

Candidate Statements

President:

Emily Woolery

I am running for re-election to Faculty Association (FA) President, bringing years of experience to this role. I have served as FA President since 2021. Prior to this position, I served as FA Vice President and Full-Time Director. I have provided support and representation to adjunct and full-time faculty in all areas of the college, including instruction, student support (counseling, instructional specialist, and librarian), and reassignment positions. It is rewarding to work with faculty in all divisions of the college, including credit and noncredit areas. I have experience with accommodation and leave requests, contract negotiations, and grievances. Training opportunities such as the Building Strong Locals Academy, California Leadership Academy, and CTA Presidents Meetings have strengthened my knowledge of unionism. Canvassing for local political candidates has informed me of education issues important to our local communities. Please vote to re-elect Emily Woolery for FA President.

FT Director:

David Mrofka

Hello, faculty colleagues. Thanks for considering me as an FA Director for 2025-2027. Since 2011, I've been a Professor of Earth Sciences in the Natural Sciences Division. I have served on the scholarship Committee and the Student Conduct Board for many years, and on the FA's Negotiation Team for four years. I'm on sabbatical this year but looking forward to getting back into the classroom soon. I enjoy my involvement in the Faculty Association and look forward supporting all my colleagues and have enjoyed sharing perspectives from those in my division. Some issues that are important to me are preserving part-time and full-time faculty rights, improving conditions for our adjuncts, and soliciting widespread input from faculty to guide the negotiations process. Feel free to reach out and share what matters to you and thank you!

Catherine McKee

- Full-time faculty member for 30 years; member of the Department of Business Administration; one year adjunct
- Teach law and paralegal classes.
- Licensed California lawyer.
- Assistant Distance Learning Coordinator, overseeing SPOT, from 2018 through spring 2024, including during Covid.
- Currently Distance Learning Coordinator and RSI mentor.
- Formerly Paralegal Program Coordinator.

I've been a member of the FA since my first department meeting as a full-time faculty member when my department told me I was both the FA and Academic Senate rep. I didn't have tenure so I didn't say no. I would have joined the FA anyway. I'm a big proponent of organizing and unions.

I've spoken at Board of Trustees meetings multiple times on behalf of the FA, joined FA lunches with trustees, distributed FA flyers at campus events, and more. My FA t-shirt is my Tuesday uniform. I love a challenge. I'm asking for your vote.

Shireetha Gethers

Having spent the last four years as a member of the faculty association representative council, I have come to understand the importance and value of contributing to the campus community. More specifically, the academic union and community that has been created for faculty. I am eager to take on the role as Full-Time Director and to serve on behalf of faculty at Mt. San Antonio College representing the ongoing needs and interests of each one of us in areas such as salary, benefits and general representation in critical campus conversations. I am currently doing so by serving on our local governance committee and attending union focused conferences, workshops and trainings in an effort to stay informed on issues affecting staff, students and our local surrounding community. I greatly appreciate your vote for Full-Time Director. I am committed to connecting with faculty across campus and am looking forward to serving.

Jenny Gernhart

Hi friends. I've been active in FA since my hire in 2020. I attend board meetings, trustee luncheons, and rallies. I've worked sign-in tables, catered FA lunches and volunteered for the Cup of Thanks event. I've attended union organizing workshops and helped plan the current member drive. Faculty work issues are student learning issues. We deserve the same care and respect from the district that we provide students. Directors play a role in recruiting members and guiding the direction of FA. I could serve you well in this capacity. I've gotten to know many of you through my work on FPDC, and DLC as well as coordinating RSI. I strive to understand and advocate for all. As a director I would continue to fight for fair equitable pay, academic freedom, and faculty voice in campus governance while building collaborative relationships with all of you. In solidarity,

PT Director:

Adrienne D Williams

For the PT-Director position, I, Dr. Adrienne Williams, respectfully ask for your vote. I have worked professionally in both industry and education for nearly 17 years. I have held positions as a department chair, full-time faculty member at a nearby institution, and administrator (academic dean) of a college. For more than 4 years, I have been a proud part-time chemistry professor at Mount San Antonio College. I currently use my professional and personal expertise both within and outside of the classroom as the founder and CEO of an engineering and education consulting company. At Mt. Sac, I presently serve as an FA spokesperson for the chemistry department and an elected Site spokesperson for the College of Natural Science. I would like to continue my passion for the unification of ALL faculty and our well-deserved rights, having previously worked in a variety of roles and capacities at different academic institutions! I'm grateful.

Ellen Straw

I'm running for part-time director to improve conditions for adjunct faculty while exercising organizational skills, good faith, passion, and ethics. My track record includes helping to start a Citrus College adjuncts' union, also participating in negotiating their first contract. I have been an Executive Board member and a representative for the FA, AFAC, CCA/CTA, and NEA RA. As a Service Center One representative, I received their 2023-2024 WHO award. As a FA co-organizer, I assisted with membership outreach, event planning, and protests at BoT meetings, culminating in a significant increase in adjunct membership. I also served on a task force to help adjuncts gain access to services at our Student Health Center. I'm still assisting adjuncts with unemployment applications, speaking at BoT meetings, and contacting political leaders concerning issues that affect all colleges, faculty, and students. As PT Director, I will be a stronger voice and presence for us.

