

## **Candidates' Statements for 2020 Executive Board Officers Election**

### **President**

#### **Krista Warren**

Dear Colleagues,

I ask for your vote to continue as your union president.

A majority of the instruction here is delivered on the backs of associate faculty. Yet, our labor is often exploited.

We deserve better. I believe that the best working conditions in turn create the best learning conditions for our students.

### **EXPERIENCE IN LEADERSHIP ROLES**

**President, MiraCosta College Academic Associate Faculty, 2013 – present**

**Vice President, MiraCosta College Academic Associate Faculty, 2011 – 2013**

**Board of Directors, District H-2 Representative, Community College Association, (CCA) 2015 - present**

**Community College Association, (CCA) Budget Committee 2015 – present**

**Community College Association, (CCA) Leadership Academy Co- chair 2019 – 2020**

**Graduate of the CCA Building Strong Locals Academy 2017 - 2018**

**Graduate of the CCA California Leadership Academy. 2016-2017**

**MiraCosta College Delegate for the 2015 ASCCC Spring Plenary**

**Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) Part Time Faculty Committee  
2017 – present**

**WHO Award “We Honor Ours” recipient, MCCAAF/CCA/CTA/NEA (2016)**

**Part Time Faculty of the Year Award, Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) 2018**

## **WORKING AS A TEAM**

I have worked with members and our executive board team on the most relevant issues facing Associate Faculty. As the President of our union, I make myself available to meet you personally and hear your stories and concerns. I work tirelessly to support you at each turn.

## **NEGOTIATIONS**

As President and Vice President of our union, I have worked with our negotiation teams to survey our membership as to what ranks as the most important issues and concerns. Our current contract reflects what our members want. Most recently, our team stood firm against the college, arguing for re-hire rights as mandated by new legislation, as well as equal pay for equal work. We stopped the college from resetting and lowering our salary schedule.

Preparation for negotiations for our next contract will begin soon. I want to finish the job of getting equal pay for equal work. I want to protect you, my colleagues, as the college adjusts to changes resulting from the pandemic. Hopefully, all of our Executive Board members will be reelected so that we can continue to advance your interests. Our executive board is strong and effective. As your incumbent President, with your support and vote, I will continue to lead our efforts to get you everything you deserve. Again, I ask for your vote for another term as your union president. Thank you!

[Kristawarren1@gmail.com](mailto:Kristawarren1@gmail.com)

760-214-1200

## **Susan Pynes**

Dear Colleagues,

“We are all in this together” is a sentiment we hear because of the Covid-10 pandemic, but as part-time teachers, librarians, and counselors, we really are all in this together. We are 673 people with a variety of backgrounds, opinions, and political leanings. As MCCAAF president, I will make sure that your voice and opinions are heard. I will listen carefully and communicate your concerns to the administration.

In our diversity, there is also unity. We care about the same things: our students and our jobs. MCC is a unique and wonderful place, but we, 77% of the faculty, need improvements: a solid contract that provides job security, equal pay, and a strong grievance process. I will work for you to that end.

My local, state, and national experiences for the last ten years have prepared me for this position. Locally, I served on the MCCAAF negotiation committees and as MCCAAF Secretary. I have been on the Academic Senate for two terms. State-wide, I am on the CCA Board of Directors and the Part-time Faculty Issues Committee, as well as a graduate of the CCA Leadership Academy and Building Strong Locals Academy. I am a CTA State Council delegate, representing higher education, and chair

the Contingent Faculty Caucus. This year I will be a delegate at the annual NEA Representative Assembly.

I am committed to listening, communicating, and working with you as MCCAAF President. If you want to get involved with your union, we want you involved! Please vote for Susan Pynes, President MCCAAF. Encourage your colleagues! Thank you!

Contact me at [skgpynes@gmail.com](mailto:skgpynes@gmail.com).

## **Vice President**

### **Al Nyman**

Hello,

I am the incumbent Vice President of our Academic Associate Faculty Union. I have been active with our union for well over 20 years. I have served in the capacity as the president of the union as well as the vice president. I am very passionate about representing my colleagues with issues pertaining to working conditions and employee rights. I have represented you to the best of my ability at the bargaining table for our contract (CBA). I have fought for a contract that protects our pension and healthcare benefits while addressing complex salary inequities. There is still much work to be done and I look forward to working with our executive board and membership to continue building our union.

I have served as a delegate to the California Community College Conference/CTA for over ten years and represented MCCAAF very well. I recognize the critical role unions play in providing power and a voice to their members. As we continue to grapple with funding and workloads, I pledge to work diligently to protect our members benefits. Last year the Academic Senate awarded me with the prestigious Leon Baradat Award. It is nice to know that my colleagues think highly of me.

In concert with the above, I currently represent Associate Faculty (AF) when there is a student complaint or a concern with the classroom written evaluation process.

I know a great many of our associate faculty members and you know me. I take great pride in representing all of my colleagues at MiraCosta College. I pledge to continue to do the best job possible as your Vice President of our union. You can always reach me at: [anyman@miracosta.edu/760-213-4594](mailto:anyman@miracosta.edu/760-213-4594).

