



Career Education (CE) Committee

Tuesday May 20, 2025

HSS 261 and Zoom

1:00PM – 2:15pm

In person: Rebecca Agonafir, Ruth Casillas, Gary Huff, Maria Leon-Vazquez, Lisa Lewenberg, Debbie Perret, Steven Sedky, Redelia Shaw.

Zoom: Victoria Charles, Sheila Cordova, Drew Davis, Andria Denmon, Mario Franco, Amanda Garcia, Jenna Gausman, Gillian Grebler, David Hall, Jenny Landa, Ann Marie Leahy, Sharyn Obsatz, Salvador Santana, Howard Stahl, Josh Withers.

Call to Order: 1: 06pm

Public Comments and Announcements:

Maria Leon-Vazquez shared out that she would like to organize a time in Fall for faculty visit the CTE building at Santa Monica High School. There is an interest in programs like Cosmetology, Barbering, and Business to meet student demand.

Approval of Minutes: December 10, 2024 & May 6, 2025

Maria Leon-Vazquez motioned to approve, Gary Huff second. All were in favor, no abstentions, no oppositions.

Reports:

Chair: Debbie Perret

No report at this time.

Vice Chair: Steven Sedky

Steven is excited about the retreat on June 2nd at the EpiCenter and mentioned to RSVP by May 27th.

Information and Discussion Items

a. GradLeaders, Ann Marie Leahy

Ann Marie presented on GradLeaders – a job board for students. She talked about ongoing efforts at Santa Monica College to enhance students career services by improving a customizable job platform that connects students with on-campus and external employment opportunities, internships, and peer collaborations.



b. AI Grant, Steven Sedky
No report at this time.

c. CE Retreat, Tuesday, June 3, 2025, 12:30 - 3:15pm

The CE Retreat will feature a packed agenda with presentations from General Counseling, Outreach, student experiences, awards updates, and a session on using AI in the classroom. Attendees are encouraged to RSVP by the May 27th.

d. End of Year Reflection

CE members reflected on how the impact of this committee's work often becomes clear years later. Topics like Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) and bachelor's degree exploration originated in this committee and now shape current projects. The committee's work spans many areas—from labor market data and external partnerships to professional development. Additionally, there's a growing emphasis on tracking student participation in grant-funded activities using ID numbers. This will help evaluate the impact of programs campus-wide and justify funding allocations.

Howard provided an update on the stalled progress of the proposed Cloud Computing bachelor's degree:

- The program has faced delays despite years of effort, primarily due to CSU resistance.
- A third-party evaluator (WestEd) was jointly selected to arbitrate whether the program is duplicative.
- Although a report was expected months ago, it has still not been delivered.
- Even if approved immediately, launching the program before Spring 2026 would be difficult due to workload, faculty reductions, and application system development.
- There's concern that the Cloud program might be sacrificed to help approve other bachelor's degrees, highlighting the political complexity.
- Confusion persists about what constitutes CSU's "written agreement," a legal requirement per legislation.

Adjournment: 1:53 pm

Next scheduled meeting:

CE Retreat, Tuesday, June 3, 2025, 12:30 - 3:15pm

Location: EpiCenter, M104

www.smc.edu/senate