Service Center One:

Joshua Christ

Joshua has spent the last 4 years as a Service Center Delegate by virtue of position as a state council delegate. In that time, he has forged relationships with union leaders across the Service Center ONE region, highlighting struggles that we are having on our campus, and lending assistance from Mt.SAC to struggles that our K-12 partners are having. These relationships empower our unification as part of CTA, and will continue to benefit our members as we navigate future struggles with management. Please vote for Joshua Christ to continue as a delegate to the Service Center ONE, and build solidarity with our brothers and sisters throughout the region.

NEA Delegate:

Adrienne D Williams

For the NEA Delegate nominee, I, Dr. Adrienne Williams, respectfully ask for your vote. I have worked professionally in both industry and education for about 17 years. I have held positions as a department chair, full-time faculty member at a nearby institution, and administrator (academic dean) of a college. For more than 4 years, I have been a proud part-time chemistry professor at Mount San Antonio College. I currently use my professional and personal expertise both within and outside of the classroom as the founder and CEO of an engineering and education consulting company. At Mt. Sac, I presently serve as an FA spokesperson for the chemistry department and an elected Site spokesperson for the College of Natural Science. I would like to continue my support for part time faculty equity nationwide, the unification of ALL faculty and our well-deserved rights! I'm grateful.

Joshua Christ

Joshua Christ currently serves as the Vice President of MSAC FA, the MSAC FA representative to the CCA Board of Directors, a CTA State Council delegate, and a previous NEA Representative Assembly Delegate. He also serves on the Board of Governors for the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges, which is a strong advocacy voice for community college faculty at the state level. Joshua is connected at all levels of union governance and remains a steadfast advocate for the needs of all community college faculty at the local, regional, state and national level. Please elect Joshua to continue this important work, and ensure that the needs of higher education faculty are heard at our all important national convention.

Sandra Esslinger

The NEA serves as our National union representation and the highest authority for educational legislation. The significance of national educational policies has never been more critical. I firmly embrace this responsibility, having represented you as the lead negotiator at the FA from 2020 to 2024, as a member of FANT, and as an FA Executive Board Member currently in my third term. My involvement spans to 2002, encompassing roles such as Academic Senate Representative and participant in the CCA Legislation and Advocacy Committee, among other national and international affiliations. It is essential to address adjunct working conditions vigorously at both state and national levels. As a negotiator, I prioritize understanding both benefits and potential unintended consequences. I have consistently advocated for faculty rights related to Academic Freedom and Intellectual Property. My extensive experience equips me to represent our interests at the NEA effectively. I would be honored to represent you.

Shireetha Gethers

Having spent the last few years as a member of the faculty association representative council, I have come to understand the importance and value of contributing to the campus community. More specifically, the academic union and community that has been created for faculty. I am eager to take continue this work by attending NEA Rep Council and to serve on behalf of faculty at Mt. San Antonio College representing the ongoing needs and interests of each one of us in areas such as salary, benefits and general representation in other critical conversations. I am currently doing so by serving on our local governance committee and attending union focused conferences, workshops and trainings in an effort to stay informed on issues affecting staff, students and our local surrounding community. Most recently attending the last 2 CSEA and Aspiring Leaders conferences. I greatly appreciate your vote and am looking forward to serving.

Judy Lawton

I believe serving as an NEA Rep will further my work in our FA and in the CCA at the state level. Currently I serve as Part-time director on our FA eBoard. This year, I participated in the first ever Organizing Track of the NEA Higher Education conference and I chair the newly created Organizing Committee of the CCA. I also serve on the Part Time Faculty Issues Committee currently working on implementation of part-time health care across the state.

With current political challenges, supporting our faculty and bargaining team through organizing has never been more crucial. Part-time faculty participation is needed to win fairness and equity. It is only through unity that we can build a strong union to support our bargaining team and resist the cuts and attacks on our campuses.

Here is the link to see my full candidate statement.

<https://tinyurl.com/JMLawton>

Jenny Gernhart

Hi friends. NEA Rep Assembly is responsible for policy making and strategic planning of the NEA. I am confident that I could serve you well in this capacity. I've attended three union organizing workshops over the last 18 months and helped plan the current member drive. I am also a policy and politics junky. As a state delegate I have helped create resolutions for state democratic parties and helped make thousands of phone calls and knocked on thousands of doors for various candidates and ballot initiatives. I've been active in our FA since my hire in 2020. I attend board meetings, trusty luncheons, and rallies. I've worked sign-in tables, catered FA lunches and volunteered for the Cup of Thanks event. As an NEA rep I would continue to listen to you and craft policies that you and our fellow faculty want and need the most. Thanks for considering me,