

# FACCC



## ADVOCACY & POLICY CONFERENCE

Equity-Driven Leadership:

Empowering Faculty and Students in Community Colleges

**Congratulations FACCC Award Winners!**



February 23-24, 2025

Sheraton Grand Hotel | Sacramento





## Welcome to the 2025 FACCC Advocacy & Policy Conference!

As I look out at this gathering of passionate educators and advocates, I am filled with a sense of hope and determination. Each of you brings a unique perspective and a shared commitment to the success and well-being of our students. In a time when many of our most vulnerable students have been negatively impacted by recent national governmental policies and rhetoric targeting immigrants, LGBTQ+ individuals, and diversity efforts, your presence here today highlights the urgent need for a more informed and engaged citizenry.

The past decades have laid bare the deep-rooted inequities in our society and the challenges faced by our students and institutions. As educators, we have a unique responsibility to address these issues head-on. From students struggling with food and housing insecurity to those facing discrimination and systemic barriers, we have witnessed firsthand the urgent need for change. We must recognize that recent policy mandates focusing primarily on arbitrary student success and accountability have unintentionally limited our ability to serve the diverse needs of our students and communities. By narrowing our focus to these metrics rather than on holistic student learning and growth, we risk excluding the very people our colleges vow to empower.

The consequences of these changes are far-reaching. Since 2008, California's community colleges have lost over 1 million students, a staggering number that represents countless crushed dreams, decimated communities, and a loss of socioeconomic mobility. It is becoming increasingly clear that these losses are rooted in policies that fail to meet students where they are, compounded by a citizenry that is often disengaged from the political process and casting ill-informed votes for people who benefit from an uneducated working class. In this political climate, access to higher education to help people develop their critical thinking skills and understand the importance of civic engagement and voting has never been more important. Education is a public good critical to the health of our democracy.

As faculty, we have the power to shape the future of our institutions and the lives of our students. We must question the effectiveness of current policies and advocate for changes that better align with our mission to provide an accessible and comprehensive education to all. We must engage in constructive dialogue, explore innovative approaches, and unite our voices to demand public investment in the varied goals of our students, removing the barriers they face in accessing higher education.

Throughout this conference, I encourage you to consider how we can transform our community colleges into centers of lifelong learning, support, and civic engagement. Let us work together to reclaim the community in community colleges, fostering an environment that not only provides academic instruction but also cultivates an informed and engaged citizenry.

I challenge each of you to take the insights and strategies gained from this conference back to your own institutions and communities. Share what you've learned with your colleagues, students, and local leaders. Build coalitions of advocates dedicated to creating a more equitable and just education system that truly serves the needs of our diverse student populations.

Together, we have the power to shape policy, transform mindsets, and write a new chapter for California's community colleges grounded in humanity, care, and true equity. United by our commitment to our students and our belief in the transformative power of education, we are ready to counter exclusion with action. Let us leave this conference inspired, energized, and ready to create lasting change. Together, we can build a brighter, more equitable future for all.

With gratitude,

Wendy Brill-Wynkoop  
President, Faculty Association of California Community Colleges

## Room: Magnolia

Sunday, February 23

10:00 - 10:15 a.m.

Welcome | Wendy Brill-Wynkoop, President, FACCC

10:15 - 11:30 a.m.

Keynote | Dr. Cecilia Rios-Aguilar, Professor of Education, UCLA

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch

12:30 - 12:45 p.m.

Annual Meeting | Wendy Brill-Wynkoop, President, FACCC

12:45 - 2:00 p.m.

General Session | Educate Support, Protect And Empower

*Panel: Rowena Tomaneng, Deputy Chancellor, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office; Dr. Natalina Monteiro, Professor, African American, Women and Gender Studies; Ivan Hernandez, President, Student Senate for California Community Colleges; James Nguyen, Vice President, Faculty Association of Foothill-De Anza Community College District; Heather Brandt, Student Trustee, City College of San Francisco; Robin Daniels, Filmmaker and Professor, Santa Monica College*

In the wake of the 2024 national election, leaders within the California Community Colleges must confront threats to our students, workers and community members. With powerful resources to educate, support, protect and empower we can help our constituents face this moment with power, intelligence and courage. Strategic use of these resources in and out of the classroom will increase our chances of success as we strive not just to defend the status quo, but also to build towards a truly just, sustainable and democratic society. This panel of skilled and experienced leaders representing key constituent groups will share their insights and plans to organize and grow through this period of crisis.

2:00 - 2:10 p.m.

Break

2:10 - 3:20 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions 1 | Choose A, B or C

### A. Students Left Behind: Whom Does the Chancellor's Office Serve | Room: Bataglieri

*Presenters: FACCC Policy Committee Members*

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) states its mission as "putting students first." However, recent shifts in policy and priorities have raised questions about whether all students are truly being served. Changes influenced by its relationship with external organizations and evolving institutional goals have altered the focus of the CCCCCO, impacting equity and access for many in our communities. While these policies are often framed as efforts to expand opportunity, their outcomes sometimes tell a different story—leaving some students behind. Join us for a collaborative discussion on how to work together to refocus our system's mission on serving all students and strengthen our commitment to educational access.

