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[Organized Kindness](#)



Learn more about the CCA
< President, Dián Dolores
Hasson, [here](#).

Organized Kindness

Knowing that term limits end my tenure as CCA president on July 1, one member of the Chancellor's Consultation Council stated, "Well, Dián, I bet you know lots of horror stories about CCA/CTA after four years serving as president of CCA."

My reply was quick, "No, I am prouder of my membership in CCA/CTA than I was when I started my first term. And that is saying something!"

Although, my statement did not surprise me, I am surprised by the intensity of my feelings. Upon reflection, I am reminded of the saying that "one should perform random acts of kindness." Well, CCA/CTA does perform organized acts of kindness from the relatively small scale to the grand.



For example, the people in the picture are members of CTA's César Chávez Awards Committee. We are holding a visual arts submission from a Merced Community College student. Both the teacher and the student will receive \$500 in recognition of the student's work representing the ideals and work of a great man, César Chávez. As important as these awards are, they are relatively small in comparison to the many other deeds of CCA/CTA.

In the November election, we passed the largest facilities bond in California's history. It was CCA/CTA who insisted community colleges receive 40% of the funds for higher education facilities, breaking with the traditional one third split. It was CCA/CTA who insisted the legislature pass two phases for our facilities bond, meaning we will see a second facilities bond in 2004—again with community colleges receiving 40% of the funds for higher education. It was CCA/CTA who spent close to three million dollars to get the bond passed while another faculty association bought bumper stickers and another promised \$100,000 to the "yes" campaign and then didn't deliver.

Yes, I am proud to be a member of CCA/CTA. But some people ask, "That win was in November. What have you done for me lately?" If you saw the mid-year State budget cuts, then you know that the system was able to protect ourselves from much of what the governor proposed. We saved our general apportionment, and the historically underrepresented groups such as EOPS, DSPS, Fund for Student Success and the three budget items for part-time faculty. That's right. Part-time faculty have been historically underrepresented and CCA/CTA would not allow these funds to suffer the budget cuts proposed by the governor. CCA Vice President, Rachel Maldonado Aziminia, and I made a good team, arguing against the governor's cuts. CCA/CTA won!

Now we are working on the 2003-04 budget. We realize that the State's deficit is growing daily; yet, we also know that even when hard choices need to be made, the choices we make are important. Will we allow EOPS and DSPS to be cut by 45% or more, as proposed by the governor? NO.

Moreover, CCA/CTA will change the political system if the Budget Accountability Act is passed in 2004. It will change the vote needed to pass the State budget from 67% to 55%, making it easier to pass a budget on time and provide the funding needed for K-14 education.

In April, CCA delegates elected a new leadership team for CCA who will carry on our work on budget matters. Cathy Crane-McCoy from Long Beach City College is the local chapter president of one of the largest bargaining chapters in CCA. The delegates hold her in such high regard that she won the CCA presidency with over two thirds of the vote!


Judith Mandel founded the College of the Desert Adjunct faculty bargaining unit and has served as Part-time Faculty Director on the CCA Board for a number of years. Whenever I, or another officer, could not attend a meeting it was Judith I called upon. That is how much respect I have for her. She is our newly elected vice president.

Cathy Crane-McCoy and Judith Mandel will serve with Jan McKissick, CCA Treasurer, who is not only a personal friend but also the fastest processor of reimbursement forms to date. From the newly elected CCA Board to the local chapter leaders such as Ron Reel of Mount San Antonio College, CCA faculty are well represented.

And where do I go from here? I will serve as CCA past president during the next academic year and will run for the CTA seat reserved for higher education. The current holder of this seat, Ann Shadwick, will be a hard person to follow since she has and will continue to do great work. No one could represent us better but I will try, if elected, to live up to her high standards.

Why run for another seat in CCA/CTA? I enjoy performing acts of organized kindness.

Any questions? Call the CCA office at 916/726-4207.

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