

# President's Monthly Message

## NEWS FROM THE FRONT

- updated **November 7, 2007**



< **Learn more** about the CCA President, Ron Norton Reel, [here](#).

### November 7, 2007

#### **Southwestern College:**

##### **Faculty Vote 6 to 1 to Stay with CCA/CTA/NEA**

A few independent faculty members at Southwestern College lost in their attempt to take the Southwestern College Faculty Association out of the hands of CCA/CTA/NEA. The faculty voted overwhelmingly to stay a CTA affiliate. CCA/CTA received 431 votes while those wanting new representation with no ties to a statewide organization with power received 76 votes. Only 17 faculty members voted for no representation. The current faculty leadership, under the direction of Janet Mazzarella, and the CTA Organizing team, under the direction of Tim Hill, worked with CCA/CTA Staff Consultant Marianne Reynolds to highlight all that CTA offers Southwestern College over any other organization. Great work!

#### **MiraCosta College:**

##### **Faculty Association Negotiates a Place on the Presidential Search Committee**

CCA Chapter President Al Nyman reported that our union representing the part-time faculty teaching at MiraCosta College will have two members on the Presidential Search Committee. This will be the first time part-time faculty members have been permitted to serve on such a high level district-wide search. The MiraCosta district administrators and CCA are working hard to ensure both sides are represented fairly on all matters concerning working conditions and issues facing student learning.

#### **College of the Desert:**

##### **CTA President David Sanchez and CCA President Ron Norton Reel Visit**

October 25, 2007 was the first of many visitations planned to the community college faculty by both President Sanchez and President Reel. A large room full of people, including full-time college faculty, part-time college faculty, local high school teachers, College of the Desert administrators including President Jerry R. Patton, CCA Part-time Faculty Director Pamela Hanford, CCA District Director David Milroy, and CTA Board Member Mikki Cichocki, were on hand to hear exciting news regarding statewide and national implications for CTA members. President Sanchez and President Reel want to visit at least one CCA community college campus each month. If you would like a visit, contact CCA President Ron Norton Reel at HYPERLINK "mailto:ronnortonreel@aol.com" ronnortonreel@aol.com.

#### **Lassen College:**

##### **Signed Two Memoranda of Understanding with District**

A Memoranda of Understanding regarding an athletic Director moving from a management position to faculty was signed. An additional Memoranda of Understanding was reached on accreditation chair stipends and released time. CCA/CTA Staff Consultant Alan Frey is always available to chapters seeking assistance.

#### **College of the Canyons:**

##### **Faculty Association is Protecting Members**

Six different grievances have been filed on behalf of faculty for unilateral decisions made by the district. CCA/CTA Staff Consultant Robin Devitt works hard to make sure the interests of all faculty members are respected.

#### **Rio Hondo College:**

##### **Faculty Association is Preparing for BOT Race**

The Rio Hondo Faculty Association is working hard to oust an incumbent board member. Faculty volunteers are signing postcards, fundraising, precinct walking, and phone banking. Don't be surprised if you hear or see one of them.

#### **Kern:**

##### **Files Unfair Labor Practice Charge Against the District**

CTA Legal Attorney Michael Hersch has filed an Unfair Labor Practice charge against the district for a unilateral change in wages regarding a bookstore issue.

#### **Barstow College:**

##### **Standing Firm for a 14% Raise**

Barstow College Faculty Association is negotiating a successor contract. The association is holding firm on 14% at this time. They are currently only 2% away from the district who has moved from 2% to 12%.

#### **Copper Mountain:**

##### **Chapter Puts a Hold on District Grant for not Consulting with Them**

The district applied for, and received, the Chancellor's office "New Nursing Grant." Once it arrived, the association demanded to bargain the funds. They are using this issue to help the district

understand it is wiser to keep the union in the loop during the initial application period rather than after the fact when negotiable issues are included.

***Palo Verde College:***

**Faculty Association Seeks Training from CTA Instead of the District**

The Palo Verde Faculty Association has requested that CTA legal department provide sexual harassment training for faculty instead of using district trainers.

***Victor Valley:***

**Association Wins Grievance**

The Victor Valley Faculty Association prevailed in a grievance regarding class assignments.

***Hartnell:***

**Election Results Verified by CTA**

The Hartnell election results concerning chapter leadership was challenged. CTA Elections Challenging Process and Team examined the validity of the challenge. The committee even recounted the ballots. The end result was total support of the integrity of the process and confirmed the results as reported by the chapter. CCA/CTA Staff Consultant Diana Fernandes Lisi has been a stable resource for this chapter.

**CTA Dues Will Be Less Next Year**

This is the third and final year of the \$60 Debt Reduction and Fund Balance Restoration Fee imposed by CTA during the time Governor Arnold Swartzenegger brought three state initiatives that would have destroyed union power within the state. The dues will be reduced \$60.

**COCAL VIII Going To San Diego**

The Coalition of Contingent Academic Labor (COCAL) is going to be held August 8-10, 2008, in San Diego. CCA pledged \$2,500 upfront cost funds. CCA also agreed to fund at least ten part-time faculty members to attend the conference. COCAL is an international organization whose purpose is to facilitate contingent faculty organizing in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

**CCA Part-time Faculty Director Pamela Hanford will be published in the Chronicle of Higher Education**

Pamela will have her letter to the editor published in the November 23, 2007 issue. It will be available online November 17, 2007. It addresses how student outcomes are affected by the overuse of part-time faculty in California Community Colleges. Congratulations Pamela!

**CCA Ethnic Minority Director is Making Inroads with Local Chapters**

CCA Ethnic Minority Director, Phyllis Hall, has been seeking information regarding chapter representation. She currently has received information back from about one-third of the chapter presidents. Please respond to her requests at [HYPERLINK "mailto:ccait07@msn.com" ccait07@msn.com](mailto:ccait07@msn.com).

**Newest CCA Chapter at Grossmont College Spotlited At District Gala**

Local CCA Chapter President Raul Sandelin, CCA District Director David Milroy, Vice President Lynette Nyaggah, and CCA President Ron Norton Reel were highlighted at the October 20, 2007, district fundraiser. Grossmont College President Dr. Sunita V. Cooke and Grossmont Vice President Ben Lastimado thanked CCA for sponsoring a table and contributing to the district-wide event helping students.

**CCA Members Attend FACCC (Faculty Association California Community Colleges) Conference**

CCA members participated and presented at the October 19-20, 2007, FACCC Conference held in Pasadena, California. Members attending included Vice President Lynette Nyaggah, District Directors Gil Puga Jr., John Sullivan, David Milroy, and Bill Hewitt (FACCC President). CCA President Ron Norton Reel participated in a break-out session regarding the Council of Faculty Organizations (CoFO). CCA members used some of their time explaining how CCA chapter colleges were working hard on behalf of Proposition 92.

**Student CTA (SCTA) Has Conference for Potential Teachers**

Student CTA, under the leadership and direction of current President Vielka Elvebak, held their Fall Leadership Conference November 3-4, 2007, in Newport Beach, California. CCA President Ron Norton Reel was a conference presenter with his session entitled, "Creating a Resume That Will Get You An Interview." Over 150 student CTA members took part in the special event.

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

