Career Education (CE) Committee
Tuesday, November 3, 2026
Library Conference Room #275 and Zoom
1:00 - 2:15pm

In Attendance: Rebecca Agonafir*, Caitlin Busso, Ruth Casillas*, Victoria Charles, Gillian Grebler, David Hall, Jo Hao*, Kelly Ledwith*, Lisa Lewenberg, Esmeralda Martinez*, Dana Nasser*, Debbie Perret*, Steven Sedky*, Redelia Shaw*.

Zoom: A.J Adelman, Leigh Allen, Drew Davis, Mario Franco, Amanda Garcia, Jennifer Hsieh, Jenny Landa, Llanet Martin, Jacqueline Monge, Sharyn Obsatz, Perviz Sawoski, Scott Silverman, Howard Stahl, Josh Withers.

Call to Order: 1:04pm

Public Comments & Announcements

Chair, Debbie Perret
Welcomes the committee and the new voting member Kelly Ledwith, Department Chair of Athletics.

Vice Chair, Steven Sedky
Steven Sedky shared positive remarks about the semester, noting that the budget is in a good position for the current year, with continued planning needed for future years. Appreciation was expressed for the great work happening across campus and for the committee's collaboration and teamwork.

Approval of Minutes: October 20, 2026
N/A

Information Items
The Equity, Pathways, and Inclusion, Llanet Martinez
The Division of Equity, Pathways, and Inclusion (EPI) provided an overview of its team, the EPI Working Group, and the Student Equity Plan. Updates included ongoing efforts to close student equity gaps, improve enrollment, Math and English completion, persistence, and transfer success. The division also highlighted key accomplishments, $10.2 million in student equity funding, and opportunities for campus collaboration. Discussion focused on supporting working

students and better understanding barriers to persistence and transfer.

Barry J. Nidorf SYTF, Barbering Program, Steven Sedky & Debbie Perret

SMC's Barbering Program at the juvenile detention center successfully completed its first week, with 10 students enrolled in the one-year program. The program was developed over 3.5 years through a partnership with LA County Probation and community partners. Patricia Ramos helped spark the initial development of the program, which was later brought to fruition. The program is receiving positive feedback, with students actively engaged and benefiting from hands-on training and mentorship. The program is the first of its kind in California and may serve as a model for future expansion.

Perkins Core Indicator Report Survey, Ruth Casillas

Ruth Casillas discussed Perkins funding and the impact of low CTE completion rates on future funding. To improve reporting, a survey will be sent to departments to identify industry-recognized certifications and licenses offered which can be counted towards completion rates and help improve this Core Indicator. Followed by tracking student participation and pass rates. The committee also discussed improving the process for collecting certification data, potential faculty support, and the impact of federal financial aid requirements on certificate programs.

Institutional Research, Caitlin Busso

Caitlin Busso, the new Dean of Institutional Research, introduced her office and shared available data resources, including DataVista and statewide research tools. She explained how her office supports campus research, program review, institutional projects, and welcomed collaboration and data requests. Discussion included tracking program changes, work-based learning, labor market trends, and wage data to better understand student outcomes and strengthen connections between education and employment.

Adjournment: 2:19pm

Next scheduled meeting: November 17, 2026, 1:00 - 2:15pm. Library Conference Room #275 and Zoom. www.smc.edu/senate

*Voting Member