



SBCCD TRUSTEE AREA 5 INTERVIEWS

Candidate #1

CARLOS AGUILERA

CANDIDATE APPLICATION AND INFORMATION SHEET

PAGE 1 OF 4

Full Legal Name: Carlos Alan Aguilera

Address: 24396 Altdorf Drive

City, State, Zip: Crestline, CA, 92325

Phone: 909-528-0689

Email: agui192@usc.edu

Please list the regular days
and times of the week you
are not available to meet.

N/A

1. Please list and describe your experience serving on a governing board, specifically a community college district.

I am confident that my extensive experience in government, policy making, and budgetary processes will allow me to excel on the Board of Trustees of the San Bernardino Community College District. As a first-generation college student and young Latino from California's Inland Empire, I have over a decade of experience in government, policy, and decision making. I have been actively engaged in shaping policies and laws to help underrepresented and marginalized communities. My passion for public service led me to work in state government in various roles. I was given the opportunity and distinct honor of becoming part of the California Capital Fellows Program. As an Executive Fellow in Sacramento, I got a better insight into how governments operate under limited resources to develop budgets and provide community services to residents. I quickly learned how to communicate with leadership across departments, agencies, and the Legislature. I helped develop the agency's policies through research and stakeholder workshops while learning the importance of policy analysis. In collaboration with stakeholders, we summarized data and identified effective solutions to make recommendations to executive management. Additionally, I continued my education by pursuing a Master of Public Administration from the University of Southern California. After graduate school, I worked for the Governor's Office of Finance (DOF) where I examined legislation and evaluated the fiscal impacts on the state. Within my capacity, I represented the Administration before legislative committees on proposed budgets within my assigned policy area. My experience as a public servant taught me the importance of good governance, appropriate resource allocation, and fiscal responsibility while carrying out policy priorities. Within my capacity, I gained a strong understanding of the challenging budget making process. Due to the Pandemic, we had to adapt the budget priorities to carry out programmatic needs. Part of my role was also to analyze and advance policies to ensure childcare was accessible for California's families, specifically managing \$1 billion in federal funding to help with COVID-19 recovery. Within my capacity at DOF, I gained a strong understanding of the challenging budget making process. I met with state departments and agencies to decide how to balance costs while maximizing public goods within the limitations of the government's resources. I also consulted with local and various stakeholders to develop comprehensive recommendations on complex policy issues. In my role, I tracked different bill proposals at the state level. I reviewed proposals from the Senate and Assembly and worked with legislative staff to clarify questions and concerns. My work culminated in drafting recommendations for the Director of Finance and legislative/bill language. I helped write legislation including budget bills and trailer bills to codify into statute. Additionally, I briefed legislators and committee consultants on the Governor's Budget and attended budget and policy hearings. I prepared written documents to communicate information effectively and represented the Governor's Administration before Senate and Assembly committees on proposed policy implementation. I testified before the Assembly Committee on Appropriations and the Assembly Committee on Human Services during the 2020 and 2021 budget cycles and responded to questions from legislators.

2. Please list any committees or college activities you have recently participated in.

Yes, I have been actively involved in several academic and professional roles. I am currently a Public Policy Professor at the University of Redlands. In this role, I am engaged with efforts to expand the Master of Public Administration program to reach more students and better serve the local community. I have been involved in curriculum development, outreach initiatives, and partnerships with local government agencies to enhance the program's impact and relevance. Additionally, as a graduate student instructor at Howard University, I mentored and guided undergraduate students through various courses in political science. This role has allowed me to develop and deliver engaging course content, provide academic support, and help students navigate their academic and career aspirations. As a representative on the Graduate Student Council, I advocate for the needs and concerns of graduate students, working to improve resources, support, and opportunities available to them. I am also still involved with my alma mater, San Diego State University, as a mentor in the Aztec Mentorship Program. In this capacity, I provide guidance to current students on academic and professional development, drawing from my own experiences to support their growth. Recently, I participated in a career panel for undecided/undeclared students, offering insights and advice on potential career paths and the importance of finding one's passion. These roles and activities reflect my commitment to academia, mentorship, and community engagement, and they provide me with numerous opportunities to contribute to the academic and professional development of students and colleagues.

3. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment-related.

As the current Director of Civic Engagement at the California Primary Care Association, I develop, oversee, and carry out internal and external policies and strategies for increasing voter turnout in underrepresented communities. I implement the strategic plan for the My Vote, My Health initiative to educate underrepresented communities on civic engagement and election information. Under the My Vote My Health initiative, our team aims to engage communities of color, and poor and working-class communities in the voting process to advance an electorate that represents all of California. In leading a statewide project, I develop and execute campaign tactical plans that exercise and leverage coalition and grassroots power. I continuously foster relationships with regional and statewide stakeholders to design voter programs and expand engagement efforts in low-income communities of color. As the lead contract administrator, I manage reporting on statewide grants, budgets, and contract proposals with community organizations. I supervise and mentor regional staff working on the ground with community partners. My role also includes partnership development in working with our funders and foundations to ensure accurate grant management. As a policy expert, I also evaluate and apply national and state policy efforts to increase voter engagement during the 2024

election cycle. In collaboration with our Director of Communications, I also work on communications related to policy and strategy initiatives, including presentations, online material, social media, press conferences, and external affairs. Also, I worked for the California Secretary of State's Office (SOS) where I advised agency management in organizational strategy and the application of governmental rules and regulations. In collaboration with stakeholders, we summarized data and identified effective solutions to make recommendations to executive management. I also made recommendations to management on supervision and mentorship best practices to improve team morale. Within my capacity, I conducted classification and organizational analyses to make recommendations regarding appropriate allocations. I also advise management relating to operating procedures and assist in the development of policies. My responsibilities included advising management recruitment and selection, best personnel management practices, ensuring civil services laws, regulations, and departmental policy were adhered to, and the application of provisions of bargaining unit contracts. I performed complex research assignments and compiled information to provide written and verbal recommendations and programmatic resolutions to management and staff. At the Secretary of State's Office, I helped create the organizational and governance structure for multiple divisions throughout the agency.

