



President's Report

Optimism One

It's election season in YFA Land, and your vote matters. There are seven positions up for grabs on the Executive Board. At Columbia College, we have elections for the Vice President/ Grievance Officer *and* the At-Large/ College Council Representative. At Modesto Junior College, we have elections for the Vice President/ Grievance Officer, the College Council Representative, *and* the Member-at-Large (#1). District-wide, we have elections for the YFA Secretary *and* the Faculty Liaison to the Board.

Two of the positions--Secretary and MJC's Member-at-Large--have two candidates, but all positions still require votes, even if there is only one candidate. According to our bylaws, "In the event of a single nomination for any open position on the Executive Board, the nominee's name will be placed on a ballot that requires a simple majority (50% + 1) vote to be officially elected." In addition, there are write-in options for each position.

In other March Madness news, we are bringing back Trivia Night. On March 19th, YFA will host this event for the third semester in a row. Please come to Contentment Brewing Company at 6 p.m., right after MJC's Academic Senate meeting. We'll supply dinner, PG-13 drinks, and prizes. You'll buy your own beer, if desired. And we'll all have tons of fun. See you there. ~Op

Negotiations Update - Brian Greene

As we approach the halfway point of the spring semester, we continue to make limited progress at the negotiations table. The most promising movement has been with the work groups, one focused on lab parity and the other on evaluations. YFA and YCCD representatives have found significant common ground that we expect will lead to much needed improvements as these topics move forward.

Unfortunately, the same cannot yet be said for some other areas of interest. YFA's proposal regarding banked leaves, for example, was turned down by YCCD at our last session. Similarly, YCCD continues to seek concessions from YFA on health benefits despite a lack of evidence that our benefits costs are unmanageable or out of sync with other California community colleges. Most notably, the District has repeatedly shared its unwillingness to increase the benefits cap for the 2026-27 plan year despite significant inflation since the cap was adopted three years ago. YFA has been urging proactive evaluation of alternative options and data-driven decision-making on the topic; however, progress is likely to be minimal until we learn the actual renewal rates, which are expected in early April.

Inside the CBA: Large Class Multipliers

Article [4.11.3](#) in our Collective Bargaining Agreement details how classes with target enrollments above 50 students are loaded and therefore compensated. To be clear, we're not talking about the Extra Student Stipend (Article [4.11.2](#)), which is automatically paid for students 41-50. The Large Class Multiplier is for students 51 and higher, and it is compensated by what we call a 'load factor' (for reference, a load factor of 1 = 20% of your load for a "single," and a load factor of 2 = 40% for a "double," and so on). This load factor/large class multiplier can also be used for class caps that are between singles, doubles, triples, and quads.

For example, let's say a dean sees that there are often a couple dozen students on your waitlist for History 101. That dean can then ask you if they can raise the cap to 75 students. If you agree, then, the load factor is now 1.5, which translates to 30% of your full load. At that point, the load factor cannot be changed unless you do so by mutual agreement. So, let's say you end up with 68 students, and you haven't agreed to lower the class cap from the agreed-upon 75; you'd still get paid for 75 students. Likewise, if you add an extra 5 students over the new class cap of 75, you'll still get paid for 75 students.

All of the above is important to ensure you're getting paid properly. Additionally, we've heard about some professors and their deans adjusting class caps to attract more students and/or make sure enough students enroll to account for the inevitable drops before the census. Please don't do that. We want deans to follow our contract, and adjusting class caps for reasons outside of the Large Class Multiplier and its concomitant compensation only muddies the waters. And no matter what, please remember that any of the above changes must be done with mutual agreement. Neither you nor your dean can make a unilateral decision about changing class capacities.

Calendar

- Wed., Mar. 4 @ 3-5 p.m. - YFA Executive Board
- Wed., Mar. 18 @ 3-5 p.m. - YFA Rep. Council