larger group.

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE INDEPENDENTS (CCCI) - FALL CONFERENCE RECAP

- CCCI is a consortium of [13 districts](#). These tend to be the strongest unions across the state.
- Union leaders from each district shared what’s been happening at their colleges. (One takeaway is that SMC still has, by far, the highest rate of membership in our union)
- Members of CCCI are signing on to [AAUP v Trump](#) with an Amicus Brief

- There was discussion of AI and impact on working conditions
- There was a legal presentation by David Conway to the consortium and a presentation by FACCC
- Also worth noting: there is a recently formed Legislative committee doing legislative strategy and advocacy on behalf of CCCI unions, and whose members are drawn from CCCI membership (including our Chief Negotiator, Matt Hotsinpillar). You can see the bills that the Legislative Committee is tracking on the [CCCI website](#).

FACULTY ASSOCIATION POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (PAC)

- Peter: I just wanted to give a heads-up that knowing we're barreling toward the next election season, with some important trustee seats up for election next November. We are going to be advertising and educating faculty about our PAC, how it works, how individuals can contribute to it, and how the general membership can opt out if we decide to allocate any membership dues to the PAC.
- In the coming weeks, we'll provide more information about the FA PAC, details about the support we give to candidates at the state-wide level and more. It's timely, especially given the following item, with regard to Trustee Roy.

RA MEETING, NOV. 20, VISIT BY [Dr Sion Roy, Vice chair](#) SMCCD Trustee and CA Senate candidate

- Dr Roy is running in the June 2, 2026 primary election for a local CA Senate seat. He will visit the RA to make the pitch for his candidacy. If unsuccessful in that run, he will fulfill his term on the Board.
- We encourage you all to attend, either in person, or remotely. The format will be Hy-Flex. Lunch will be provided for in person attendees.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

- We still meet regularly with the district, and have focused thus far on resolving non-financial items.
- In our regular labor-management meetings, we continue to work on getting things to run smoothly.
 - The troublesome handling and rollout of student evaluations being one example of a topic we try to resolve with the district.
 - We've also been working with the district on an accurate and transparent 'offer of employment' letter to be transmitted to part-time faculty via an online portal. It should provide people with a measure of security about the contract offer and necessary transparency about what they can expect to earn, so they can ascertain the accuracy of their pay checks. This is a stand-alone item we've been working on, separate from contract negotiations.

In closing, *thank you* for the work you do to keep the Association strong. Please note that our next RA meeting of the semester is scheduled for **Thu. Nov. 20, 2025**.

Diane Arieff
SMCFA Recording Secretary | FA Communications

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