4. Why do you want to be a board member?

As a son of working-class immigrants, I am passionate about improving the quality of life in the Inland Empire. I grew up in the region and attended Crafton Hills Community College. I am a strong believer in the government's role in serving the public good. I have a decade of government experience serving diverse communities while promoting inclusive programs and policies. Working in government at the federal, state, and local levels has equipped me with strong skills in communication, organization, presentation, and working under pressure. My extensive experience in policy and government aligns with the mission of community colleges to provide accessible and equitable education opportunities. For my entire life, I have witnessed the SBCCD region struggle economically due to major employers leaving the region in the 1990s. My dream is to see the region thrive by educating residents and providing quality career opportunities. Community colleges are at the center of creating a strong economic ecosystem in the area. SBCCD will need to establish effective policies to meet students' needs and service our local community. Also, as a resident of the San Bernardino Mountain communities, I bring a unique perspective to how SBCCD can serve all of Area 5. It is especially important to engage students from the mountain communities. Not all community members see the value in education, and we need to create systems that fit our region's economic needs and educate the next generation of workers.

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of community colleges?

The basic purpose of community colleges is to provide accessible, affordable, and high-quality education to all individuals, particularly those from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds. Community colleges play a crucial role in offering vocational training, associate degrees, transfer opportunities to four-year institutions, and continuing education programs to meet the diverse needs of the community. As a university professor, I see the value of community college as part of the education pipeline to prepare students for 4-year universities. Community colleges are a more affordable and accessible option for low income and non-traditional students. It is an important steppingstone for those who wish to transfer to a 4-year university and essential for the California Master Plan for Higher Education. Additionally, community colleges are becoming the ideal institution for workforce development. Not all careers require a bachelor's degree and community colleges are a great space to gain technical skills. Community colleges can be more responsive and flexible to meet our region's workforce needs. Community colleges also serve a larger share of nontraditional students and are at the forefront of advancing education equity.

6. What is the role of the board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The Board's role in fulfilling the purpose of community colleges is to provide governance, oversight, and strategic direction. The Board ensures that the college's policies, programs, and initiatives align with its mission to serve the community. This includes approving budgets, setting educational standards, and advocating for resources and policies that support the college's goals. As the governing body for the community college district, the Board is responsible for establishing policies that allow students to succeed and serve the region. The community colleges cannot fulfil their purpose if the Board does not create a productive environment for students to learn and employees to do their jobs.

7. How does the board's role differ from that of the chancellor?

The Board's role is to provide governance and oversight, while the chancellor's role is to manage the day-to-day operations of the college. The Board sets policies and strategic direction, whereas the chancellor implements these policies and manages the administrative functions, faculty, and staff to ensure the effective operation of the college. The Governing Board of Trustees functions as a goal setting, policy-making, and evaluating body. The Board has complete jurisdiction over the district, its programs, employees, pupils, building sites, and equipment. On the other hand, the Chancellor is an employee of the community college district and focuses on implementing and putting into action the goals established by the Board. The Board and Chancellor work in conjunction to serve the

community college district and students. The Board is tasked with developing and approving policies that govern the district's operations. These policies cover a wide range of areas, including academic programs, financial management, human resources, and campus safety. The Board ensures that these policies are aligned with the district's mission and strategic goals. The Chancellor is responsible for implementing these policies. This involves developing procedures and processes to operationalize Board policies, ensuring that faculty, staff, and administrators adhere to them, and adjusting as needed to improve effectiveness. Further, the Board provides oversight and accountability by monitoring the district's performance and holding the Chancellor accountable for achieving the district's goals. This includes reviewing financial reports, academic performance data, and other key indicators to ensure that the district is on track. The Chancellor reports to the Board and provides regular updates on the district's progress. The Chancellor is also responsible for addressing any issues or challenges that arise and for making recommendations to the Board on matters requiring their attention. Similarly, the Board members serve as representatives of the community and are responsible for maintaining strong relationships with stakeholders, including students, parents, community organizations, and government officials. They advocate for the district at the local, state, and national levels. The Chancellor also plays a critical role in community relations. As the face of the district, the Chancellor engages with community leaders, businesses, and organizations to build partnerships and support for the district. The Chancellor advocates for the district's needs and promotes its achievements. While the Board and Chancellor have distinct roles, their relationship is collaborative. They work together to ensure that the district's goals are met and that students receive a high-quality education. This collaboration involves regular communication, joint problem-solving, and mutual respect. The Board relies on the Chancellor's expertise and recommendations to make informed decisions, while the Chancellor relies on the Board's guidance and support to lead the district effectively. Conclusively, the Board's role is to provide governance, set policies, and ensure accountability, while the Chancellor's role is to manage the daily operations, implement Board policies, and lead the district in achieving its strategic goals. Together, they form a dynamic partnership that is essential for the success and effectiveness of the community college district.

8. What should be the relationship between the board members and the administration in the handling of college and district concerns?

The relationship between board members and the administration should be collaborative and based on mutual respect and open communication. Board members should provide support and guidance to the administration while respecting the chancellor's authority to manage daily operations. This partnership ensures that the college can effectively address concerns and work towards common goals. It is crucial for the Board members and administration to have a positive working relationship where different authority levels are respected and both groups can effectively do their job. When

handling concerns, it is important to identify which party has the authority and should take leadership on the issue. The Board and administration are responsible for holding each other accountable for the benefit of the community college district. The foundation of the relationship between board members and the administration should be a collaborative partnership. This involves regular and transparent communication, where both parties share information, discuss strategies, and work together to solve problems and make informed decisions. Board members should actively seek input from the administration on key issues, leveraging their expertise and insights to guide policy-making and strategic planning. Conversely, the administration should keep the board informed about operational developments, challenges, and successes to ensure alignment and mutual understanding. It is essential for both board members and the administration to clearly understand and respect their distinct roles and responsibilities. Respecting these boundaries helps prevent micromanagement and allows each party to focus on their core functions. Board members should provide strategic direction and oversight without interfering in operational details, while the administration should execute board policies and manage campus affairs effectively. Open and transparent communication is also key to a healthy relationship between the board and the administration. Regular meetings, reports, and updates help keep everyone informed and engaged. This includes sharing both successes and challenges openly and fostering a culture of trust and collaboration. Establishing clear communication channels and protocols ensures that information flows smoothly between the board and the administration. This can include scheduled briefings, written reports, and open forums for discussion. Working towards a shared vision and common goals is essential for the success of the district. The board and administration should collaboratively develop and refine the district's strategic plan, ensuring that it aligns with the needs and aspirations of the community. By focusing on shared objectives, both parties can work synergistically to enhance educational quality, student success, and community impact. Also, when conflicts or disagreements arise, it is important to have a structured approach to resolution. This includes establishing protocols for addressing concerns, engaging in respectful dialogue, and seeking common ground. By addressing conflicts promptly and constructively, the board and administration can maintain a positive working relationship and prevent issues from escalating.

