

Classified Senate Board Meeting Report October 2025 🎃

Good evening, President Chabaan, Board of Trustees, Dr. Garcia, and college community. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Classified Senate.

I'd like to congratulate Fifi Fitwy as October's Employee of the Month. Fifi has proved to be a dedicated and positive presence, admired for her professionalism, warmth, and commitment to creating welcoming spaces for students and colleagues alike. We are grateful for her hard work, her kindness, and the pride she brings to her role. Congratulations, Fifi, and thank you for all that you do for our SRJC community!

The Classified Senate is happy to report that in partnership with SEIU, we have completed our shared governance committee assignments. Thank you to Maria Banachowicz for her hard work in coordinating those committee requests and assignments. And thank you Sandy Sigala, for your leadership and camaraderie in this process.

Committee members have been contacted, and committees are beginning to meet under the new participatory governance structure. Employees are eager to engage, and we look forward to seeing the good work they do in the year ahead.

The Participatory Governance Workgroup held our new Committee Chair training for Management Team members, presenting useful information to help with committee governance and running effective meetings.

Under the new structure, I believe the new process has been more transparent and equitable. In addition, this streamlined process will benefit us greatly in Spring, when we start it all again.

I'd like to remind everyone to check out the new Participatory Governance website. It has a wealth of information on our various committees, and the new structure.

The Senate is excited to continue representing classified professionals, working alongside our fellow classified, faculty, management and student colleagues.

This month, the Classified Senate is inviting the entire JC community to participate in our Halloween event, on Thursday, October 30th. Participating departments are encouraged to decorate their office space, cubicle, door, or area and welcome colleagues to “trick or treat” at their locations, not only for treats, but also for information about their departments and the good work they do.

The email invitation to departments to participate in this event has been extended through this Friday and the list of participating departments will be emailed out next week. We believe this will be a fun way to connect with each other, learn more about the efforts happening across campus in our amazing departments, while strengthening our sense of inclusion and community.

Also, our biggest fundraiser of the year will begin this month, with our annual Winter See's Candy fundraiser. Ordering is open now and shipping will begin November 11th. The order deadline for this fundraiser is December 5th, 2025.

We will be emailing the fundraiser information to the JC community this week.

We are so grateful for the orders placed by our chocolate-loving friends each year.

Lastly, I'd like to give a shout out and a huge thank you to our Information Technology team for your hard work. You are all amazing and we are so grateful for the work you do!

As always, we thank you for your time and support. Have a good evening.