

Classified Senate Board Meeting Report August 2025

Good afternoon, President Chabaan, Board of Trustees, Dr. Garcia, colleagues and community. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Classified Senate for our August 2025 report.

Congrats to Employee of the Month Erick Fernandez Bonilla! What a powerful testament to the transformative power of education. From leading initiatives like the Welcome and Connect Center Annex to supporting students and colleagues, He is truly a shining example of dedication, leadership and having students' best interest at heart. Thank you Erick for all you do and have done here at SRJC!

Summer was very productive for the Classified Senate.

Three of us attended the Classified Leadership Institute held by 4CS in June. It was very informative for us all and it was great opportunity to meet and connect with other community college Classified Professionals from across the state.

We participated in informative workshops regarding Generative Artificial Intelligence, mentorships, legislative updates and more.

Dr. Sonya Christian, California Community College Chancellor gave the keynote speech regarding the CCC Vision 2030 Roadmap for colleges; and AI and how it will apply to Classified Professionals.

And we got a nomination from another college for our very own Dr. Garcia as a keynote speaker for next year!

It was a super informative institute, and we brought back some great information that will sculpt our Senate going forward.

And I'm happy to report, our Classified Senate may be the model of change for other Classified Senates across the state. Other Senates

continue to be challenged, like we were, to fill senator seats. Our new Senate Pillar structure sparked a great discussion at the CLI President's retreat.

By the end of the week, other presidents and senates shared they had already decided to implement similar changes or planned to bring the idea back to their colleges for discussion. We are very excited to see which campuses adopt this approach and the positive impact it creates.

We held our annual summer retreat at Shone Farm in July. It was a very productive day. We reviewed our senate responsibilities, events and the information we obtained from CLI. We are excited to implement our ideas and changes this year.

We hope these changes will increase our participation and awareness of the Classified Senate amongst our Classified Professionals.

One of those changes we are excited to introduce, is a new addition to this year's Welcome Days next Monday and Tuesday, August 18 and 19. In addition to welcoming students to campus, we'd also like to welcome back Classified Professionals, Faculty and Management to the new academic year. In collaboration with the Academic Senate and Management Liaison Group, we will host two Welcome Days for employees on August 18 and 19th.

We will have a cup of coffee or tea and light refreshments available in the staff lounge from 9:00 till noon on both days. We hope this coffee stop will provide an opportunity to reconnect with our returning colleagues, and meet our new colleagues, as we ease into the new academic year.

The Classified Senate looks forward to making positive changes, and collaborative actions this year, that will not only support our student's success but also support each other in community.

This year our students will face challenges with AI implementation, immigration status, relationship preference, and health care. The Classified Senate is committed to standing together in solidarity and support for our students, our loved ones and ourselves.

This concludes the Classified Senate August 2025 report. Thank you. Have a good evening.