9. Briefly describe your commitment to our colleges and district.

I am dedicated to making sure the SBCCD serves our students and helps uplift the region. I grew up in the district and chose to move back to the Inland Empire because I am committed to seeing the region thrive. San Bernardino Valley College and Crafton Hills College will play an essential role in educating residents to meet our area's economic needs. I chose to obtain a Doctorate to better serve my community and have the ability to mentor the next generation of leaders. I see the need for students to receive quality education that is connected to real-world applications. My commitment to SBCCD extends beyond my personal and professional aspirations; it is deeply rooted in my belief in the transformative power of education. Having experienced firsthand the impact of community colleges, I am passionate about contributing to their mission and ensuring they continue to be a beacon of hope and opportunity for all students. Mentoring students is a cornerstone of my commitment. I dedicate time to guiding students through their academic and career journeys, helping them navigate challenges and achieve their goals. By sharing my experiences and insights, I aim to inspire and empower the next generation of leaders. I am also dedicated to enhancing the curriculum and programs offered by SBCCD to ensure they are relevant and responsive to the evolving job market. This includes advocating for the integration of emerging technologies, industry partnerships, and experiential learning opportunities that provide students with practical skills and real-world experience. By working closely with faculty and administrators, I strive to foster an environment of innovation and continuous improvement, where new ideas and approaches are embraced to better serve our students. Additionally, recognizing the crucial role that SBCCD plays in regional economic development, I work to strengthen the connections between education and the local economy. This involves collaborating with local businesses, government agencies, and workforce development organizations to align educational programs with economic needs. By promoting career and technical education, I aim to prepare students for high-demand careers that contribute to the region's economic vitality. These efforts not only benefit students but also help to attract and retain businesses in the Inland Empire. My dedication to SBCCD is reflected in my active engagement, advocacy, and efforts to enhance the quality and accessibility of education for all students. I am committed to the district's mission and vision, and I will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that San Bernardino Valley College and Crafton Hills College remain pillars of educational excellence and community empowerment in the Inland Empire.

10. What do you see as the strengths of SBCCD?

The strengths of SBCCD include its commitment to providing accessible and affordable education, its focus on serving diverse and underrepresented communities, and its ability to offer a wide range of programs that cater to the varying needs of students, including vocational training, transfer opportunities, and continuing education. Commitment to Accessibility and Affordability: SBCCD is

dedicated to making higher education accessible to all, regardless of financial background. Through various financial aid programs, scholarships, and grants, the district ensures that education remains affordable for students from all walks of life. The district's policies and initiatives aim to reduce barriers to education, such as offering flexible scheduling options, online courses, and support services for non-traditional students. Focus on Serving Diverse and Underrepresented Communities: SBCCD's commitment to diversity and inclusion is evident in its efforts to serve a wide range of students, including those from underrepresented and marginalized communities. This focus helps to create a vibrant learning environment that reflects the diversity of the region. The district offers targeted support programs, such as mentoring and counseling services, designed to help students from diverse backgrounds succeed. Wide Range of Programs: SBCCD offers an extensive array of programs that meet the diverse needs and interests of its students. This includes vocational and technical training programs, which prepare students for immediate entry into the workforce with valuable skills and certifications. Continuing education and lifelong learning opportunities are also a hallmark of SBCCD, allowing community members to upgrade their skills, explore new interests, or pursue personal enrichment.

11. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the colleges and district?

Community colleges need to be attuned to what skills employers need as well as leveraging training from the community colleges to attract employers. The district should facilitate relationships and pipelines for career opportunities. There needs to be an increase in career technical education and partnerships with employers in the region. In addition, there are several other key areas that require attention and improvement to enhance the effectiveness and relevance of community colleges and the district: Technology and Infrastructure: Investing in modern technology and infrastructure is critical. This includes upgrading facilities, ensuring access to high-speed internet, and providing up-to-date computer labs and technical equipment. Expanding online learning options and hybrid course models can offer greater flexibility for students, particularly those who are working or have other commitments. Community and Industry Partnerships: Strengthening partnerships with local industries, businesses, and community organizations can create more opportunities for internships, apprenticeships, and hands-on learning experiences. These partnerships can also provide valuable feedback on the skills and knowledge needed in the workforce. Establishing advisory boards comprising industry leaders and employers can help align educational programs with market needs and emerging trends. Engagement and Outreach: Increasing community engagement and outreach efforts can help raise awareness about the programs and opportunities available at community colleges. Hosting open houses, workshops, and information sessions can attract prospective students and foster a sense of community. Collaborating with high schools to create dual-enrollment programs and pathways can provide students with a head start on their college education and career preparation.



SBCCD TRUSTEE AREA 5 INTERVIEWS

Candidate #2

JAMES ALBERT

CANDIDATE APPLICATION AND INFORMATION SHEET

PAGE 1 OF 4

Full Legal Name: James Albert

Address: 590 Country Club Road

City, State, Zip: San Bernardino, CA 92404

Phone: 909-273-7021

Email: jamesalbert36@gmail.com

Please list the regular days and times of the week you **are not** available to meet. Usually Monday thru Friday between 7:00am-4:30pm with up to a hour off during the middle of the day. Additionally, I do have Mon. 7/1 off from work.

1. Please list and describe your experience serving on a governing board, specifically a community college district.

I have not specifically served on a community college board, however I have served on advisory committees related to our region's air quality and electoral redistricting.

2. Please list any committees or college activities you have recently participated in.

In 2013, with the financial assistance of an athletic scholarship and a Pell grant, I graduated with academic honors from CSU Monterey Bay. I served on the electoral redistricting commission for the city of San Bernardino following the 2020 census. Pre-COVID, I was active with the SBVC student leadership in passing resolutions in support of revenue-generating and electoral reforms for SBCCD and other community college districts throughout the state. Through my involvement with a local non-profit organization, we partnered with KVCR to broadcast candidate forums to the community at-large. I've also led civic education and voter registration presentations at SBVC. Additionally, I've trained high school students in the local area to lead the presentations themselves and inspire peer-to-peer learning.

3. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment-related.

