

SFLCV November 2020 Election Community College Board Questionnaire

Thank you for participating in the San Francisco League of Conservation Voters endorsement process. Please limit answers to the below questions to 2-3 paragraphs at most (250 words). We are accepting responses until Friday August 28, 2020 at midnight. Please note that your responses will be posted publicly on our website at www.sflcv.org.

Please enter your contact info here (Name, District, Campaign contact, Phone, Email, FPPC#) *

Dr. Victor Olivieri, SF Community College Board, 415-439-9055, victor@victorforsf.com, FPPC# pending

What are your qualifications for Community College Board Member? *

College professor and former senior university administrator with 15 years of professional experience in higher education and a PhD in political science. Immigrant, ESL student, EMT, and first-generation college graduate with first-hand experience of the very real struggles our students face. I also have direct experience in managing workforce development, fundraising, and higher education policy. I have served my country as a US Army Officer and I currently serve as President of the SF Veterans Affairs Commission and Co-Chair of the California Democratic Party Resolutions Committee.

Given the unprecedented administrative turmoil of the past few years, what do you feel are the most important environmental initiatives City College should undertake?

I would use a three-pronged approach:

1. Using the \$845 Million Prop A Bond money wisely to refurbish all of our buildings that have accrued decades of deferred maintenance due to poor fiscal management (over 50% of our buildings) and bring them up to current LEED standards (at least silver LEED), build the new buildings we need with the highest LEED rating possible (including affordable housing for students, faculty, and staff), and replace the most polluting systems that we have (ie. heating).
2. Revamp the CCSF Sustainability Plan (2009) to focus on sustainable college operations, maintenance and custodial operations, sustainable purchasing practices and procurement of local materials, waste diversion, management and recycling activities, water conservation measures (all of these objectives were established for completion by 2018 but the poor fiscal management and the accreditation crisis took a heavy toll on their success).
3. I would direct the Chancellor to call for a zero-waste standard across our entire operation with key performance indicators to be reported to the Board quarterly. I would earmark facilities improvements on bond issue for the installation of solar panels on every building and surface lot possible, to work toward carbon neutrality, replace toilets and faucets with low-flow systems, procure only ENERGY STAR rated equipment, and establish an internal awareness campaign to "fix it" instead of "replace it" with our facilities management teams. I would ask the Chancellor to establish internal awareness campaigns to reduce our energy and water consumption (i.e. turn off the lights, irrigate at night, lower the thermostat, etc.).

What environmental issues are you personally passionate about and plan to champion at CCSF? *

Biking/public transit and renewable energy (primarily solar). Having been born and raised in Europe, I walk everywhere I can and would personally love to help San Francisco become a much more bike friendly community. I have a few plans in mind: partner with bike sharing and last-mile transportation companies on free or subsidized passes for all students, staff, and faculty; provide safe areas for bicycle and low-emission vehicles to be securely stored, for free, on all campuses; have bike share and last-mile companies encourage the use by students by donating to money for miles to the Associated Students student resource centers at the beginning of each semester; partner with the bicycle coalition to schedule several "Bike to School" days to raise awareness and establish a bike garage and self-repair shop on each of our campuses; partner with van-sharing company to establish free intercampus shuttle loop for students, staff, and faculty with bike racks.

Given the constraints posed by the COVID-19 crisis, both financial and operational, how would you integrate environmental imperatives with this new reality? *

Points 2 and 3 of my environmental initiative plan. It makes financial sense to establish environmentally-sound practices with a long vision of sustainability on campus when we have such a large operational footprint. Given the current need to have most of our classes online and 3 campuses not serving any students (1 of which is closed), the main thing we should do over the next 2 years is build affordable housing for students faculty, and staff, and take away the need to commute into the city for thousands of people. This would be my top priority, but it is currently not even a part of the Master Bond Project List: [https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccsf/Board.nsf/files/BSFTZP79D30A/\\$file/1_Bond2020%20ProjList%20BOT%208-27-20-FINAL.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccsf/Board.nsf/files/BSFTZP79D30A/$file/1_Bond2020%20ProjList%20BOT%208-27-20-FINAL.pdf)

What should CCSF's role in neighborhood planning around its campuses be? *

To become a truly residential urban campus that provides multipurpose buildings for affordable housing, teaching, and community use instead of delapidated buildings that serve no purpose for 2/3 of the day and closed on weekend.

Why should the San Francisco League of Conservation Voters endorse you? *

Because I will always put students first: make a significant investment in counseling, dedicated budget lines for the student resource centers, prioritize access to technology, build affordable housing on campus, and make sure that our students get the classes they need the most to get a good job, move on to a four-year school, or remain active in our community. I will balance the academic, workforce, and lifelong education missions of the college with an eye toward the future and the sustainability of the College.

Because I am the most qualified candidate: I have helped manage universities, built university buildings and guided campus master plans, directed comprehensive curriculum reviews and helped hire some of the most diverse workforces and faculty in California, and guided budgets in the \$100s of millions of dollars – everything that City College needs to do right now.

Because I'll never forget where I came from: I immigrated here when I was 12 years old, struggled through public schools and ESL classes, put myself through school to become the first in my family to graduate from college, and it all began at a community college. I know what our students are facing and I will not turn a blind eye or give in to special interest groups.

Because I will provide the sound fiscal management that the College has been missing all these years.



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