



**Candidate questionnaire for
San Francisco City College Board of Trustees
General Election, November 4, 2014**

Please return this questionnaire electronically to contact_us@phdemclub.org **no later than Saturday, August 30**. Candidates who do not return the questionnaire by the due date will not be invited to participate in the September 9th forum. Questionnaires will be made available to our members online.

Candidate name: Dr. Amy Bacharach
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Please write a brief response (≤ 200 words) to each question.

1. Please describe your qualifications for this office.

Having gone from high-school drop-out to PhD, I feel strongly about the importance of higher education and know firsthand the opportunities that education can bring. Community College is often the entryway to higher education, and we have to work to keep it available, accessible, and affordable for the entire community.

As a reminder from my close campaign two years ago, I am in a unique position to govern San Francisco City College because of my work in developing and analyzing policy, implementing evidence-based practices, and making hard decisions. For nearly a decade I have worked as a researcher and evaluator, determining what the most appropriate outcome measures are for a particular situation and how best to measure data elements, conducting evaluations and assessments to see what's working and what's not working, and implementing evidence-based practices. I also have to build coalitions among various stakeholders with varying interests to maintain trust and confidence in the court system. As an adjunct professor for many years, I also bring to the Board a faculty perspective that prioritizes academic freedom, course load

concerns, and comprehensive curricula. I also have experience working with the accrediting agency.

I am also a graduate of Emerge California and am an elected delegate for the 19th Assembly District of the CA Democratic Party.

I was incredibly honored and appreciative of having the Potrero Hill Democratic Club's endorsement two years ago and would be honored to receive it again this time.

2. What are the top three issues facing CCSF, and what will you do about those issues?

With City College at a critical stage, my goal is to focus on the overall strength and stability of the institution as a whole and ensure available, accessible, and affordable education for our community while also ensuring adherence to the accrediting agency's standards. The primary objective is to keep City College open, accredited, and top quality. My vision is to make sure that the community's needs are being met with high-quality education and training and that the college is on track for financial stability. The Board must also rebuild mutual trust with all of its stakeholders, including faculty and staff, students, the community, the state chancellor's office, and the accrediting agency. I will then work to harness the success of City College graduates in the community to create an alumni network to mentor current students, to provide expansive practical internship opportunities, and to help fund the future generation's educational aspirations. I will also work to ensure that all stakeholders are held accountable to a professional standard.

3. How do you envision your role as Trustee if the board you serve on doesn't meet?

City College is ripe for new perspectives, and I believe that if strong, independent, pragmatic, unifying leaders fill the seats this year we'll have a greater chance at having the Board reinstated sooner rather than later. I am one of those leaders. Once the elected board is reinstated and provided training on Board duties and responsibilities and purview, I believe the elected Board can have a strong and positive influence in overseeing budgetary matters and overarching institutional policy. My goal is to be part of the solution to the past problems and to make City College a model for other community colleges.

4. Why did you choose in particular to run for a 2-year term and not a 4-year term?

I felt that this particular seat was most appropriate for me to run for since I lost that seat by about 500 votes two years ago.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to public service. We look forward to seeing you at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House on September 9th.