

# GCFA Newsletter

February 12, 2014

## Important Dates

### February 18<sup>th</sup>

Security Committee meets during College Hour (12:50-1:50) In Business Building Conference Room

### February 28<sup>th</sup>

Deadline for our new GCFA logo. The winner receives \$100!!

### April 25<sup>th</sup>

Sowing Seeds, Nurturing Dreams

*A Food and Wine Gala Benefiting Gavilan College Students*

For tickets go to <http://gavilancollege.brownpaper tickets.com/>

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## President's Message

Dear GCFA Community, I hope your semesters are off to a solid start! Welcome back to all of our continuing members, and welcome aboard to our new members!

Our month-old E-Board is up and running and working hard to serve you! In this report, I'll let you know some of what we've been up to and then offer some reflections on the significance of our representative council.

Our E-Board is looking forward to working with you on these goals throughout the year:

- Energize our representative council
- Train new and existing leaders
- Create a five-year security plan
- Continue to improve our communication with you
- Continue to build our membership
- Become more active in statewide advocacy around issues of health care, retirement, and the student success initiative

This semester, we'll be working together on:

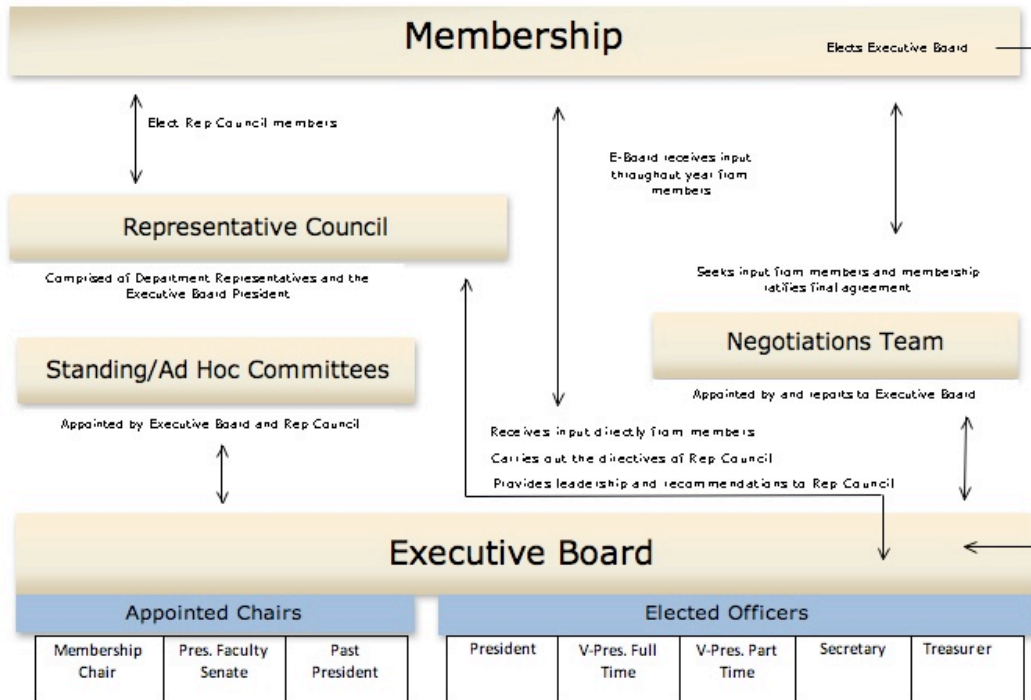
- Revising our bylaws, constitution, and standing rules
- Completing our contract negotiations
- Moving our elections online
- Planning & partaking in our spring Gala

Our Social Committee, under the leadership of Secretary Milena Lilles, is doing its best to continue our popular social traditions in addition to offering some new ones. Our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Be Sweet Fair Trade Chocolate Tasting was a big success. Thank you for joining us! Our VP, Steve Smith, is planning a college hour series that will feature talks by local and state leaders as well as benefits workshops. Steve is also heading up our new Security Committee. We will keep you posted as our schedule of events unfolds!

