SDIC Community College Deans' Council Meeting
March 6, 2026
virtual
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Minutes

Deans and Associate Deans Present: J. Ayala, A. Berry, C. Estrada-Howell, B. Gamboa, S. Knox, J. Lopez, A. Lucas, V. Murrell, A. Ngo, N. Roe

Guests: M. Ash, S. Bradley, D. Brown, S. Cox, J. Edwards, E. Matthews, T. Matthews, K. McMackin, T. Ngo Bartel, J. Stark, L. Wisdom

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1. Welcome & Introductions
   - J. Lopez served as facilitator for this meeting.

2. Minutes from February 20, 2026, motion to approve by J. Ayala, second by N. Roe, **unanimously approved**

3. Program Informational Items
   - Program Modifications
     - San Diego City College
       - Cyber Defense

4. Program Recommendations
   - SD City College
     - Autonomous Infrastructure Design & Architecture; New; CoA; A.S.
       - Motion to open by A. Berry, second by J. Ayala, **6 yes, 1 no - recommended**
     - Barbering; New; CoA; A.S.
       - Motion to open by N. Roe, second by J. Ayala, **unanimously recommended**

5. Region and State Action Items
   - CCCAOE updates shared by N. Roe.
     - Policy Summit
       - Strong regional participation at the Policy Summit as approx. 10 attendees from San Diego Region
       - Broad legislative support observed for Strong Workforce funding restoration
       - Continued advocacy expected, including potential future requests for letters of support
       - Additionally, the Chancellor's Office acknowledged that earlier legislative spending reports did not reflect encumbrances, contributing to misunderstandings regarding Strong Workforce.
     - D. Brown noted concerns regarding regional Strong Workforce spending levels across the state, indicating that underspending in other regions may impact legislative support for funding restoration.
       - Members discussed potential future conversations about:
         - Regional funding formulas - Chancellor's Office could revisit elements of the regional allocation methodology if current funding levels remain unexpended
         - Spending accountability across regions
         - Alignment of regional advocacy efforts
     - Reminder to register for the Spring Conference

- Request for voluntary contributions toward conference raffle baskets coordinated by J. Pena
- CCCCCO
  - WEDD Winter Edition 2026
- Regional shared by D. Brown
  - Updates shared by email to Deans and Associate Deans
  - RFAs reminders
    - Round 10 information is available on the website
    - Round 9 Phase 2 sector project communications have been distributed
  - A. Berry requested a future meeting topic of RFA Budget/Funding Process

6. T. Ngo Bartel shared the LMI & COE Updates
- February LMI
  - Completed Reports
    - Palomar College
      - Mortuary Science: Funeral Home Managers; Morticians, Undertakers, and Funeral Arrangers
  - Requested Reports:
    - San Diego Mesa College
      - Preschool Age Children: Education and Childcare Administrators, Preschool and Daycare; Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education
      - Geographic Information Systems: Cartographers and Photogrammetrists; Surveying and Mapping Technicians
      - Food Processing and Related Technologies: Food Scientists and Technologists; Food Science Technicians
- Informational
  - TOP-to-CIP Conversion
    - several colleges beginning implementation discussions
    - some institutions delaying action pending additional Chancellor's Office guidance
    - COE available to provide technical assistance or campus visits if needed
  - Panel for CRNA Webinar
    - T. Ngo Bartel invited colleges to participate in an upcoming panel discussion focused on responding to regional workforce needs identified in the Comprehensive Regional Needs Assessment.
      - Potential discussion topics for the panel include:
        - Expanding work-based learning opportunities
        - Access to caregiving and wraparound supports
        - Increasing flexible scheduling and learning modalities
        - Faculty support for high-quality online instruction
        - Strengthening career pathways aligned with priority occupations
        - Implementing trauma-informed and culturally responsive student support strategies
      - Two additional panelists requested
  - AI Training by Industry
    - noted increasing employer interest in AI-related workforce training, which may present opportunities for community colleges to partner with industry on short-term training or professional development offerings.
    - Possible implementation strategies:
      - 2–3 hour industry-specific workshops
      - on-campus delivery
      - coordination through contract education pathways
      - alignment with regional workforce partners
    - Future discussion anticipated through the AI CoP.
  - Counselor Institute Wrap-up Event
    - Scheduled for May 8, 2026

        - Request: Referrals for alumni speakers from prior Counselor Institutes or keynote speaker recommendations to T. Matthews.

7. Hot Topic Discussions
- Impact of AB928 on CTE programs
    - A. Ngo raised concerns regarding unintended impacts of AB 928 implementation, specifically related to counseling practices that may prioritize transfer pathways over career education pathways.
    - Discussion included:
        - Instances where students pursuing career education goals may be redirected toward transfer pathways during counseling interactions.
        - Potential implications for career education enrollment and completion rates.
        - Opportunities to develop clearer communication tools and visual pathway maps to help students understand both transfer and career education options.
        - Members emphasized the importance of ensuring students receive accurate information about multiple educational pathways aligned with their career goals.
- Follow up - Internships
    - A. Berry shared updates from a recent Board of Governors discussion regarding the expansion of paid internship opportunities for career education students statewide.
    - Discussion included:
        - The potential for expanded internship programs tied to career education pathways.
        - Opportunities for regional collaboration across colleges.
        - Members expressed interest in exploring how the region might participate in or pilot expanded internship initiatives.

8. Roundtable
- L. Wisdom shared Counseling for Careers Summit - request from K16 Collab
- L. Wisdom Spring Dual Enrollment Convening - focus on CTE pathways, date to follow
- K. McMackin shared the San Diego Regional EDC will host Advancing San Diego internships this summer.
    - Approximately 90 internship placements will be available. Philanthropic funding has been secured to support the program.
    - An informational session was scheduled for March 9 (1:00–2:00 p.m.), with a recording to be shared afterward.
- K. McMackin shared that Taylor Dunn is leaving the San Diego Regional EDC
- J. Ayala shared Grossmont-Cuyamaca District has resumed implementation of Credit by Exam (formerly articulation).
    - Faculty and high school teachers will reconvene to update Career Pathways agreements.
    - A regional convening event is planned for later this semester.
- J. Ayala shared The Career Center and Career Services units now report directly to Career Education Workforce Development.
    - J. Lopez shared San Diego City College's first Cyber Defense bachelor's degree cohort is expected to graduate in May.
    - Approximately 30 students are projected to complete the program.
    - Career Center staff are supporting job placement, with a goal of employment within six months of graduation.

Agenda Link: Deans Council Agenda - Google Docs
Next meeting: Friday, April 17, 2026; on Zoom.