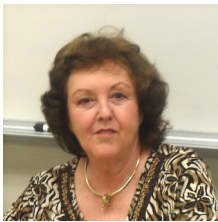


Standing Room Only

President's Message

It's with a heart full of sadness that I begin this message by informing you that Ricardo Foreman, our 2nd Vice President/Chief Job Steward is seriously



ill. He is in St. Joseph's Hospital and at the request of his family; visitors are asked to wait until he is better and assigned to his own room before coming to visit.

As of this writing we do not know what the long-term prognosis is and can only ask that everyone say a prayer on his behalf for a full recovery.

He is not able to have flowers in the unit he is in. Sean Small, our 1st Vice President, has volunteered to take cards to him. You may send the cards to Sean's attention at Santa Ana College, Fine & Performing Arts Division.

This is certainly a wake up call for all of us to live each day to the fullest and to make each moment count.

On a lighter note – We

have sent our bargaining proposal to the district. At the next Board of Trustees meeting, March 14th, the floor will be opened for public comments on the proposal. We do not anticipate any public comments.

We will be choosing the bargaining team soon and will keep everyone updated as we begin and work through the bargaining process.

Thanks to all of you who contributed your suggestions and ideas to the committee. We do appreciate your input.

Reminder – Spring Break March 23-25.

CSEA Opposes Proposed Community College Cuts

In January's issue of Standing Room Only, Governor Brown's budget proposal was reported. While K-12 fared well with his proposal, community colleges did not do as well. In the past weeks the legislature has begun hearings on the budget and CSEA and other community college stakeholders have been very vocal at these hearings—opposing the proposed cuts to community

colleges. The Legislative Analyst's Office has made it clear to the Legislature that currently there is not enough money to provide adequate services to students—services that the students so desperately need, not to mention furloughs, layoffs, pay cuts and reduction in benefits that staff have already suffered.

CSEA has made it clear that a cut the magnitude of that being proposed would have a devastating impact on community colleges across the state that are already struggling to provide the vital services necessary to ensure student success. We will continue to keep you updated on budget issues which may affect us at RSCCD.

RSCCD
CSEA Chapter 579

Your Chapter

Executive Board

President

Marti Reiter

1st Vice President

Sean Small

2nd Vice President

Ricardo Foreman

Secretary

Judy Arroyo

Treasurer

Esmeralda Abejar

CPRO

Tom Andrews

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THIS IS ONE OF YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS !!



Apply Now for One of 48 CSEA Scholarships

Applications are now being accepted for CSEA's scholarship program. CSEA offers 40 first-year scholarships and four each for community college and college/vocational students.

Since the early 1960's the scholarship program has awarded more than \$1 million to union members and their dependents who want to begin or continue their secondary education. Scholarships are awarded to graduating high school seniors,

community college students and college/vocational students. All scholarships are awarded by CSEA's state Scholarship Committee, which ranks applications on the basis of academic and extra-curricular activities, career objectives, and financial need.

First year scholarships (40) are for graduating seniors with a G.P.A. of 3.0, who are planning to enter college or trade school by the next fall term. The \$1,000

first-year scholarships are available to members' IRS-qualified dependents.

Community College and Vocational Scholarships both require the 3.0 G.P.A and current enrollment and IRS qualified dependent status. There are 8 \$1,000 scholarships available.

For more information, visit www.csea.com/scholarships. Applications are accepted Jan 1 thru March 31.

"will allow public employees to get CalPERS service credit for mandatory furlough days"

NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW LAWS

Here's a glimpse at some of the new laws affecting public schools and classified employees.

- **AB1741**—provides an opportunity for non-public schools to incorporate technology when customizing teaching strategies and curriculum for special needs students.
- **AB1742**—expands the kinds of

technology permitted in the classroom for special needs students in non-public schools.

- **AB211**—will require all locks on classrooms built after 7/1/2011 to be able to be locked from the inside. Most locks can only be locked from the outside.
- **SB1413**—will require school districts to provide students

with access to free, fresh drinking water during meal times in school food service areas by 7/1/2011.

- **AB1651**—will allow public employees to get CalPERS service credit for mandatory furlough days. The credit will be the same as if the employee had worked during those days.

CalPERS Investments Gain 13.3 Percent

Beating market benchmarks, CalPERS earned 13.3 % on investment in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010.

Overall the fund's market value of \$200.5 billion was \$40 billion more than the turn-around from the lowest point of the Great Recession in March 2009. Returns beat the benchmark of 12.95 % and eclipsed perform-

ance targets for every asset class except real estate.

The board approved plan focuses on risk factors in changing economic conditions, not the traditional asset allocation approach that worked well in the stable growth period of the 80's—90's.