Please show your confidence in me by giving me your vote!

In unity,

Al Nyman, VP

**Robin N. Allyn**

Dear Associate Faculty Colleagues,

Please vote for me to represent your interests as vice president of the MCCAACF. I am passionate to protect our rights as workers and professionals, and to advocate for equal pay for equal work.

I'm a sociologist and have been an associate faculty member in the Sociology Department since Spring semester of 2015. I currently represent associate faculty as a senator on the MiraCosta College Academic Senate, and have served in that leadership role since fall of 2017. I am committed to equity, and am proud to be a current member of the Diversity, Equity and Cultural Competency (DEqCC) committee.

I also have experience in state governance; last year I completed a one-year term on the state-wide ASCCC Equity and Diversity Action Committee (EDAC), which "promotes student equity and student success, including effective teaching and student learning styles and fostering a campus climate conducive to faculty diversity and student achievement."

I am a former community college student; I transferred on from Palomar College to earn a bachelor of arts degree from Rutgers University in Journalism and Media Studies in 1999. More recently, I earned complementary MA degrees in Social Science (2001) and Sociology (2012) from the University of California at Irvine. My community college experience was transformative for me, and the joy of our profession is seeing our students succeed beyond their initial expectations.

I am passionate about having our campus be a wonderful and welcoming space for creative exchange for us as professionals, and ultimately for our students to achieve their dreams.

Please vote for me to help protect and represent your interests.

Sincerely,

Robin N. Allyn

## **Secretary**

### **Joe Chirra**

In this pandemic, safeguarding our working conditions is more important than ever.

With the changes facing us as faculty, this is a time for experienced, seasoned leadership in your union. We are about to begin a critical round of negotiations with the college over our next contract. I, along with your other officers, have laid the groundwork for equal pay for equal work. We have also put the college on notice that its interpretation of rehire rights is not what we agreed to and that we demand a change in keeping with our negotiation. The college knows we mean business. I want to be able to follow through on that.

As your current Union secretary, I want to continue the work of making sure that you have up-to-date information that you can use.

Also, I want to continue building our dues-paying membership. More members mean more clout with the District during negotiations. More members mean more people will get the advantages that come with membership. More members mean that your union will continue to function effectively.

I will use my experience as an attorney and as a founder and first president of your union to get the best collective bargaining agreement for all of you. As secretary, I'll make sure you know about the issues and about how you can help achieve favorable resolutions.

Thank you for voting in this election. Thank you for your past support. I ask for your vote to continue as your Union secretary.

### **William Dawley**

MiraCosta's associate faculty needs as much leverage as possible in our contract negotiations with the district to win the best pay and working conditions possible. I bring to the Secretary position a number of skills and experiences that could help increase that leverage and strengthen our union.

In addition to serving on the last negotiating team for our union, I have prepared for this position through extensive representation and participation in the Community College Association (CCA) and California Teachers Association (CTA), to which our local union belongs, as well as the California Democratic Party.

At the state level, I graduated from CCA's year-long leadership academy ("Building Strong Locals"), which trains union members to become future leaders in their local unions. I have also served the Carlsbad/Oceanside area for two terms as a delegate to the California Democratic Party. I am also a delegate to CTA's governing body, the State Council, where I have representing higher education served on the Civil Rights in Education and Political Involvement Committees. Finally, I have been a participant in CTA's Membership Engagement Summits, which train union organizers to engage with members of their unions and involve them in union governance.

At the local level, I have served as Secretary to the North County Labor Alliance (an affiliate of the regional San Diego and Imperial County Labor Council). This experience has prepared me with the skills needed to be an effective union secretary. Through my work in this organization, I have established relationships with other unions and the area's labor and political organizations. These organizations are untapped resources that can offer us broader union support, manpower, and other resources in our efforts both to lobby the Board of Trustees and influence its composition.

Like many of you, I am proud to teach at MiraCosta, and I am eager to improve our working conditions, knowing that these working conditions form the learning conditions of our students. My agenda for our union includes enacting strategies to increase our leverage. First, we need to adopt a representative model of union organization, which has been proven to make unions more responsive to members and to build the solidarity needed in contract negotiations. Second, we need to work alongside local and state union organizations to influence and shape the Board of Trustees. Please vote for Will Dawley for Secretary, and I will work for you and with you to achieve these goals.

### **Treasurer**

#### **Dawn Diskin**

I am running for reelection to the position of MCCAAF Treasurer and look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve our union through these challenging times. As a practicing CPA for the last 30 years, and the current treasurer, I am very familiar with financial reporting and tax filings necessary for our union.

I have extensive experience with QuickBooks, Excel, financial budgets and history of working well with the current officers. I will ensure our organization is in compliance with all of the California Teachers Association's local chapter reporting and the necessary federal and state tax regulations and filings.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments about my candidacy for this position, 858-922-5126 or via email at [dawnmdiskin@hotmail.com](mailto:dawnmdiskin@hotmail.com)