

CHAPTER NEWS

A Message From President:

So much is going on within our CSEA Unit right now. Below is a breakdown of the key items I want to touch on this month:

CSEA E-BOARD ELECTIONS: We will be accepting nominations for E-Board officers at the October and November Chapter meetings. An email will be sent out just prior to the October Chapter meeting with the list of officer positions open for nomination along with a nomination form and rules. Please consider running for any of the positions you feel you would like to serve in. I can tell you that this last three years (Vice President in 2014 and President 2015-2016) have been years of personal growth due to the positions I've held, as well as a great learning experience, learning about the union. It also helped me to decide to become a Union Steward, which otherwise I would never have done. So, I want to encourage you to nominate yourself or, if someone you think would be a good fit for a position, approach them and ask if you could nominate them. It's a great experience!

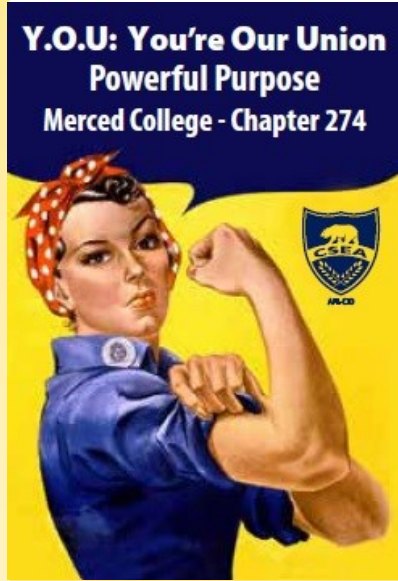
EMS Classification Study: We are in the middle of the EMS Classification Study. The focus groups have met and EMS is working to get the data reviewed and working on job descriptions. EMS will also begin the market analysis. I want to thank those who attended the September Chapter Meeting and provided feedback regarding their experience with the focus groups. I shared with HR some of the concerns that were expressed, as well as the positive feedback. HR was very grateful for this feedback.

Hiring Committees / Pool: I am in the process of collecting names of people willing to be placed in a pool to be called upon for hiring committees. As you may know, Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) states that we MUST have a diverse pool of committee members for EVERY hiring committee. This is the LAW. Hence the gathering of interested people willing to be in the pool, to be called upon to serve. We will be gathering names on a semester-by-semester basis. If you are interested in being placed in the pool, please let me know right away.

Kristi Wolf

Area Secretary

PRESIDENT CSEA Chapter 274



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Member Benefits Highlights

Going to School? CSEA can help!

Member Career Grant applications are due October 31st

\$1,000 CSEA Member Career Grants—Member Career Grants are awarded to CSEA Members each year who are in school on a part or full time basis. Applications are due October 31, 2016.

Up to \$250 CSEA Member Reimbursement Subsidy Grants—Subsidy grants are awarded to members who are pursuing an opportunity that connects them to the union, the community, and/or students. Applications are accepted year round.

\$500 CSEA Member Student Loan Reducer Grants—Grants to help members reduce their student loan debt. Applications are due February 1, 2017.

\$500-\$4,000 Union Plus Scholarship—Because CSEA is affiliated with the AFL-CIO, CSEA members and their dependents, including spouses, are eligible to apply for Union Plus scholarships. Go online to apply today at www.unionplus.org/scholarships. Applications are due January 31, 2017.

For eligibility requirements and to download applications, go to www.csea.com/education or call CSEA Members Benefits at (866) 487-2732 to request an application or brochure.

Important November 2016 Election Dates

October 24: Deadline to register to vote

November 1: Deadline to request mail ballot

November 8: Election Day!
(Polls open at 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.)



Register to vote at: <http://registertovote.ca.gov/>

Merced College CSEA will hold an election in December for 2016 Executive Board Officers.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the next two chapter meetings on October 18th from 1:00 – 2:00 pm and on November 14th from 1:30 – 2:30 pm in the Student Union Building, room SU-137.

Please bring the nomination form, **with the nominee's signature**, to one of the next two chapter meetings and make a motion to nominate a member(s) for office(s), or send it to Rosalie Kekahuna (kekahuna.r@mccd.edu, Stop 21) and she will make the motion to nominate the member. Nominees must sign the form for the nomination to be accepted. A member may nominate him or herself.