I currently do clerical work for the Public Defender's Office of San Bernardino County. I have worked for a variety of public-service oriented jobs in the region involving data collection relating to housing, public health, recreation, delivery, and transportation. I have lived in the city of San Bernardino for almost 24 years and I have volunteered in the community since being in high school serving the unhoused, getting involved with local organizations, and advocating/lobbying on issues impacting our community.

4. Why do you want to be a board member?

Although our region is expected to continue to grow in population in the foreseeable future, we still lose too many people who leave the area/region for greater opportunities. I envision our community college district as a catalyst to ensure everyone has an opportunity to prosper in life. I also see KVCR as a vital asset that has limitless potential, not just in terms of career education, but fill a growing need for a local, trusted, news source and multicultural programming.

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of community colleges?

To positively impact the lives of people, their families, and the communities we live in by providing an affordable, high-quality pathway to higher education, workforce training opportunities, and cultivate a passion for lifelong learning and a multi-literate citizenry.

6. What is the role of the board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The board's role is to be the elected, representative governing body of the district that discusses and implements policies that align with the mission and vision statement of the district, promote effective best practices of shared governance among the district's stakeholders, and oversee the appointed chancellor who handles the day-to-day administrative operations of the district.

7. How does the board's role differ from that of the chancellor?

Board's role primarily focuses on setting the policies and vision of the district, engaging and networking with intergovernmental leaders in our region, state and federal level. Chancellor collaborates with the board to carry out and implement the policies and vision of the board, handles day-to-day administrative operations of the district.

8. What should be the relationship between the board members and the administration in the handling of college and district concerns?

Ethical, collaborative, open and transparent, and accountable to the community and one another. Inspiring courage and integrity between board and administration to take on necessary risks, foster innovation, and focus on solutions to improve student outcomes.

9. Briefly describe your commitment to our colleges and district.

I wholeheartedly believe that in order for the city and county of San Bernardino to reach its full potential, an essential factor will be how well our community college district can adapt and excel in a complex, fast-changing, and interconnected world.

10. What do you see as the strengths of SBCCD?

A board with diverse perspectives and vast experience in higher education. Willingness to collaborate with intergovernmental leaders, local non-profit organizations, and industry partners to advance the mission, goals, and vision of the district. KVCR/FNX and existing workforce training programs.

11. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the colleges and district?

In a regional economy still recovering from the Great Recession, loss of major employers, and rising cost of living, area(s) for improvement include: providing competitive pay/salary, benefits, and healthy work-life balance to our dedicated workforce and their families, innovative and equitable revenue-generating solutions that help us reach parity with our other public education institutions, and develop the civic and culturally-competent infrastructure led by KVCR/FNX to promote a more informed and engaged community.



SBCCD TRUSTEE AREA 5 INTERVIEWS

Candidate #3

PAM MONTANA



**CANDIDATE APPLICATION & INFORMATION SHEET
SAN BERNARDINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
TRUSTEE AREA 5**

Name Pamela Montana_____

Address 5230 N Pershing Ave, San Bernardino, CA 92407_____

Phone (909) 831-8252_____ Email p.montana24@gmail.com_____

Regular days and times of the week you are not available to meet: Flexible schedule_____

Write your responses in the text boxes below **or** attach them on a separate sheet if needed:

1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a Community college district? Please list such prior experience.

As of July 1, 2024, I will have the honor of serving as a Board of Director for San Bernardino Valley College Foundation.

2. Have you worked on any committees or participated in any college activities recently? If so, please list them.

Although, it is a senior celebration for recent graduating seniors who are currently in foster care in San Bernardino County, many of them will be attending college. As an Educational Liaison, it gives me great pleasure to witness many of the youth who are on my caseload celebrate their accomplishment.

3. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment-related.

I serve on several boards which provides me the opportunity to participate in community events.

Last year, I was able to co-host the return of Kiwanis of Greater San Bernardino annual toy giveaway. We were able to provide toys to kids from Riley Elementary in San Bernardino and surrounding area.

As Chair Woman for Women United, Arrowhead United Way, I host a lunch for community members and celebrate the women in our community who are making an impact and our champions in our community. This year, the theme was "Women Making Waves" and our keynote was Connie Leyva.

I also serve on the Susan G. Komen board and one of the biggest fundraisers is the "Big Wig" event. It is a fun pink event that helps raise funds for breast cancer awareness.

Recently, I volunteered with Arrowhead United Way and their inaugural B.R.A.V.E. resource event benefitting our veterans. I also proudly serve on the board of Arrowhead United Way.

Every year, I participate in the graduation ceremony for students at PAL Charter Academy. This year, the graduation was held at San Bernardino Valley College.

As a member of the San Bernardino Sheriff's Informational Committee, I attend quarterly meetings and receive updates from Sheriff Shannon Dicus.

During the academic school year, I participate in the Mom Mob. Community members greet students at a local elementary school in San Bernardino.

4. Why do you want to be a board member?

The opportunity to serve the community, but more importantly the students in a new capacity is the motivating factor. I want to engage and help students navigate in their educational journey. What better place than the community college. My passion for education began at San Bernardino Valley College. I want to help set the foundation for other students in the community.

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of community colleges?

The community college is the conduit for our students not only to achieve higher education at an affordable cost but to connect with community organizations and members. It is a way for our students to engage, collaborate and learn new skills. Community college is a gateway for our students. I am an advocate for community college and I strongly encourage students to begin at a community college. I believe it will help shape them as young adults. Community College offers programs such as The Guardian Scholars Program which helps our foster youth navigate in their new educational realm. I hope that students will be compelled to continue their education and also become involved in civic engagement. I mentored students from Middle College and I witnessed first-hand the success and positive impact it had on students who attended classes at San Bernardino Valley College. Community College opens the door for higher education and career training.

6. What is the role of the board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

I believe that the role of the board is to continue advocating for students whether it be in governance, obtaining resources, and being visible and engaged. It is important to continue collaborating with community partners and to lead by example.

7. How does the board's role differ from that of the chancellor?

Chancellor Rodriguez carries out the day to day operations and the board's role is to collaborate and support the Chancellor. She is in direct contact with staff. Under the chancellor's leadership, the board will solicit counsel to help ensure that community colleges continue to foster innovative ways for students to succeed.

8. What should be the relationship between the board members and the administration in the handling of college and district concerns?

I believe that having an open dialogue and communicating is key. Stakeholders should align together and devise strategies that will continue to garner success for students. It is important to maintain trust in order to move forward and serve the students and community.

