

# Public Policy School: A&P Conference Recap

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# Public Policy School - Who Are We?

Public Policy School (PPS) is a project of the Vasconcellos Institute for Democracy in Action (VIDA) at De Anza College and provides advocacy training to students on key issues important to community college students. Students then advocate on these issues directly with legislators and decision-makers at the local, state, and national levels and with the purpose of impacting policy.

- Started in 2013
- Met with state legislators/staff in March and federal legislators in Spring quarter

**2023 Public Policy School Interns:** Christopher Lopez, Virinchi Kuppa, Daniela Rios, Hannah Rabbani, and Molara Mabogunje  
**Advisors:** Jim Nguyen, Bob Stockwell

# Who Do We Work With?

## Our Partners

Faculty Association Political Action Committee (FA-PAC)

Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC)

Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC)



## Our Impact & Audience

Special emphasis on lower socioeconomic status, first generation, students of color disproportionately represented at CCCs

Advocate for basic needs (e.g., housing, transportation, counseling) and increased funding for key categorical programs (e.g., EOPS, CALWORKS, Financial Aid)

Community College as vehicle for greater equity, justice, and democracy

## This Quarter's Engagement

De Anza Student Volunteers

De Anza Student Government (DASG)

Associate Students of Foothill College (ASFC)

Vasconcellos Institute for Democracy in Action (VIDA)

# Conference Day

## Workshops:

- Moving Forward Our Funding Priorities
- Amplifying Voices: Empowering Student Advocates for Change
- Organizing to Bring Community Back to Community Colleges

## FACCC PAC Champions

- Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas
- Assemblymember Eloise Gómez Reyes

## Legislator of the Year Award

- Assemblymember David Alvarez

# Legislative Visits

## ● Who we met with?

- Senator John Laird,
- Senator Steve Glazer
- Assemblymember Buffy Wicks
- Assemblymember Alex Lee
- Senator Ana Caballero
- Assemblymember Gail Pellerin
- Assemblymember Robert Rivas
- Assemblymember Marc Berman

- Senator Dave Cortese
- Assemblymember Ash Kalra
- Assemblymember Rebecca Baur-Kahn
- Assemblymember Evan Low
- Assemblymember Josh Becker

## What we learned?

- When lobbying in a budget deficient framing how we look at money VS peoples lives makes a big difference
- Storytelling makes a difference
- Organization and confidence are very important when making pitches to policymakers or any person in power
- Often times you won't be heard or taken seriously
- You never know what to expect
- Making connections goes a long way

# Budgetary & Legislation Items Supported by PPS

## **Budget** for Community Colleges (Top 3)

- 50% Law
- Full-Time Equivalent Student
- Cost of Living Adjustment

2024 Budgetary Leave Behind:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1k9X5OPVQO1wjySWH5sAFLSKkJWKR1KDYB-U1PP477FI/edit>

## **Legislative** Bills (Top 3)

- Electronic Benefit Transfer Cards (AB 2033)
- Housing Survey (AB 2707)
- Student Parking (AB 1818)

2024 Legislative Leave Behind:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dbtQPdAHGchNKTxO4I-TkuehFY10aHvVPq07h0SQk/edit>







Thank you DASG!

