

♥ Classified Senate Board Meeting Report February 2026 ♥

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 missed the January Board meeting, but want to be sure to congratulate Chloe Anthony, Grounds Maintenance Technician I, as January employee of the month. I see Chloe around the SR Campus, working hard on our beautiful landscaping, and she always greets me with a warm smile and hello. I'd like to give a special thank you for her work in re-landscaping the Heritage Plaza. This is our Classified recognition area, and it means a lot to us to have it regularly cared for. Thank you, Chloe, for all you do to keep our campus beautiful and thriving.

Congratulations to Farrel Dobbins, Coordinator, Veteran's Affairs, as February Employee of the Month! Farrel's professionalism, integrity, and unwavering dedication to serving our military-connected students and their families make a lasting impact. She leads with care, accountability, and a genuine commitment to student success, creating a welcoming environment in the Veterans Success Center where students truly feel they belong. Thank you Farrel, for all you do for our vets.

This week, we're celebrating Friendship Week by honoring our Classified Professional and Confidential colleagues with a small token of appreciation this week.

In addition, we will be holding an event for our Classified and Confidential friends, this Thursday, the 19th, providing coffee, tea, and tasty treats as we celebrate all they do for our bear cubs.

In the spirit of friendship, we like to encourage everyone to reach out and make new friends across our campuses. Introduce yourself to a new colleague or meet up with that person you only talk to on email.

These connections and events like Friendship Week are crucial to bring us together, introduce new colleagues to our campus, revisit our friends, and strengthen our sense of community.

We have launched our Secret Pal program for the Spring Semester. For nearly 15 years, this program has helped our community connect through small gestures of kindness, thoughtful notes, and words of encouragement.

Time and again, it strengthened our bonds, closed the gaps between us and reminded us that we are stronger when we care for one another. A shout out to Maria Banachowicz on the Petaluma campus for keeping the Secret Pal Program thriving and fun!

Our Spring See's Candy fundraiser was released today, for my chocolate loving friends. Check your email for ordering information. As always, we appreciate your support and love, in turn, supporting your chocolate habits!

Our Caring Campus pillar was happy to report; we served a total of 1681 bear cubs on the Santa Rosa Campus during our Welcome Days, on the first three days of the semester. Several wayfinding welcome tables were set up across campus, providing directions, information, and refreshments. This number shows what an amazing impact these tables make for our cubs "Learning Their Way."

The Senate is accepting nominations for our open positions of President, Communication Officer, Community Outreach Pillar Lead, DEIAAJ Pillar Lead and Caring Campus Pillar Lead. We will be accepting nominations through February 20th. This is a great opportunity to get involved with shared governance and support our community. I will be throwing my name in the hat and hope to continue serving my community.

As a reminder, our new regular Senate meeting day is the second Tuesday of the month from 2:30-4:00. We will meet in Doyle Library, room 141 for the entirety of the spring semester.

We had our first meeting last month at the new time and location. The change proved to be beneficial, as the new date and time fit better with our various schedules. It was wonderful to have so many in the room and present. And I want to send a special thank you and welcome to the eight guests that attended by Zoom! I think that is a record breaker for the Classified Senate!! So happy to have the support and confirmation our outreach is working! Yay!

As always, my friends, thank you for your time and support. Happy New Year!