9. Briefly describe your commitment to our colleges and district.

In my opinion to be an effective board member, one needs to be committed. Our students are the future. If I am granted this opportunity to serve, it will not be taken lightly. It is not about holding a title, it is about serving our students and our community. We lay the foundation for future board members. I hope that I can inspire others to become involved in leadership roles and I hope to continue learning from our students.

10. What do you see as the strengths of SBCCD?

Through my lens, I see individuals from diverse backgrounds, but who have one common ground and that is their commitment to learning. This is what makes SBCCD stand out. The district is focused on student achievement and implementing new strategies for students. They are continually working on new projects, improving innovation and upgrading technology which is vital for workforce development, and offering internships. Attending community college embarked my career pathway and I am a proud community college graduate. The district was founded in 1926 and will soon celebrate 100 years. The success is attributed to devoted educators, board members, staff, and community members. This is the strength of SBCCD.

11. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the colleges and district?

It is not an improvement, but I learn about what is happening from social media. I love the student stories. Everyone has a story to tell. The stories are inspiring.



SBCCD TRUSTEE AREA 5 INTERVIEWS

Candidate #4

JAMES MORRIS



CANDIDATE APPLICATION & INFORMATION SHEET SAN BERNARDINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT TRUSTEE AREA 5

Name James P Morris

Address 776 Bernard Way, San Bernardino, CA 92404

Phone (909) 648-3176 Email jpmorris123@gmail.com

Regular days and times of the week you are not available to meet: With enough lead time, I can be available as needed during the week (day or evening).

Write your responses in the text boxes below or attach them on a separate sheet if needed:

1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a Community college district? Please list such prior experience.

While I have not previously served on the governing board for a community college district, I have the following significant experience serving on the governing board of a public charter school organization, the governing boards of local not-for-profit organizations, and serving professionally as both legal counsel and financial advisor to the governing boards of various public agencies throughout California.

Governing Board Member, *Lewis Center for Educational Research (a public California charter school organization)* • 2018 – 2023.

Governing Board Member, *California Housing Foundation* • 2016 – present.

Governing Board Member, *Making Hope Happen Foundation* • 2014 – present.

Municipal Financial Consultant, *Urban Futures, Inc. (UFI)* • 2018 – present. As Managing Director of UFI's Public Management Group, provide financial consulting services to cities and special districts across California specializing in long-term financial forecasting, fiscal stabilization and financial sustainability strategies.

Deputy County Counsel IV, *County of San Bernardino, CA*, • 2004 – 2006. Among many duties, served as legal counsel to the County's Workforce Development Department and the Workforce Investment Board.

General Counsel and City Attorney, *Best Best & Krieger LLP, Riverside, CA*, • 1996 – 2004.

Appointed as general counsel for the Western Municipal Water District and the Victor Valley Regional Wastewater Agency. Served as deputy city attorney for the cities of Corona and Ontario.

2. Have you worked on any committees or participated in any college activities recently? If so, please list them.

I have not worked on committees or participated in activities of the community college district, but I look forward to the opportunity as an engaged board member.

3. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment-related.

As a public policy and economic development professional with degrees in law and urban planning, I have twenty-five years of significant and progressive experience in developing, managing, and implementing effective public policies and projects, with specialization in public finance, public law, and economic and community development. This experience includes:

Municipal Financial Consultant, *Urban Futures, Inc., Walnut Creek, CA* • 2018 – present

As Managing Director of UFI's Public Management Group, I have developed numerous dozen custom financial forecast models for California cities using econometric methods to correlate economic and municipal data to drive a 10-year forecast, with custom functions and dashboards for multiple "what-if" scenarios and stress testing of fiscal sustainability. Additionally, I have created comprehensive fiscal sustainability plans, developed revenue enhancement options, and helped design financial management strategies for pension, OPEB and other long-term liabilities for California cities.

Special Consultant, Office of the City Manager, *City of San Bernardino, CA* • 2014 – 2016
Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor, *City of San Bernardino, CA* • 2006 – 2014

- Led city's work and advocacy with local and regional economic development agencies to secure and deploy over \$2 billion in new infrastructure investments for San Bernardino.
- Developed high-level of proficiency in facilitating inter-governmental and inter-agency collaborations that optimize economic opportunities through strategic local-regional alignment.
- Managed successful wind-down of San Bernardino's former redevelopment agency (\$35+ million annual budget and \$300+ million in debt and obligations) and served as a key advisor and strategist for the city's bankruptcy team.

Deputy County Counsel IV, *County of San Bernardino, CA* • 2004 – 2006

Public Law Attorney, *Best Best & Krieger LLP, Riverside, CA* • 1996 – 2004

4. Why do you want to be a board member?

Born, raised and educated in San Bernardino, I returned to my hometown the mid-1990's and have spent my entire professional and civic life serving and helping to build San Bernardino and the larger Inland Empire region. I am deeply passionate about the Inland Empire and growing its myriad of diverse economic, social and geographic communities. I care deeply about our economy, our collective prosperity, and how we make the Inland Empire a region that our future generations choose to call home. Most importantly, I believe education is fundamental and central to this future.

For more than a decade, I have helped spearhead, guide and participate in several large cross-sector collaboratives focused on cradle-to-career education and economic mobility in San Bernardino. Most recently, this work has been through the Making Hope Happen Foundation, where as a founding board member, I helped set the vision for the Uplift San Bernardino initiative focused on building the next generation of successful young adults committed to growing roots and thriving in our region.

Additionally, I am deeply involved in leading the Life Skills program at San Bernardino High School that helps students build critical communication proficiencies, socio-emotional intelligence, and leadership skills through weekly sessions during the school year. Many of our graduates have continued their education and professional training at our local community colleges and are now beginning their careers in the region.

I see the opportunity to serve on the community college board of trustees as a natural outgrowth of my professional and civic endeavors. I hope to bring to the board valuable insights from my lived and professional experiences in San Bernardino and add to the wisdom and intellectual horsepower on the board required to tackle the significant challenges and capitalize on the exciting opportunities ahead for our community colleges.

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of community colleges?

The basic purpose of community colleges in California is to enhance the well-being of our students and communities through education and training in the following two ways:

1. **Broadening Access to Higher Education.** Our community colleges provide our students with the opportunity to complete foundational and lower-division collegiate coursework that can be transferred to a four-year institution, making a bachelor's degree more affordable and accessible to our diverse and broad population.
2. **Career Training.** Our community colleges provide training that equips our students with job-ready skills for specific careers, allowing them to enter the workforce directly after graduating and continue to upskill themselves during their career.

