

CSEA Chapter 262 is Turning 50!

The Fall of 1963 through the Spring of 1964 was a significant time in the history of our nation. The tragedy of President Kennedy's assassination, the introduction of the Beatles to the United States, and the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 were just a few among many key events that occurred in this short window of time.

It is amid these historic events that CSEA Chapter 262 was founded. Led by Chapter President Willis Bixby, our first Executive Board was sworn in at 7:30 p.m. on February 17, 1964. Representing all of Mt. SAC's Classified employees (including those now in Auxiliary Services and Chapter 651) before school employees had a right to collective bargaining could not have been easy, yet our early leaders set the foundation for the rights and benefits we now enjoy.

It is with gratitude for the work of Chapter 262's founders - and those who followed - that we dedicate our efforts this year.

Please join us in celebrating on February 19 from 4pm - 6pm in the 9C Stage Area!

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CSEA Wellness Champions

Let's walk 262!

CSEA 262 is extremely excited to kick off our Wellness Champion Program for 2014! The focus of the program is to motivate members to work towards group wellness. Our chapter will be taking our first step by forming walking groups. The first few weeks of the year are exciting, but can also be stressful. This is a very important time to take care of ourselves. Ease the workplace stress by taking a stroll with your fellow members!

To join a walking group, please email your location, preferred walking days and preferred walking times to Tamiaka Hunter at thunter5@mtsac.edu.



We need to talk!

Leadership Message

by Bill Rawlings - Acting President/1st Vice President

Your union is working hard for you. Whether it is the time-intensive work of the Classification Review (Koff & Associates), negotiating our next successor contract, or addressing individual member issues, your representatives are making a difference for you and our students every day.

This work would not be successful without the exceptional group of leaders on your Executive Board. As we approach the 50th anniversary of our chapter's founding, please join me in thanking them. As much as they stand on the shoulders of those who laid the foundation of our chapter, theirs are the shoulders upon which future leaders of our chapter will stand as we build our future together for the next 50 years.

262 Volunteers Needed for Interview Committees

By Hawk Yao

We are looking for people who are interested in serving as the CSEA 262 representative on interview committees for the different positions being flown on campus. Positions are often flown throughout the year and we are always in need of a volunteer to serve on these committees.

The following information may help you understand what we're looking for:

First and foremost: you must be a member of CSEA. This means that you have to sign up to contribute that \$1 a month to become an active member. Not sure if you are? Just ask us and we'll be able to find out for you.

Release time is provided per the Collective Bargaining Agreement under Organizational Rights: Article 4.16. So you do **NOT** need to use any vacation or dock time for this. It is the member's responsibility to notify their managers upon being assigned to an interview committee and to work out any scheduling conflicts.

Per Administrative Policy (AP 7121 E.) We must appoint "One classified staff from another department selected by the appropriate CSEA unit" This means that you are **NOT** able to serve on a committee that is hiring for someone that reports to the same manager you do.

We're looking for people that are willing to work with the committees in looking for the best candidate to join our extensive family and not afraid to speak up when they believe that the candidate may not be the best. If you find out the dates will not work for you, let us know and we will find another volunteer; but if all dates have been set for paper screening and the interviews, please understand that this is a full commitment and it is our expectation that you will be our representative until the process has been completed.

As always, we are ever grateful to people that step up and volunteer to help us out, and your hard work is very much appreciated. Thank you for your involvement and your interest in our family.

If you are interested, please contact Sandra Bollier at sbollier@mtsac.edu

Recognizing Unsung Hero

By Rondell Schroder

Every year, CSEA's Santa Fe Field Office presents the Unsung Hero Award to CSEA Members from Area G. The Unsung Hero Award is to recognize a member of our Chapter that has done something extraordinary, participates in chapter meetings, committees, events, or helps behind the scenes.

Jeffery George receives Unsung Hero Award presented by Acting Chapter President Bill Rawlings at chapter meeting on December 11 2013.



This year the field office honored Jeffery B. George, Web Designer from our Information Technology department. Jeffery was a huge help to CSEA 262 website. Jeffery stands apart with his ability to create simple, uncluttered, and beautiful visual designs. His attention to detail means that our members now can have current information and access to essential CSEA resources. Jeffery was unable to attend the event, but Acting Chapter President Bill Rawlings presented the award at our 2013 December Chapter Meeting.

Honoring Our Graduates

By **Tamiaka Hunter**

Achieving a degree can be financially, personally, and socially difficult. Many members have stepped up to meet this challenge with the added pressure of working while pursuing their degree. CSEA 262 would like to congratulate all members who received degrees in Spring 2013. Your accomplishment is a testament to your commitment and perseverance in reaching your goal. We celebrate you!

