



Volume X, Issue May 2018

2016-2018 Officers

Mark Blethen
President

Kurt Meyer
President-Elect

Claire Cesareo
Past President

Lewis Long
Chief Negotiator

Parisa Soltani
Secretary

Frank Gonzalez
Treasurer

Blake Stephens
Membership Chair

Beth Clary
Part-Time Faculty Chair

Grievance Chairs

Kathy Schmeidler
*Irvine Valley College
Grievance Chair*

Margot Lovett
*Saddleback College
Grievance Chair*

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Faculty Association Luncheon

Fall 2018 Flex Week:

Wednesday, August 15th

11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Irvine Valley College

Performing Arts Center (PAC)

Representative Council

Meeting Dates:

(Academic Year 2018-19)

FALL 2018:

Monday, September 10th – IVC

Monday, October 1st – SC

Monday, November 5th – IVC

Monday, December 3rd – SC

All meetings take place from 3:00 – 5:00 pm



W.H.O.'s Awesome?

Mark Blethen Receives SOCCCD W.H.O. Award

The South Orange Community College District Faculty Association has nominated our current and outgoing president, Mark Blethen, to receive the W.H.O award this year. Mark is a fierce and tireless advocate for faculty rights within our district. Under his leadership, we have made significant strides, including the negotiation of a fair compensation package for all faculty converting from Blackboard to Canvas. Mark served as a member of our last negotiating team, during which we were able to gain significant increases for our part-time faculty, including pay for office hours, and a 12% overall raise for all faculty. As president, he has been overseeing our current negotiations, during which part-time rehire rights and a greater move towards parity is at the top of our priority list. His analytical mind and ability to quickly grasp convoluted issues related to numerical data have been indispensable in the most recent and current negotiations. Mark is unflagging in his support of faculty and has a reputation among the administration for being both tenacious and persuasive. On the flip side, Mark also has considerable skills in diffusing potentially contentious situations and in facilitating the building of consensus between and among different constituent groups. He has the ability to immediately go to the root of a complex problem, whether it be a contractual, procedural or personality problem, grasp the basic issues, consider the relevant legal and contractual considerations, come up with a

simple and rational answer, and persuade others to accept it, always with humor and his own style of rough grace. He is confident and self-assured, yet also deeply respects the abilities and opinions of those with whom he works. He is truly worthy of this honor!

***Congratulations from all of us
Mark!***



Mark Blethen, FA President and W.H.O. Award winner with CCA Secretary, Randa Wahbe.

PC: Casey Lovell Brown, CCA photographer

Snapshots from...



...the Winter 2018 CCA Conference



Saddleback College Representatives

Division of Advanced Technology and Applied Science

Representative - Vacant
Alternate Rep - Vacant
PAC Rep - Vacant
Alternate PAC Rep – Vacant

Division of Business Science and Economic Workforce Development

Representative - Don Bowman
Alternate Rep - Brock Schermerhorn
PAC Rep - Rebecca Knapp
Alternate PAC Rep – Vacant

Division of Kinesiology and Athletics

Representative - Jennifer Higginson
Alternate Rep - Steve Crapo
PAC Rep - Vacant
Alternate PAC Rep - Steve Crapo

Division of Liberal Arts

Representative - Joshua Pryor
Alternate Rep - Carrie Goulding
PAC Rep - Pete Murray
Alternate PAC Rep - Joshua Pryor

Division of Transfer, Career, and Special Programs

Representative - Zina Boratynec
Alternate Rep - Ardith Lynch
PAC Rep - Kolin Williams
Alternate PAC Rep – Vacant

Division of Fine Arts and Media Technology

Representative - Bill McGuire
Alternate Rep - Norm Weston
PAC Rep - Ariel Alexander
Alternate PAC Rep - Norm Weston

Division of Online Education and Learning Resources

Representative - Jenny Langrell
Alternate Rep - Lydia Tamara
PAC Rep - Jenny Langrell
Alternate PAC Rep - Vacant

Division of Health Sciences and Human Services

Representative - Sean Osborn
Alternate Representative - Vacant
PAC Representative - Vacant
Alternate PAC Representative – Vacant

Division of Mathematics, Science, and Engineering

Representative - Jonathan Luque
Alternate Rep - Jacob Tracy
PAC Rep - Jonathan Luque
Alternate PAC Rep - Jacob Tracy

Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences

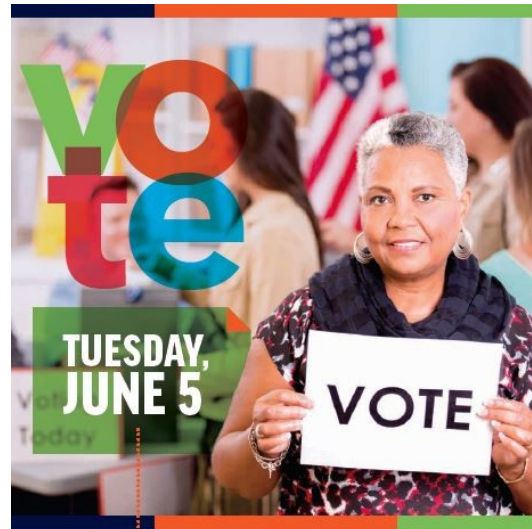
Representative - Christina Ghanbarpour
Alternate Rep - Margot Lovett
PAC Rep - Margot Lovett
Alternate PAC Rep - Christina Ghanbarpour

Division of Community Education and Emeritus Institute

Representative - Pamme Turner
Alternate Rep - Vacant
PAC Rep - Vacant
Alternate PAC Rep – Vacant

Division of Counseling Services

Representative - Sharon Nussenbaum
Alternate Rep - Jan Ventura
PAC Rep - Vacant
Alternate PAC Rep - Vacant



Join thousands of fellow educators

by voting for the candidates who share our priorities and will protect the rights of students, parents, and educators.