### B. Unified Faculty Series: Academic Freedom | Room: Beavis

*Presenters: Linda Sneed, Vice-President, CFT; Stephanie Curry, Secretary, ASCCC; Jacob Traugott, Governor, FACCC*

Objectives of this session include creative examples of academic freedom issues of the past year and since the election, strategizing for how to frame the conversation going forward, and how an equity approach in leadership must include academic freedom and parity between part-time faculty and their full-time colleagues.

### C. AB 1705: A Policy Path to Meeting Students Where They Are | Room: Compagno

*Presenters: Anna Mathews, Government Relations Director, FACCC; Jacob Roe, PAC Student Coordinator, FACCC*

Restoring access to stand-alone foundational pre-transfer courses is FACCC's top legislative priority for the upcoming session—and we need your support to make it happen. Learn about FACCC's political strategy to address AB 1705, gain skills to advocate effectively in meetings with legislators and build coalitions on your campus to support this critical movement.

## Sunday, February 25

3:20 - 3:30 p.m.

Break

3:30 - 4:40 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions 2 | Choose A, B or C

### A. Understanding Community College Reserves - How Much is “Too Much” | Room: Bataglieri

*Presenter: Sarah Thompson, Vice-President, FACCC*

In this session we will discuss how community college reserves are reported, their upward trend over the past 15 years, the role of the SCFF in reserves rising, as well as how to evaluate your district’s reserve levels.

### B. Amplifying Voices: Empowering Student Advocates for Change | Room: Beavis

*Presenters: Student Senate for California Community Colleges Leaders*

Ready to turn your passion into action? This workshop will equip you with the skills to become a powerful student advocate. Learn how to craft compelling messages, overcome obstacles, and leverage social media to amplify your voice. Through interactive case studies and real-world scenarios, you'll gain hands-on experience in advocacy strategies that work. Walk away with a personalized action plan to make a real impact on your campus and beyond!

### C. We Need You! Be the Next Faculty Leader | Room: Compagno

*Presenters: Wendy Brill-Wynkoop, President, FACCC; Emily Haraldson, Past-President, Glendale College Guild, AFT-2276; April Bracamontes, Local Senate President; Dolores Davison, Past-President, ASCCC; Kim Perigo, Past Board of Governors; Moderator: Julie Bruno, Past-President, ASCCC*

A strong faculty voice is integral in shaping the direction of the California Community Colleges. Faculty are key to ensuring the California Community College system understands the practical impact of initiatives and educational trends (e.g. student success metrics, student retention, persistence, and closing equity gaps). Further, faculty have the unique quality of possessing a long-term institutional memory not found in many other groups within the California Community College system. Learn more about state and local leadership seats that need your participation! Help to strengthen the faculty voice across the state! This panel features current and former faculty leaders from across the California Community College system.

4:40 - 5:00 p.m.

Break

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions 3 | Choose A or B

### A. Faculty Awards | Room: Magnolia

- Dean Murakami Advocate of the Year Award | Cynthia Mahabir, Laney College
- Emancipation Through Education Award | Isabel Reichert, Ohlone College
- Jonathan Lightman FACCCtivist Award | David Fouquet, Chabot College
- John Vasconcellos Faculty of the Year Award | René Lozano, El Camino College

### B. Future Leaders Connect: California Community College Students Networking Session | Room: Beavis

*Presenter: Ivan Hernandez, President, Student Senate for California Community Colleges*

Your network is your power! Join this student-only networking session hosted by the Student Senate for California Community Colleges and connect with fellow California community college leaders who share your passion for change. Whether you're looking to collaborate on initiatives, exchange ideas, or build lasting professional relationships, this is your chance to meet like-minded peers from across the state. Don't miss this opportunity to expand your circle, strengthen your advocacy network, and take your leadership journey to the next level!

**Room: Magnolia**

**Monday, February 26**

**8:30 a.m.**

Breakfast

**9:20 - 9:30 a.m.**

Welcome | Oranit Limmaneeprasert, President-Elect, FACCC

**9:30 - 10:45 a.m.**

Legislative Awards | Andrew Aleman, PAC Faculty Coordinator, FACCC

Legislator of the Year Award

- Senator Sabrina Cervantes

Legislative Staff of the Year Award

- Ellen Cesaretti-Monroy, Assembly Committee on Higher Education

FACCC PAC Champion

- Senator Lena Gonzalez

**10:45 - 11:15 a.m.**

Talking Points for Legislative Visits | Wendy Brill-Wynkoop | President, FACCC

**11:15 - 11:30 a.m.**

Closing Remarks | Wendy Brill-Wynkoop | President, FACCC

**Thank you for coming!**

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude for attending the Advocacy & Policy Conference.

See you next year!

# THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

Chabot-Las Positas Faculty Association

College of the Desert Faculty Association

College of the Redwoods Faculty Association

Foothill-De Anza Faculty Association

Los Angeles College Faculty Guild

Mendocino College Federation of Teachers

Pension2

Santa Barbara Faculty Association

Santa Monica College Faculty Association

All Faculty Association of Santa Rosa Junior College

Student Senate for California Community Colleges

United Faculty of the Contra Costa Community College District