The following offices are open for nominations:

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

TREASURER

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER (CPRO)

CHIEF UNION STEWARD

NEGOTIATOR *[2 offices open—2-year terms]*

Click here for more details and to access the nomination form online:

**[http://www.mccd.edu/about/organizations/csea/downloads/
CSEA Executive Office Elections Nominations 2016.pdf](http://www.mccd.edu/about/organizations/csea/downloads/CSEA_Executive_Office_Elections_Nominations_2016.pdf)**



For up-to-date info and reminders!

@: [https://www.facebook.com/
mercedcollegeCSEA](https://www.facebook.com/mercedcollegeCSEA)

Check out our revamped Merced College Chapter 274 CSEA Web Page!

<http://www.mccd.edu/about/organizations/csea/index.html>

Welcome New Classified Employees

Regina Moua (right) is the Financial Aid Assistant. She started in June and is very excited to be with us. She previously worked as a legal assistant to Paul C. Lo, a former attorney who is now an honorable judge with Merced Superior Court. Regina is a Merced College Alumni and is currently working on obtaining a BA in Criminal Justice.

"I am ecstatic to be part of Merced College. It is a privilege to be able to work for Merced College and alongside many wonderful staff. I started at Merced College as a work-study student, then moved to a temporary worker, then became classified. With the endless opportunities here at Merced College I'm looking forward to making Merced College my career."

-Regina Moua



Hey!
WELCOME
We're very GLAD
you're here!

Margaret Salas (bottom) is an Office Technician with the Guidance Department. She started in June. Before being hired at Merced College she was a substitute teacher from 2013-16. She taught for the Merced Union High School District. Margaret also worked for the California Department of Corrections at the Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla in their Educational Department and absolutely loved it. She was in charge of computer literacy lab and helped female inmates prepare for their GED exam. At this point in her life she is enjoying being at Merced College and helping students work on their educational goals.



"I went back to school as an adult and it took me longer than most to obtain my BS in Business Administration. I was working as an Instructional Aide in an elementary school and raising a family while I attended MC and CSU Stanislaus. I'm married and have two adult children; a son and a daughter. My daughter is the Administrative Assistant for the MC Child Development Center and I love the fact that we both work at MC. God willing, I plan to be at MC for a long time to come!"

-Margaret Salas

Welcome New Classified Employees



Tana Crutcher (left) started her new position as Admissions & Records Clerk II on September 14th, 2016. She started working at Merced College in 2007 as a student worker for DSS and then attended the Career Advancement Academy and was a student worker there as well. Shortly after that she worked as a temp in the Center for International Trade Development office. Eventually, she went back to the CAA as a 19hr Training Assistant for a few years until she had her daughter. In the future She would like to take a few language classes, such as American Sign Language and Spanish. In her free time she loves doing fun things with her one year old daughter, Kennedy, take their dogs for walks, sew and bake!

Joseph Lara (right) started in March as a SSSP Technician with the Office of Relations with Schools. He came to us from an IT (computer) related position where he worked as desktop support for two years. Prior to that he worked at Raley's for six years. He would like to work towards a Masters Degree in Higher Education Counseling.



I'm glad to be back and working at Merced College, it's a great place for growth and community.

- Joseph Lara



Elizabeth (left) was hired in February 2016 as a custodian. She currently works in the IAC buildings and she does a wonderful job! Elizabeth came to us from UC Merced.



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Negotiations Updates:

Hello,

The district and the CSEA Negotiating Committee met on Sept. 14 and continued negotiations for Article 33: Pay and Allowances under our 2015-16 contract. At this point, discussions and gathering data continue. The next negotiations meeting is set for November 2nd.

We voted on a new job classification in ITS. The job classification was approved by the majority vote.

The EMS benchmarking study is in full swing. The focus groups have met with EMS and discussed their job classifications and duties. The next step will be for EMS to send the gathered data and information to supervisors for their input, some additional editing may then be made, and then the info will be sent back to the classified professionals for further review.

Christine Grimaldi Clarkson
CSEA Chief Negotiator
Chapter 274
Merced College

<http://www.mccd.edu/about/committees/csea/>

Next Chapter Meeting: Monday, November 14th @ 1:30!

[http://www.mccd.edu/about/organizations/csea/
meetings.html](http://www.mccd.edu/about/organizations/csea/meetings.html)

**California School
Employees Association**



AFL-CIO