CTA CALIFORNIA
TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION

SOCCCD FA Representatives

Irvine Valley College Representatives

School of Business Sciences

Representative - John Russo
Alternate Rep - Rick Boone
PAC Rep - Vacant
Alternate PAC Rep – Vacant

School of the Arts

Representative - Vacant
Alternate Rep - Vacant
PAC Rep - Vacant
Alternate PAC Rep – Vacant

School of Guidance and Counseling

Representative - Parisa Soltani
Alternate Rep - Fawn Tanriverdi
PAC Rep - Robert Melendez
Alternate PAC Rep - Fawn Tanriverdi

School of Kinesiology, Health and Athletics

Representative - Ted Weatherford
Alternate Rep - Martin McGrogan
PAC Rep - Vacant
Alternate PAC Rep – Vacant

School of Humanities

Representative - Daniel Vernazza
Alternate Rep - Lisa Alvarez
PAC Rep - Daniel Vernazza
Alternate PAC Rep - Rebecca Kaminsky

School of Life Sciences and Technologies

Representative - Kathy Schmeidler
Alternate Rep - Vacant
PAC Rep - Kathy Schmeidler
Alternate PAC Rep – Vacant

School of Math, Computer Sciences and Engineering

Representative - Carlo Chan
Alternate Rep - Brent Monte
PAC Rep - Vacant
Alternate PAC Rep – Vacant

School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Representative - Vacant
Alternate Rep - Mark McNeil
PAC Rep - Vacant
Alternate PAC Rep - Mark McNeil

School of Languages and Learning Resources

Representative - Melanie Haeri
Alternate Rep - Vacant
PAC Rep - Melanie Haeri
Alternate PAC Rep – Vacant

School of Physical Sciences and Technology

Representative - Amy Stinson
Alternate Rep - Vacant
PAC Rep - Amy Stinson
Alternate PAC Rep - Ray Chandos

Final Election Results for 2018-2020

New Officers

President: Kurt Meyer (IVC)
President-Elect: Lewis Long (IVC)
Secretary: Parisa Soltani (IVC)
Treasurer: Frank Gonzalez (SC)
Membership Chair: Jenny Langrell (SC)
Part-Time Chair: Beth Clary (SC)

Part-Time Faculty Representatives

Susan Bliss (SC)
Katie Tewes (SC)
Evangeline Matthews (IVC)
Raymond Carson (IVC)
Ari Grayson (SC)

A Brief Negotiations Report

Both Faculty Association and District negotiation teams have been working diligently to reach agreement on part-time faculty rehire rights. In the past month significant progress has been made.

Your FA representatives will meet with District representatives over the course of the summer to continue meaningful progress on our contract.



Farewell Remarks from our Outgoing FA President

This month marks the end of my two-year term as your SOCCCDFA president. It has certainly been a privilege and an honor serving all my colleagues at Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Faculty Association's Representatives and officers, we have been able to secure a number of significant achievements during that time.

Initially, we successfully persuaded the District to offer, and then negotiated improvements to, an early retirement incentive program, officially known as the SRP. This program allowed 21 senior faculty to retire with a generous financial boost. While we had to say goodbye to many dear friends and colleagues who had served our colleges so well over the years, their departures have opened up opportunities for our part time colleagues to secure full time employment. This coming fall will see the beginning of those replacement positions being filled with new faculty who will undoubtedly bring new energy, knowledge, and skills to our campuses.

We have continued to fight for the rights of our part-time faculty to be treated equitably for the valuable contributions they provide to our students. Admittedly, we still have a long way to go. However, we were successful in working with the administration to end the practice of overloading our part-time faculty without fairly compensating them as full timers would be. This change in practice should, over time, create a greater demand for the creation of additional tenure track faculty positions throughout the district.

Possibly our most visible achievement was the successful fight for the adoption of the Canvas Conversion Compensation program. Most faculty will ultimately benefit financially for the hours of hard work that they will invest to change from Blackboard to Canvas. Additionally, our students will benefit from having one consistent LMS being utilized in all of their courses. A special thank you to all those faculty members who showed up at board meetings to voice their support for this program. Your voices were heard, and we would not have succeeded without your support.

Finally, I would like to personally thank my fellow association officers (Kurt Meyer, Parisa Soltani, Frank Gonzalez, Claire Cesareo, Blake Stephens, Beth Clary, Lewis Long, Margot Lovett, Kathy Schmeidler, June McLaughlin) and all the School/Division Reps who served alongside me, and by doing so made this an incredible experience of which I will always be proud.

Together, we can continue to accomplish great things for our association, and I am confident that we will.

Mark Blethen

SOCCCDFA President 2016-2018