The overall goal is to provide well designed, clear, coherent, and structured educational experiences for our students that result in the attainment of high-quality postsecondary credentials and careers with value in the Inland Empire labor market.

6. What is the role of the board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

The board's fundamental role is to establish the vision and mission for the community college district, to discern and prioritize the goals aligned to that vision and mission, to determine the budget and allocation of resources, and to monitor performance to ensure the long-term financial sustainability and success of the community colleges.

Additionally, the board is responsible for oversight of the chancellor's effective, efficient, and successful administration and functioning of the community colleges. This includes hiring and evaluating the performance of the chancellor, adopting policies and procedures governing the district, and holding accountable the chancellor for institutional performance and continued progress towards achieving the district's mission, goals and objectives.

All of these board functions/roles are iterative and dynamic requiring continual learning, engagement, assessment and adjustment by the board.

7. How does the board's role differ from that of the chancellor?

The chancellor is responsible for carrying out and implementing the adopted vision, mission and goals of the district within the budget and policies set by the board. The board's role is direction and policy, the chancellor's role is executive and administrative. Through its adopted goals, priorities and budget, the board broadly defines what the district aims to achieve and how; the chancellor determines implementation and execution of the board's plan through the specifics of who, what, when, where and how.

8. What should be the relationship between the board members and the administration in the handling of college and district concerns?

The relationship between board members and the administration must be positive, professional, respectful, collegial and supportive. It takes both a successful board and a successful administration to ensure the success of our community colleges. Both have important roles and functions (described above) which are mutually supportive and reinforcing.

While the board has ultimate responsibility for oversight and accountability of the district's performance, the board must work with and through the chancellor and administration to effectuate that oversight, accountability and ultimate success. Thus, both board members and the administration must continually work to create and maintain a high trust, no surprises relationship that facilitates transparency, clear communication, effective collaboration, and efficient execution of dynamic innovations and strategies across the district.

Finally, board members must be firmly committed to acting as a corporate body not as individual members. Direction is provided to the chancellor and the administration through collective action of the board at public meetings.

9. Briefly describe your commitment to our colleges and district.

My commitment to serving on the community college board will be the same as my lifelong commitment has been to serving the community of San Bernardino. As demonstrated by my track record of successful professional and civic engagements, I take seriously the obligation of public service and the responsibilities that come with the office. I understand the significant personal commitment required to be a highly informed, engaged, and effective board member. I believe the obligations of board members extend well beyond thorough preparation and participation in board meetings and include ongoing learning, listening and self-education through consistent engagement with our college campuses, outreach within the communities we serve, and active cultivation of the educational, civic and business partnerships needed for the success of our colleges and students.

10. What do you see as the strengths of SBCCD?

While both of our community colleges have unique and individual strengths, the following are some of the collective strengths they share:

- Our community colleges have established and continue to maintain strong partnerships and alignment with the K-12 institutions within the district. Deep work has been ongoing in developing a career-oriented and post-secondary education culture in our K-12 school districts and the reinforcing the central role of our community colleges in those pathways for student success.
- There is strong and broad support within our community and region for both of our community colleges. Stemming from a high need for post-secondary training and education, there exists a strong desire for our community colleges to be successful in their mission, which translates into the public's willingness to provide and sustain the resources needed to enable that success.
- Our community colleges have developed strong community and industry/business partnerships in several ways. New, updated, and retooled career training and technical programs/certifications have been successfully deployed by both community colleges in response to emerging employer needs. These partnerships have in turn translated into employers providing increased opportunities for industry internships and externships to students enrolled in our college's programs, leading to direct employment opportunities for graduates.
- Since 2010, the district has made significant improvements and expansion of the backbone facilities on our college campuses, and in the technology required for various career training programs. While continued work is needed in upgrading our physical infrastructure and the technology deployed in our classrooms, successfully overcoming prior decades of deferred investment has set a strong foundation for the future and built trust with the public.
- The diverse student body on our campuses that reflect the demographics of our region, is a key source of strength for our future. The diversity enriches the campus communities, provides students with exposure to different cultures and perspectives, and positions our colleges to provide the future employees and leaders for our region.

11. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the colleges and district?

In a fast-changing economy and labor/employment market, there are numerous challenges facing our community colleges, including the following:

- Alignment of the educational and training pathways, programs, and certificates offered at our community colleges with current and future employment needs and career opportunities in the Inland Empire. Continued rapid and disruptive changes within industry sectors in our region, including advances in technology and changes in how work is performed, creates a constant need for our community colleges to adapt curriculum and programs to meet the evolving demands of the labor market.
- Development of student's social and emotional skills (interpersonal and emotional intelligence) that are critical to their sustainable employment, growth, and lifelong learning. Our rapidly changing and globally competitive economy dictates that our students will be increasingly challenged to adapt their workstyles, upgrade their skills, change jobs, and even change employment sectors over the course of their careers. This necessitates that our colleges focus not just on ensuring students have the technical skills needed for current in-demand employment sectors, but equally possess the employability and professional skills needed across disciplines and careers.
- Continuing to increase student success and completion rates at our community colleges is critical, as measured by enrollment, retention and completion of training programs or transfer to four-year institutions with completion of a bachelor's degree. Reducing structural and motivational barriers by providing comprehensive support services, including academic advising, counseling, tutoring, and career guidance, is crucial for student success.
- Like most community colleges, our community colleges face challenges in recruiting and retaining qualified faculty and staff. Competition with other educational institutions and industries, coupled with budget constraints, make it difficult to attract and retain talented professionals. Substantial student interaction with faculty is essential for student success defined in terms of retention, course and certificate completion, transfer, employment, and personal fulfillment. To this end, increasing the number of full-time faculty and providing contracts for part-time faculty that actively promote their involvement in the life of their campuses beyond the classroom (office hours, governance, course development, extra-curricular activities, etc.) is critical.



SBCCD TRUSTEE AREA 5 INTERVIEWS

Candidate #5

HENRY NICKEL



CANDIDATE APPLICATION & INFORMATION SHEET SAN BERNARDINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT TRUSTEE AREA 5

Name Henry Nickel

Address 1482 Bussey Street

San Bernardino, CA 92405

Phone (909) 915-0666

Email hnickel@hotmail.com

Regular days and times of the week you are not available to meet: None

Attach responses on a separate sheet if needed:

1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a Community college district? Please list such prior experience.