Peter Howell is in the process of setting up our new website, which will allow us to register our emails and talk with each other! We're excited to roll this out so that we can have our conversations outside of the purview of the college. We'll keep you posted! Our GCFA logo contest is underway! We've been receiving many wonderful submissions so far and are looking forward to more! The submission deadline is **Friday February 28**. Thank you for spreading the word!

~ Representative Council ~

**GCFA ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



full-timers' efforts to include me. While participating in discussions about our working conditions, I always thought that if I ever scored a full-time position, I would do my best to advocate for part-timer inclusion: in conversations at department meetings; in conversations in shared governance committees; and in the culture of my college. The way my colleagues treated me in those early stages of my career gave me confidence and encouragement to pursue a career in the

Twelve years ago, I began my participation in community college unions at Cabrillo College, where I taught as a part-time Anthropology Instructor for three years and served for two years as a Department Representative to Cabrillo's Representative Council. My experience as the Anthropology department rep was formative and has continued to stick with me! Even though I was busy teaching at two colleges and applying for full-time jobs and grants, I always made time for and looked forward to our monthly rep council meetings where I sat around the table with about twenty full-time and part-time faculty.

What I remember most was the culture of collegiality and mutual respect among faculty from very different disciplines with different sets of concerns. For those two years, I mostly listened and felt shy to speak up. Even though I was in the minority as a part-timer at a table with mostly full-timers, my colleagues encouraged me to participate in our discussions. I'll never forget the

community college system and eventually, a career involving leadership and advocacy for our students and colleagues.

So, for me, this opportunity to work with our rep council is near and dear! At Gavilan, our rep council is still new, so I'm looking forward to building on the work of our previous leadership to further energize us. When the rep council is up and running with reps from every department, it's a room full of rich and lively discussion! Check out our organizational chart above. You can see that the rep council provides the "communication glue" between our E-Board and our members.

The rep council is the policy-making body of our union. According to CTA bylaws, the rep council "derives its powers from and shall be responsible to" our members. It is responsible for: establishing our union's policies and objectives; adopting our annual budget; and approving of the

establishment or discontinuance of committees recommended by the E-Board.

**G** I'm looking forward to working with our council this year! As you know, we're in the process of updating and revising our bylaws. Our rep council will be leading this charge, so please make some time in department meetings for these conversations to happen! If we do this, we can vote on our new bylaws in May!

Just a shout-out to all departments asking you to hold elections to elect your representative to the council, if you haven't already. Our council meetings are the third Thursdays of each month from 1-2:30pm in Mayock. Since we are a voting body, we need to have a quorum to vote. Our quorum is based on the number of existing reps; please be sure to let me know who your department rep is before our first meeting on **Thursday February 20.**

Have a wonderful semester!  
Debbie

## Covered California?

The Gilroy Library is offering information and help with enrollment in Covered California. Both events are at 350 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St. Gilroy, CA 95020.

### Thursday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>

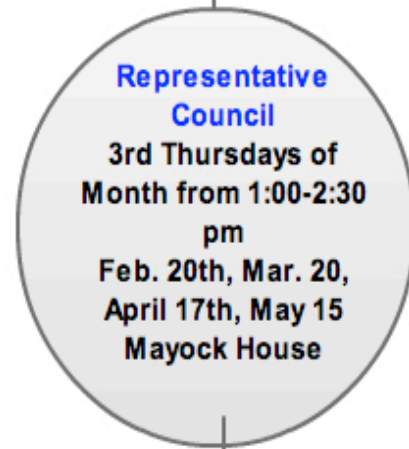
Affordable Care Act: Learn about the healthcare changes that you and your family can take advantage of during a Presentation/Question/Answer session at 7pm in the Gilroy Library.

### Saturday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>

Enroll in Covered California from 11 am – 2 pm in the Gilroy Library. Qualified counselors will help you decide what is best for you and help you enroll.

## Representation

et involved! Each department should be represented! Do you know who your Rep is? Let's finish revising/voting on our Bylaws!



