



MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Classified Senate of San Diego Continuing Education

Tuesday, June 17th, 2025, at 2:00 PM • Via ZOOM

Present: Esther Anthony Thomas, Jennifer Bennett, Trenton Romero, Cynthia Giammarinaro, Neill Kovrig, Patty Lopez, Tammy Krasne, Rita Shamoon, Zuri Williams, Damella Abbott, Taya Simone, and Carla Yumul.

Absent:

I. MEETING WAS CALLED INTO ORDER AT 2:00 PM

A. Approval of the Agenda: The Agenda was approved.

B. Approval of the Minutes:

II. STANDING ITEMS

A. President's Report – President Dr. Esther Anthony-Thomas informed the committee that the *Governor's Handbook for Classified Senate* has been updated and submitted to Dean of Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness, Jessica Luedtke. One of the key updates includes the addition of new senator positions to ensure representation from all SDCCE campuses.

i. Dr. Anthony-Thomas warmly welcomed the newly appointed senators and Executive Council members.

- **Taya Simone** will represent Administrative Student Services.
- **Danielle Williams** will serve as the Mid-City campus senator.

ii. Certificates of Appreciation: Dr. Anthony-Thomas expressed her desire to recognize and celebrate several outstanding senators. She proposed presenting certificates of appreciation at Convocation or a special event where contributions can be acknowledged meaningfully.

iii. Classified Retreat: Senator Carla Yumul proposed organizing a Classified Senate retreat to celebrate current and new senators. President Anthony-Thomas enthusiastically supported the idea, which was included as an agenda item.

-Esther suggested The Province House at Rohr Park as a retreat location, highlighting its full kitchen and pet-friendly environment. She also recommended inviting SDCCD Board of Trustees members to attend and participate in the recognition ceremony.

iv. Fundraising: A fundraising proposal for Convocation was discussed.

- Neill Kovrig will coordinate the event upon his return in July.

- Carla Yumul emphasized cost-effective ideas to maximize profits.
- Neill also suggested that, if successful, the funds could partially support a Classified Professional pursuing continued education.

- v. **Excellence in Classified Professionals:** Dr. Anthony-Thomas expressed the importance of recognizing Classified Professionals who participated in the 2017 ERP group, acknowledging their past efforts and the need to ensure they feel seen and valued. Carla Yumul agreed and recommended inviting more Classified Professionals to join the Hype Squad next year to create a more inclusive and welcoming atmosphere.
- vi. **STAR Conference Debriefing:** Several highlights and suggestions were shared regarding the recent STAR Conference:
 - **Agenda Clarity:** Some attendees were confused about the breakfast and presentation schedule. Carla Yumul suggested improving the agenda format.
 - **Classified Presenters:** Carla recommended having a Classified Professional present annually to increase relatability and engagement.
 - **Presentation Highlights:** VP Jacqueline Sabanos and Michael Escalona's sessions received positive feedback.
 - **Writing Workshop:** Neill praised the engaging, wellness-focused workshop and overall event success.
 - **Decor and Student Involvement:** Patty Lopez noted that hosting the event at a new campus, with fresh flowers and a Classified presenter, felt like a dream come true. She thanked Dr. Anthony-Thomas and Trenton Romero for their support.
 - **Team Bonding:** Carla highlighted how decorating together created bonding moments and allowed for student work to be showcased meaningfully.
- vii. **Cards for Mitza:** Dr. Anthony-Thomas is collecting "Get Well Soon" messages for Treasurer Mitza Lindsey. She invited members to write a short note on a 3x5 card to be delivered with fresh flowers as Mitza recovers from surgery.
- viii. **Workspace Standards Resolution:** President Anthony-Thomas raised a concern regarding workspace accessibility for individuals with different body sizes and disabilities.
 - Yvonne suggested creating a resolution to ensure all Classified Professionals have appropriate and inclusive workspaces.
- ix. **Performance Feedback:** Esther proposed distributing a brief survey to gain feedback on the Senate's performance and leadership. This would allow for reflection, growth, and continuous improvement.

B. Vice President's Report- Trenton Romero requested feedback for selecting a date for the next STAR Conference.

Initial consensus: June and Thursday worked well this year.

Concerns: Tammy mentioned avoiding the three-week Student Services peak period.

Suggestions: Carla and Jennifer Bennett liked the post-commencement timing, calling it a well-deserved treat.

Neill noted next year's commencement is set for **June 2, 2026**.

Trenton will review the academic calendar and follow up with a proposed date.

III. BUSINESS FOR CONSENT/ACTION

IV. ROUNDTABLE

A. Ceramic Fundraiser Report

Carla Yumul shared final figures:

- **Total Sales:** \$603.00
- **Ceramics Program Cost:** \$170.50
- **Flower Expenses:** \$240.85
- **Remaining Funds for Classified Scholarship:** \$183.65

Carla proposed rounding the ceramics payment up to **\$200** as a gesture of appreciation. Dr. Anthony-Thomas suggested waiting for Treasurer Mitza Lindsey's return before finalizing the decision.

IV. REPORTS and INFORMATION ITEM-

VI. ADJOURNMENT at 3:09 pm