I am a former elected member of the San Bernardino City Council.

2. Have you worked on any committees or participated in any college activities recently? If so, please list them.

I have participated in visioning meetings with CSUSB as the former 5th Ward San Bernardino City council member among other activities.

3. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment-related.

I serve as the labor market analyst for the San Bernardino County Workforce Development Department

4. Why do you want to be a board member?

This is an opportunity to contribute to improved alignment between our community colleges, workforce system and labor market for the benefit of our community and region.

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of community colleges?

To provide broad-based community access to postsecondary education.

6. What is the role of the board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

To establish policies to align postsecondary education with the needs of our community and labor market.

7. How does the board's role differ from that of the chancellor?

The board's role is to serve as a governing board primarily tasked with policy development. The chancellor serves as the executive authority.

8. What should be the relationship between the board members and the administration in the handling of college and district concerns?

Board members should be limited to considerations of policy rather than the operation and personnel aspects of the district.

9. Briefly describe your commitment to our colleges and district.

I am a product of our community college system and have served as an educator within the jurisdiction.

10. What do you see as the strengths of SBCCD?

The tremendous resources available to benefit our community and advance opportunity within our region.

11. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the colleges and district?

Improving alignment between our labor market, trade unions, and regional workforce development system.



SBCCD TRUSTEE AREA 5 INTERVIEWS

Candidate #6

FATIMA CRISTERNA SANCHEZ



**CANDIDATE APPLICATION & INFORMATION SHEET
SAN BERNARDINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
TRUSTEE AREA 5**

Name Fátima Cristerna Sánchez
Address 5572 West Wind Drive
San Bernardino, CA 92407
Phone (951) 233-0263 Email FCRISTERNA@GMAIL.COM

Regular days and times of the week you are not available to meet: unknown at this time

Attach responses on a separate sheet if needed:

1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a Community college district? Please list such prior experience.
2. Have you worked on any committees or participated in any college activities recently? If so, please list them.
3. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment-related.
4. Why do you want to be a board member?
5. What do you see as the basic purpose of community colleges?
6. What is the role of the board in the fulfillment of that purpose?
7. How does the board's role differ from that of the chancellor?

Fátima Cristerna Sánchez

San Bernardino Community College District Trustee Area 5 Application

1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a Community college district? Please list such prior experience.

While I do not have any previous experience serving on a community college district directly, I have served as a board member at a local Charter School and I am currently a board member on the CSUSB Undocumented Alumni Chapter and have been since 2018. My work currently allows me to work with 5 county boards of education and over 150 school districts in Southern California, so while I do not currently sit on a community college board, I do have extensive experience working with elected officials in education.

Lastly, I currently serve on Congressman, Pete Aguilar's Immigration Advisory Committee and have since 2018.

2. Have you worked on any committees or participated in any college activities recently? If so, please list them.

In the last two years, I have participated in leading several book club discussions for the San Bernardino Valley College Library with the support of Professor Yvette Lee and Mary Valdemar. I was also named "People of Distinction" for SBVC's 95th anniversary. I have also been asked to speak at San Bernardino Valley College on several occasions over the last 20 years as a former alumni both for the Latino/a Graduations, Undocumented Student Center events, and others. Currently, I am very active on the CSUSB Undocumented Student Alumni Board.

As a Communications Department graduate student at CSUSB from 2004-2006, I also had the pleasure of teaching several Oral Communication/Intro to Public Speaking courses at San Bernardino Valley College.

3. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment-related.

To best answer this question I have included my resume with more detail about my work and community involvement.

4. Why do you want to be a board member?

I want to be a board member because I deeply understand the transformative power of community colleges, having experienced it firsthand as an undocumented student. My journey began at San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC), where I found a sanctuary that offered not only affordable education but also a supportive community that empowered me to pursue my

Fátima Cristerna Sánchez

academic dreams despite significant challenges. Professors and staff like Ed Gomez, Yvette Lee, and Mary Valdemar were instrumental in providing me with the education, strength, and encouragement needed to continue my studies and eventually transfer to California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB), where I earned my BA and MA.

Being a former student and participant in the Associated Student Government, I have seen the positive impact that thoughtful leadership and supportive programs can have on students' lives. The growth of SBVC and Crafton Hills College (CHC) and the establishment of initiatives like the Dreamers Resource Center/Dreamers Scholars Program are testaments to the power of collaborative efforts between colleges and their stakeholders. As a board member, I aim to contribute to shaping a future that continues to support and uplift students like me. I want to ensure that these institutions remain places of opportunity, inclusivity, and empowerment, helping students navigate their educational paths and achieve their full potential, just as I was able to do.

5. What do you see as the basic purpose of community colleges?

Community colleges serve a multifaceted purpose, with the primary goal of providing accessible, affordable, and quality education to a diverse population. They aim to offer educational opportunities that cater to a wide range of needs, from academic transfer programs to vocational training and lifelong learning courses. By offering associate degrees (some), certificates, and pathways to four-year universities, community colleges play a crucial role in bridging the gap between secondary education and higher education. They enable students to pursue their academic and career aspirations without the financial burden often associated with universities, making higher education attainable for those who might otherwise be excluded.

In addition to academic and career preparation, community colleges are committed to fostering personal growth and civic engagement. They provide an inclusive environment that supports students from varied backgrounds, including first-generation college students, returning adults, and those seeking to improve their skills for career advancement. Through a comprehensive curriculum that includes general education, workforce training, and support services, community colleges help individuals develop the critical thinking, communication, and technical skills needed to thrive in a dynamic and evolving job market. By doing so, they contribute to the economic development and social mobility of the communities they serve, ensuring that education remains a powerful tool for empowerment and progress.

6. What is the role of the board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

Fátima Cristerna Sánchez

The board is responsible for setting policies and providing oversight to ensure that the Community Colleges (CC), Valley, and Crafton, align with their mission of offering accessible and quality education. By establishing strategic priorities, the board guides the institutions in developing programs and services that meet the diverse needs of our student populations. They ensure that resources are allocated effectively and that the CC adhere to high standards of academic excellence and operational efficiency.

