

What will distinguish your upcoming term as a member of the community college board from prior terms and board members? *

I earned my first AA *General Studies* degree at City College of San Francisco (CCSF) in Spring of 1991 before transferring to SF State and earned my latest AA degree in *Critical Middle Eastern Studies* while retired Fall of 2021. In between 1991 and 2021, 30 years, I worked for 17 years at City College of San Francisco beginning as part-timer and retiring as a tenured full-timer. Additionally, while working as part-time Counselor at CCSF I worked full-time at San Francisco State University as an Academic Counselor for 10 years, working with many CCSF transfer students.

That being said, being elected to the City College of San Francisco (CCSF) Board of Trustees this coming November, as a former student, Academic/Career Counselor and lastly as Chair of Educational Opportunity & Services (EOP&S) – a counseling program for low income, disadvantaged students, before retiring in at the end the spring 2021 semester, I would be bring a perspective (lens) unequal to any of the current incumbents and candidates, since I'm very familiar with the inner workings of City College. While I have witnessed many amazing successes and triumphs with students from EOP&S overcoming, at times several barriers at one time, I've also seen and experienced student's frustrations, discouragement and fear with the many crises at CCSF including the accreditation crisis, class registration issues, cutting of classes and most recently the budget/lay-off issues.

What do you think the problems are with the board and with City College? How will you address them? *

First, from my perspective, historically, many Board of Trustees members, while some have done some good work, e.g. former Trustee Tom Temprano was instrumental in the creation of the Dream Center at CCSF, are not fully vested in CCSF and have used this position as a stepping stone to other political positions (e.g. supervisor). Additionally,

many do not have the history at CCSF to give members a strong understanding of the innerworkings of CCSF (e.g. a registration system that would at times crash during priority registration) a perspective that I would bring to the table as a former chair, counselor and student. Second, to many, the trustees have appeared to rubberstamp many of the chancellor's proposed policies, for example, the devastating lay-offs that occurred in May 2022 of full-time and part-time faculty and classified staff in the last year. In total, 38 full-time faculty members were laid off in addition to 12 full-timers that retired or left on their own term equating to 50 full-time positions. Moreover, over 200 part-timers positions were let go, a staggering number. Consequently, without instructors, classes and sections are eliminated.

Specifically, regarding the budget deficit, the administration reported a \$7 million dollar deficit, however, the union, AFT2121 countered with a budget scenario/analysis that the board and administration did not take into account. This coming at a time that the State of California and the City of San Francisco reported having a surplus of money, it simply doesn't add up. Sadly, but realistically, it is in my and several other's view that with all the crises from the last 10 years, beginning with the accreditation crisis, it is part of the plan to downsize the school from a Community College, that has served many different communities to a junior college which puts the focus on students earning degrees, certificates and/or transferring to 4 year institutions.

Being a board, I would work diligently with other board members to make sound decisions on what's best for, most importantly, the students, classified workers and faculty. I would also meet with the different divisions at CCSF to hear their perspectives, concerns, and fears as CCSF moves forward. It is vital that board members listen to the CCSF communities.

What are your thoughts on the SF WERCS (CCSF funding) ballot measure, and will you support or oppose it? Will you be actively involved in your support/opposition? *

I fully support the SF WERCS parcel tax ballot measure, a measure that is projected to generate \$45 million dollars for classes, instructors and wrap-around services. To show my supprt of the measure I participated in gathering signatures, obtaining signatures from friends, family and strangers in Noe Valley, the Fillmore and the Mission. While we received 20,000 signatures to place the measure on the ballot, I did run into some older native San Franciscan, such as myself, who remember previous taxes and bonds approved for CCSF (e.g. bond for new Theater Arts Building) and from their perspectives there isn't much to show for, especially with the state of the art Theater Arts Building that was never built, it was difficult to argue against the fiscal mismanangement that has occurred at CCSF over the years, which in part, put CCSF in the situation it is in today.

What programs will you prioritize to assure that CCSF continues to serve the community? *

Areas that requires everyone's attention is increasing enrollement, preventing further lay-offs, rehiring faculty to add sections e.g. English 1A and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, working Adult program, Art classes that serves all the different communities that CCSF has historically served.

Equally important, as a Career Counselor for 8 years and Academic counselor for 12 years at CCSF, I am in full support of all the services required to assist students in reaching their academic goals including resource centers that students visit for moral, emotional and physical support. While many students may not need all the services that CCSF has offered, many students including first generation, English language learners, LGBTQ, re-entry students, students formerly incarcerated, foster youth, Veterans etc, the services are vital to students success.

It is with these afromentioned students that I worked with in EOPS for eight years. As a trustee I would work hard to ensure that all the wrap-around remain and are fully staffed. For example, a program that I would like to see expand that once thrived while it was housed in EOP&S is the *Second Chance* program, a program for formerly

incarcerated students. As a result of the increase with the number of Second Chance students, the program was removed from EOP&S and eventually housed under a new name, *New Directions* and in a different counseling department, however, it no longer offered all the services at the capacity that it once did including a 1-unit Psychology class, a Summerbridge course and able to meet any counselor in EOPS and other counseling departments. I recently had a conversation with SF State's Project Rebound, also a program for formerly incarcerated, in which they stated that they have not sent students to CCSF, that would be better served at CCSF, because of our lack of response and services.