



NEWS

Compton College | Community Relations
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Compton Community College District Introduces Student Trustee

The new student trustee for the Compton Community College District (CCCD) is East Los Angeles area resident Paul Medina, who was appointed to represent the students at Compton College on the District's Board through the remainder of the term concluding on June 30, 2022. He took the oath of office at the CCCD Board of Trustees meeting on April 18, 2022.

As the student trustee, Medina will attend all Board meetings, discuss student-related issues, and receive all materials presented to the members of the CCCD Board of Trustees, except for closed session issues. It is also the student trustee's responsibility to make regular reports to the Associated Student Government and at other public forums held on behalf of Compton College students as it relates to the business of the District.

Medina is drawn to advocacy and student leadership and hopes to be a role model by sharing his experiences and encouraging other students to get involved. He was interested in becoming the student trustee so he can serve as a representative student advisory voice to the Board to help support enrollment management and promote decision making that is student-centered. "The pandemic has been hard on students and my goal is to support the work of the Board and encourage students to remain in or return to college, thrive, and transfer," he said. "I would also like to help shape a more positive narrative that details what an outstanding institution Compton College is today."

A non-traditional student, Medina is a 2004 graduate of Lincoln High School in Los Angeles. He previously worked for many years in the ambulance industry while attending another community college off and on. He is an African American studies and sociology major who would like to transfer to either Columbia University or Georgetown University, while concurrently enrolling at Howard University, to pursue a bachelor's degree in computer science with an emphasis in cyber security. He then plans to pursue graduate degrees and attend law school. His career goal is to work in foreign affairs/international relations or another public service field. "I have great interest in cyber security and want to see more people of color represented in this important field," said Medina. "I believe we need to interrupt the current way of doing things and make these types of careers more accessible to all."

Service and helping others are core driving forces for Medina. He has experience lobbying for increased funding and accessibility for the benefit of community college students and programs in both the California state capital and Washington D.C. In 2021, he was elected to the one-year position of a regional affairs director with the Student Senate for California Community Colleges and interacted

with 14 campuses, including Compton College. His responsibilities include serving as a member of the board of directors and being a voice for advocacy and governance issues for all students within the California Community College system. During his term, he has also served as chair of the Native American Heritage month committee; vice chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee; and co-chair of the Distance Education & Education Technology Advisory Committee which advises the California Community College Chancellor's Office on policy and planning for distance education.

He is honored by his most recent appointment to serve on the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, Associate Degree for Transfer Intersegmental Implementation Committee (AB 928 Committee) for a three-year term beginning in July 2022.

Wanting to shift his career direction, Medina enrolled at Compton College in fall 2021 at the recommendation of a coworker and fellow student. His interest in computer science led him to the STEM Center on campus where he is part of a team of students working on building an Arduino robot. "There are a lot of great things happening at the STEM Center," he said. "It's a great study space, and there are many educational activities to get involved in such as robotics, a High-Altitude Balloon project led by a physics instructor, and other engineering projects."

He chose Compton College for its smaller campus environment and reputation for offering financial and many academic support resources that help students succeed, especially those from historically marginalized communities. "Compton College displays a passion for its students," he said. "It's a small, cohesive college where you are able to connect with the administrators, faculty, and staff, and people get to know you by name."

Photo available online:

https://www.compton.edu/adminandoperations/communityrelations/images/2022/medina-paul_8x10.jpg

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About the Compton Community College District

Board meetings are usually held the third Tuesday of each month and are open to the public. The District is located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA 90221.