Moreover, the board plays a crucial role in fostering partnerships with local businesses, industries, and community organizations to enhance workforce training and career opportunities for students. They advocate for the colleges at the state and federal levels, seeking funding and legislative support to sustain and expand educational offerings. By engaging with community stakeholders and responding to their needs, the board helps to create an educational environment that is responsive and adaptive to the changing economic and social landscape. In essence, the board's governance and advocacy are essential in ensuring that community colleges can fulfill their mission of providing inclusive, affordable, and high-quality education to all.

7. How does the board's role differ from that of the chancellor?

The board's role differs significantly from that of the chancellor in both scope and function within the two community colleges. The board of trustees is primarily responsible for setting the strategic direction and policies that guide the institutions. They oversee the governance framework, establish broad goals, and ensure accountability to the public. Their duties include approving budgets, setting academic standards, and making decisions on major initiatives and resource allocations. The board acts as a collective body that represents the community's interests and provides oversight to ensure that the colleges adhere to their mission of delivering accessible and quality education.

In contrast, the chancellor's role is more operational and managerial. The chancellor serves as the chief executive officer of the community college district, responsible for implementing the board's policies and strategic directives. This role involves day-to-day administration, including managing faculty and staff, overseeing academic programs, and ensuring that the colleges operate efficiently and effectively. The chancellor is also tasked with executing the board's vision, providing leadership, and addressing the immediate needs of the colleges. By focusing on the practical aspects of running the institutions, the chancellor ensures that the strategic goals set by the board are translated into tangible outcomes and successes for students.

FÁTIMA CRISTERNA SÁNCHEZ, M.A.

(951) 233-0263 | FCRISTERNA@GMAIL.COM

BILINGUAL, ORGANIZED, COMMITTED AND TENACIOUS PROFESSIONAL with superb public speaking skills and the ability to be successful in various work environments. Known for being a self-motivated quick learner and an effective communicator in various platforms. Proficient in multiple technology applications and social media forums.

EDUCATION

Cornell University	Certificate , Diversity & Inclusion
California State University, San Bernardino	Master of Arts , Communications Studies
California State University, San Bernardino	Bachelor of Arts , Political Science
San Bernardino Valley College, San Bernardino	Associate of Arts , General Education

WORK HISTORY

California Charter Schools Association (CCSA) Southern, CA
Vice President, Managing Director, Senior Director, -Local Advocacy **August 2012- Present**
The primary representative for the organization's members, responsible for advocacy and government affairs in Southern California. The region geographically includes San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, San Diego & Imperial Counties. Representing over 300 charter schools working with 142 school districts and supporting over 153,000 charter school students throughout those 5 counties.

- **Team Lead:** Manage three to five FTE's, their growth and development, and serve as the internal advocate for the team, and the community of members we service. As the lead on various projects, I also drive collaboration across internal and external stakeholders to achieve ambitious results.
- **Member Engagement:** Serve as the primary contact for key leaders across the region as they confront state and local policy issues that affect their schools. Keep members informed at all inflection points in the policymaking process.
- **Policy Making and Advocacy:** Analyze and develop strategies to influence subject-related policy and implementation matters at all County Offices of Education along with other smaller but key school districts.
- **State Policy Advocacy:** Support CCSA's state policy advocacy by connecting legislative and regulatory priorities/issues to local members. Inform state policy development and legislative priorities with key insights from local stakeholders. Complement state policy advocacy by coordinating local legislative outreach with key school communities.
- **Relationship Building:** Cultivate relationships with local district, county, and state elected officials, local charter leaders, community partners, and senior staff to support charter schools and the flexibility necessary to operate effective and high-quality educational programs for K-12 students.
- **Coalition Building:** Engage as a partner with aligned community and state organizations to advance access to quality public education.
- **Political Engagement:** Organized and led campaign efforts for various elected officials as independent expenditures, direct campaign contributions, phone banking, candidate recruitment, and cultivation under the CCSA-Advocates umbrella. Helping to change the political landscape for schools in the region. Assist leaders with fundraising efforts throughout the year for various campaigns, elected officials, and Political Action Committees.

FÁTIMA CRISTERNA SÁNCHEZ, M.A.

(951) 233-0263 | FCRISTERNA@GMAIL.COM

- **Organizational Leadership:** Collaborate with senior leaders across the organization on any issues affecting the Southern California region and its stakeholders.

Black Voice Foundation & Newspaper

San Bernardino, CA

Program Manager & Writer

May 2010 – May 2011

- Oversight and management of various educational programs, activities, and events.
- Coordinated internship experiences and education for students all over the country who were interested in the program's online education and in-office internship.
- Conducted research, and grant applications, and managed contract renewals and reporting.
- Network with community providers and business members to promote and establish employment opportunities for program participants.
- Supported the board's annual fundraising goal of raising over 100K annually for programs and scholarships.

California State University San Bernardino & San Bernardino Valley College

San Bernardino, CA

Teaching Assistant

August 2004 – June 2006

Taught 6-8 courses to over 250 students quarterly on Oral Communication 120. Introduction to effective speech communication with emphasis on informative, persuasive public speaking and presentation skills.

Taught 4-6 courses to over 250 students quarterly on Intercultural Communication in the Workplace 303. Introduction to effective strategies to communicate with a diverse workforce.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Immigration Advisory Board for CA 31-Congressman Pete Aguilar **2018-Present**
- IE Advocates for Great Public Schools, Political Action Committee **2013-Present**
- Keynote Speaker, CSUSB, CSULB, SBVC, RCC, Learn4Life, etc. **2012-Present**
- Presenter at the annual CCSA & National Charter Conference **2012-Present**

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- CSUSB- Undocumented Alumni Board **2018-Present**
Board member for the first Alumni Board in the CSU system that advises the university on services that help DACAmented, AB 540, and Undocumented students throughout the state. Help with annual fundraising goals and scholarship disbursements.
- Inland Empire Future Leaders Leadership & Training Camp **1995-2016**
 - Executive Director, Assistant Director, Graduate Assistant Advisor, Facilitator, Peer Educator, Presenter and Keynote Speaker
 - Managed and coordinated a staff of over 60 volunteers and 120 youth
 - Created and managed workshops and training sessions throughout the year

Fátima Cristerna Sánchez

While the board provides the overarching governance and policy framework, the chancellor handles the execution and management of those policies, ensuring that the colleges operate smoothly and fulfill their educational mission. Together, they form a complementary leadership structure that ensures San Bernardino County community colleges can meet their goals of accessibility, affordability, and quality education.