Eva Figueroa Cal State Fullerton, Masters in Instructional Design & Technology

Tyee Griffith Cal Poly Pomona, Masters in Public Administration

Tatiana Lopez Cal Poly Pomona, Bachelors in Chemistry

Katherine Martinez Cal State Northridge, Masters in Public Administration

Elmer Rodriguez Cal State Long Beach, Masters in Counseling

Tiffany Rusich Cal State Fullerton, Bachelors in Communicative Disorders



*Spring 2013 CSEA 262 Graduates.
Tiffany Rusich not photographed

If you will be receiving a degree in Fall 2013 or Spring 2014, please email Tamiaka Hunter at thunter5@mtsac.edu to be recognized in an upcoming newsletter.

Know Your Contract

Article 20 Personal/Professional Growth

During the last round of negotiations significant improvements were made to Article 20. After years of the standard educational reimbursements, the District agreed to a pretty good increase! A brief breakdown is: Lower Division - \$300 for 3 semester, or 4 quarter units **AND** \$50 for each additional unit **or** \$500 for obtaining any job-related licenses and/or certificates. Upper Division - \$750 for 3 semester, or 4 quarter units **AND** \$100 for each additional unit.

Please remember, attendance must have been at a school that is accredited by the six regional accrediting associations of schools and colleges, or in the case of licenses/certificates, the school must also have an industry-recognized credential.

Another significant change to this article includes the ability for classified staff to attend workshops offered through Professional & Organizational Development (POD) that are designed to enhance your skills and abilities **ON RELEASE TIME!** The contract requires the member receive approval from their manager **PRIOR** to attending the workshop. You are required to complete a specific form, which is in the process of being developed. Until it is approved, please send an email to your manager requesting approval. Be sure to indicate how the workshop will benefit you and your department. Remember to submit the request with sufficient time for them to respond.

The last change to this article increases the benefit amount of degrees earned or conferred. The one-time benefit is now \$1,000 for an Associate Degree, \$1,500 for a Bachelor's Degree, and \$2,000 for a Master's Degree or higher.



CSEA Chapter 262
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"To improve the lives of our members, students, and community."

www.csea262.org

Cash for College

By Sandra Bollier

Cash for College is coming February 8, 2014!

Cash for College is an annual Mt. SAC event that helps local High School students and their families complete their FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). It is a great opportunity for the Mt. SAC family to help our community access education by removing the burden of "How to pay for College". We help 600-700 students submit their applications on time and accurately to help them receive the maximum financial aid possible.

The entire Mt. SAC Financial Aid Office and most of Student Services division put in many hours of preparation to orchestrate the event. Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it also takes one to educate them. You can get involved with this event and support a student's educational success. Don't worry if you don't know Financial Aid, training is provided with everything you need to know to assist these families. Support our community and get involved!

Please contact Lucky Rai at Lrai@mtsac.edu to volunteer.

Retirement Planning

By Beverly Heasley

Have you been unable to attend a CalPERS retirement seminar? Did you know that CalPERS has many videos online that cover a broad range of topics? To view these videos, go to calpers.ca.gov and click "View Videos and Events". Then click "Videos." Videos available include Benefit Basics, Service Credit Purchase, Health Benefits into Retirement, using my|CalPERS and more. If you prefer to attend in person, the next seminar will be offered March 15, 2014.

CSEA Pre-Retirement Seminar

Saturday, March 15, 2014

McKinley Elementary School Auditorium
325 S. Oak Knoll Ave. Pasadena, CA 91101

To RSVP for this Pre-Retirement Seminar, call 1-800-632-2128 x1007

Do you have a question or topic related to retirement that you would like to see in an upcoming newsletter? Email Beverly Heasley, Chapter Pre-Retirement Resource Person at bheasley@gmail.com.

Calendar of Events

- Feb. 14** Lincoln's Birthday Holiday • Campus Closed
- Feb. 19** CSEA 262 50th Anniversary Celebration
- Feb. 17** Washington's Birthday Holiday • Campus Closed
- Feb. 24** Spring Semester Begins

Winter & Spring 2014 Chapter Meeting Dates:

January 16	Bldg. 6-160
February 19	9C Stage
March 19	Bldg. 6-160
April 16	Bldg. 6-160
May 21	9C Stage
June 18	9C Stage

Chapter meetings are held 12:05-12:50pm