[online programming & design] [creately.com](http://creately.com)

## Nominate Faculty

Nominate candidates for the 2014-2015 CCA (Community College Association) Building

Strong Locals (BSL) Academy – designed to train and empower faculty members with an emphasis on strengthening local chapters! Approximately 20 faculty members from local chapters are chosen. Faculty will begin their training at the 2014 CCA Manhattan Beach conference. They are required to attend each conference and every meeting. The conferences are listed below. Application is available at <http://www.cca4me.org/>

\*\*Deadline is 5 pm on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

### Conference Dates/Location

1. Spring Conference April 11-13, 2014  
Manhattan Beach Marriott
2. Fall Conference October 10-12, 2014  
Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza - Sacramento
3. Winter Conference February 20-22, 2015  
Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa & Marina.

## GCFA NEEDS YOU!

Participation, representation, and leadership training are priorities this spring. Here are the openings and contact people

1. Advocacy Group – We need help getting students registered to vote, and educating our members and community about essential information. Contact: - **OPEN**
2. Membership Committee – We have around 230 members and we hope to enroll all 300+. This fun committee will brainstorm ways to reach new faculty and agency fee payers, and welcome them aboard. Contact: Andy Van Tuyl ([avantuyl@gavilan.edu](mailto:avantuyl@gavilan.edu))
3. Executive Board – It's time to help GCFA grow and bring fresh perspectives. Meet people, make a real contribution. Contact: Debbie Klein ([dklein@gavilan.edu](mailto:dklein@gavilan.edu))
4. Representative Council – Not every department has a Rep, not every Rep is able to attend every meeting (third Thursdays of the month from 1:00-2:30). Would you like to serve as a representative for your department?
5. Security Committee – This group will address security issues on campus. Contact: Steve Smith ([ssmith@gavilan.edu](mailto:ssmith@gavilan.edu))
6. Election Committee – This groups runs 2-3 elections a year. Help publicize issues, distribute materials, count and certify ballots. Contact: Mark Turetzky ([mturetzky@gavilan.edu](mailto:mturetzky@gavilan.edu))
7. Mayock Committee – Mayock House is a gem, it's ours to maintain as a historical landmark on campus and you can make it even better! Contact: Ken Wagman or Grant Richards ([kwagman@gavilan.edu](mailto:kwagman@gavilan.edu), [grichards@gavilan.edu](mailto:grichards@gavilan.edu))
8. Scholarship Committee – GCFA awards three scholarships each graduation. Help select and honor the outstanding students. Contact: **OPEN**
9. Social Group – Help plan fun, interesting events for members and campus wide. Contact: Milena Lilles ([mlilles@gavilan.edu](mailto:mlilles@gavilan.edu))
10. Social Group Photographer and Photo Archivist – We're having some great social events—and now we want to remember them with photos! Attend events, take pictures, keep them organized and archived for our website. Contact: **OPEN**
11. Hollister and Morgan Hill Bulletin Board Monitors – We asked for bulletin boards in Hollister and Morgan Hill. Now we need someone to maintain them. Contact: **OPEN**
12. CARE Group – Helping members celebrate or mourn life events, and recognizing when people might need a

little quiet support. Contact: Andy Van Tuyl ([avantuyl@gavilan.edu](mailto:avantuyl@gavilan.edu))

13. Negotiations Team – Doing the all-important work of negotiating contract improvements and keeping bad stuff out of our contract! Contact: Debbie Klein ([dklein@gavilan.edu](mailto:dklein@gavilan.edu))

14. ALL GCFA members may attend Community College Association meetings at no cost.

group and will post meetings for the GCFA Social Committee as well as informal gatherings. Feel free to post and get to know one another. It is open to all. We had a wonderful time at the Chocolate Tasting Event on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> stay tuned for more events!

## Join GavGoSocial on Facebook

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Be Sweet Fair Trade Chocolate Tasting at Mayock

Join the facebook group to keep in touch and participate in social gatherings. This is a public



From left to right: Mary Ann Sanidad, Katie Bennett, and Vania Parakati