



Career Education (CE) Committee

Tuesday, May 19, 2026
Loft - Drescher Hall and Zoom
1:00 - 2:15pm

In person: Rebecca Agonafir Javier Cambron, Ruth Casillas, Victoria Charles, Sheila Cordova, Gillian Grebler, David Hall, Jo Hao, Maria Leon-Vazquez, Lisa Lewenberg, Dana Nasser, Debbie Perret, Redelia Shaw, Steven Sedky.

Zoom: A.J Adelman, Drew Davis, Rachel Demski, Mario Franco, Jennifer Hsieh, Sasha King, Jenny Landa, Karol Lu, Kas Metzler, Sharyn Obsatz, Howard Stahl, Davis Vo, Josh Withers.

Call to Order: 1:03pm

Public Comments and Announcements:

June 11th [Center for Media & Design Student Showcase](#) 5 – 9pm

June 13th [Annual SMC Student Photography Exhibit](#) 6 – 8pm at the Broad Stage.

Reports:

Chair: Debbie Perret

Debbie welcomed everyone on zoom and in person, and expressed that it has been wonderful chairing the committee this year.

Vice Chair: Steven Sedky

Steven announced that the CE retreat will be held on June 2nd at the CMD and great updates and information will be shared.

Approval of Minutes May 5, 2026

Dana Nasser motioned to approve the May 5, 2026 minutes. Sheila Cordova second. All were in favor, and there were no abstentions, and no oppositions.

Information and Discussion Items

SOAR Academy, Kas Metzler

Kas Metzler, along with colleagues from Glendale Community College, received an 18-month California Learning Lab grant to build the SOAR AI project, a professional development initiative helping faculty explore and integrate AI tools into their teaching. The project included a self-paced Canvas Academy, one-on-one coaching, and an AI mentorship program, culminating in nearly 40 faculty presenting their AI projects on May 30th to the participating group. Moving forward, SMC is looking to sustain the momentum through regional funding for CTE faculty



professional development and early discussions around forming a dedicated AI community of practice.

[After The Fires: Student Voice in Motion](#), SMC & High Schools, Maria Leon-Vasquez, Redelia Shaw

On April 10th, SMC hosted (at the Center for Media & Design) "After the Fire: Student Voices in Motion," a collaborative one-day media production event bringing together students from Pacific Palisades Charter and Venice High Schools to create mini-documentaries, podcasts, and public service announcements centered on themes of resilience and community healing following the LA fires. Grounded in trauma-informed practices, students worked in mixed-school groups and produced 11 projects using audio, video, and photography, with many participating seniors expressing interest in enrolling at SMC. An exhibition of the projects will be featured at the June 11th Student Exhibition Showcase at the CMD.

[Veterans Success Center](#), Kevin Benitez

N/A

[LARC CTE Faculty: Industry to Classroom Onboarding Webinar Series](#), Lisa Lewenberg

The LARC CTE Faculty Academy is a regional project involving 16 colleges designed to support new Career Technical Education (CTE) faculty, many of them are industry experts with little to no teaching experience. The CTE Faculty Academy provides new CTE Faculty with resources and tools to succeed in the classroom. Seven regional webinars have already been held, all recorded and accessible through the Vision Resource Center, with two remaining sessions - one on June 5th and the other on June 12th (sign-up link available within the link provided above).

[TOP to CIP](#) Transition in CE, Rachel Demski

California Community Colleges are transitioning from TOP (Taxonomy of Programs) to federal CIP codes (Classification of Instructional Programs) which are more detailed and consistently maintained. The key deadlines are June 2027 for all courses (there are approximately 2,000 courses) and programs to have a CIP code assigned and Fall 2028 is when TOP codes will be fully retired. Colleges will not need to resubmit courses or programs. Rachel Demski will be emailing all Department Chairs with spreadsheets to verify and confirm CIP code assignments.

[California Community College Baccalaureate Degree Programs \(BDP\)](#), Davis Vo, PhD Doctoral student at the School of Education & Information Studies, UCLA.

Davis Vo, a UCLA Doctoral student researching Community College bachelor's degree programs (BDPs), presented data showing that California ranks among the highest nationally in BDP programs, with graduates earning 49% higher wages post-graduation. The research also



highlights that BDPs serve a more diverse population, with graduates more likely to be Black, Latino, or 25 and older compared to traditional four-year institutions.

Action Items

Third Baccalaureate Degree Recommendation Vote

In response to the email sent out regarding proposals to present a third bachelor's degree opportunity, the Architecture and Interior Architectural Design programs presented a proposal for a new Bachelor's Degree in Building Performance and Environmental Design, a sustainable/eco-focused program that builds directly on existing architecture and interior design courses which has strong support from industry partners and data shows a clear labor market need.

Maria Leon - Vazquez motioned to recommend the Architecture and Interior Architectural Design programs to apply in January for the Building Performance and Environmental Design bachelor degree. Rebecca Agonafir second. All were in favor, and there were no abstentions and no oppositions.

Adjournment: 2:14pm

Next scheduled meeting: CE Retreat, Tuesday, June 2, 2026, from 1:00 - 3:00pm. Location: CMD room 272

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