



Classified Senate Board Meeting Report March 2025

Good evening, President Chabaan, Board of Trustees, Dr. Garcia, and college community. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Classified Senate.

Congratulations to Maria Padilla as March Employee of the Month! I had the pleasure of working directly with Maria in Human Resources, before her move to Petaluma. Maria was great to work with, funny, smart, and always willing to help. Maria has soared since moving to Petaluma and I know she is a valuable member of the Petaluma team making a positive impact on the campus, the students, and her colleagues.

Voting has closed on our open Senate seats. I am excited it was announced today, I was re-elected for President, along with Stacey K, as our Caring Campus Pillar Lead. We are following up with the write-in votes and will be releasing the full Senate soon. We are excited for the year ahead.

I am pleased to announce ticket sales have opened and an email has been sent for our annual Raoul Yriberri Memorial Classified Professional Recognition Awards Dinner and Silent Auction, scheduled for Friday, April 10, 2026. This year's theme is ROOTED IN SERVICE, STRONGER TOGETHER – A BEAR CUB CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY.

This theme recognizes the collaboration, connections, and shared commitment that define our work in supporting students, colleagues, and the broader college community. Service is the foundation of all we do, and this year we celebrate the strength that comes from being united as a community in service.

We are super excited to announce a very special guest will be joining us at the dinner... our beloved bear cub mascot, Rosco! We are so excited that he will stop by to celebrate with us!

At the dinner we will present our Classified Professional Recognition awards and our Pat Tognozzi Student Scholarship.

We will recognize the Above and Beyond Award selected by the Management Team and Outstanding Classified Staff Member selected by the Academic Senate.

This year we have a new EOPS Sankofa Leadership Award, which honors the legacy of Wanda Bynum, presented by the EOPS department. The word Sankofa is from the Akan tribe of Ghana that loosely translated to "go back and get it." Sankofa is a phrase that encourages learning from the past to inform the future, reaching back to move forward, and lifting as we climb. Wanda was the Coordinator, EOPS/Care Program, and is the embodiment of the Sankofa principle.

This award will be given to an SRJC Classified Professional who is a leader, an advocate, and who has a strong commitment to supporting the advancement of the black community within SRJC.

As a new addition to this year's program, we will proudly recognize the dedication of our Classified Professionals through the presentation of longevity pins, honoring those who have achieved 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of service to our organization.

The evening will be a great way to showcase the amazing work and commitment our colleagues give every day. We look forward to celebrating them.

We are accepting donations for our silent auction. This is always a great display of the range of talents and generosity our community has. And always an amazing change to find wonderful and creative items! Please reach out to me if you have items to donate.

Please check your emails for event announcements and donation requests. Don't miss out on this amazing evening!

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