Chief Investment Officer Joseph Dear says, "This risk based ap-

proach will allow CalPERS to reclaim its reputation as a thought leader and to apply the best thinking to the challenging questions about how to uphold our promises to make our members' retirement secure. You can't get solid returns without taking risk but we want to make sure we know what that risk is and that we'll be paid to take it."



"You can't get solid returns without taking risk..."

MEET THE EBOARD

Say Hello to Judy Arroyo, your Chapter 579 Secretary. Judy's been with the district for 23 years, and is currently an Administrative Secretary working in the Office of Student Life at Santa Ana College.

While Judy holds down the Chapter Secretary job, she wears many other hats, both in the chapter and in her position at SAC.

Judy is a job steward for our Chapter, and has served on the negotiations team as a member and as an alternate. At SAC, Judy is deeply involved in our gradua-

tions, the Pageant of the Trees, Classified Staff Development and the student handbook.

Judy is also a cancer survivor. She has been honored by having the women's team for the Don's "Coaches vs. Cancer" game play for her as the representative for all cancer survivors at Santa Ana College. Where does she find the energy?

Well, if you must know where she gets the energy to do all these things, you must know that Judy was a national champion cheer-

leader and one of the first cheerleading teams to introduce acrobatics to cheerleading—and that was right here at Santa Ana College!

Another thing you must know about Judy is that she loves water polo, but not as much as she loves being a three-time Grandma! Thank You for your essential and extraordinary service to CSEA and to students everywhere.



JUDY ARROYO
CHAPTER SECRETARY

CHAPTER NEWS

The monthly Chapter 579 meeting was held on Tuesday, February 15 at SAC. With the reading of the minutes, it became official (through a by-law change) that our chapter can have multiple site voting. This is a new process for us, so look for more information, either through Email or the newsletter, on how it will work as your E Board works out the logistics.

CSEA's annual conference was moved back one week to 7/25 thru 7/29. This change will result in some E Board members not being able to attend, so if you are interested in being an alternate, be sure to attend the next meeting at CEC on Mar. 15th where nominees will be accepted. The majority of the meeting was a lively discussion regarding issues with financial aid

and admissions. Members are reporting extremely high stress levels regarding workload and interaction with some students, including items being thrown at them and death threats. Your Chapter leadership will discuss these issues with Human Resources.

"Members are reporting extremely high stress levels regarding workload issues"

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

The Negotiations Committee met on February 1st to discuss what articles of the contract to open with the district for negotiations. The committee was very productive and agreed upon the following items:

- Clarify usage intent on Personal Necessity Leave (10.3)
- Increase holiday leave by one week at Christmas and 3 days at spring Break (11.1)
- Reinstate step advancement and longevity pay retroactive to original suspension date. (14.15, 14.16)
- Increase District's maximum insurance premium contribution amount per current contract requirement. (19.5.a)
- Reinstate Professional Growth effective 7/1/2011 (22.2.4)

- Increase Salary effective 7/1/2011 commensurate with the district's ability to pay.

At the next meeting the committee will select who will be on the negotiations team that actually participates in the negotiations process with the district.

This team will consist of 5 members and our LRR, Guillermo Santucci.

Negotiations Proposal Complete !!



Who To Call – Our Chapter 579 Job Stewards

Marti Reiter 714-480-7512

Ricardo Foreman 714- 564-6757

Sean Small 714-564-5667

Tom Andrews 714-564-6310

Sylvia Gordon 714-564-6004

Judy Arroyo 714-564-6211



Help us help you. One of the most basic rights of employees is the right to have a union representative present at any meeting with management involving an investigation which may lead to discipline.

CPRD's Corner

Orwell's 1984 brings to its readers an interesting view of a society where privacy has been lost to the state. In fact, the term "Orwellian" connotes totalitarian thought and action in controlling and subjugating people.

This government control comes via four ministries—the Ministry of Peace, Ministry of Plenty, Ministry of Love and Ministry of Truth. These ministries are antonymous to their true functions. For example, the Ministry of Peace reports on a perpetual war; the Ministry of Plenty rations and controls food, goods,

and domestic production. They in turn publish false reports claiming to have raised living standards. The Ministry of Truth controls information, news, education, entertainment and the arts. Records are "rectified" to support Big Brother's pronouncements, making everything the party says true. The Ministry of Love seeks out, identifies, monitors, arrests, and converts real and imagined dissidents. When near broken they are sent to Room 101 until love of the Party replaces dissension. One way Big Brother keeps in power is thru the Thought Police and

telescreens (in every public and private area), hidden microphones and informers. Everyone is spied upon so the Thought Police can identify anyone who might endanger the Party's agenda.

As we move forward into the age of surveillance here at RSCCD, let's not forget that we have basic human rights that are protected by law—rights that our armed forces have fought for, and that we should not surrender to anyone.



(CPRD corner is my opinion and not necessarily the opinion of this chapter)