



**Candidate questionnaire for
San Francisco City College Board of Trustees
General Election, November 3, 2015**

Please return this questionnaire electronically to contact_us@phdemclub.org **no later than Thursday, July 30th**. Candidates who do not return the questionnaire by the due date will not be invited to participate in the August 4th forum. Questionnaires will be made available to our members online.

Candidate name: Alex Randolph
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Please write a brief response (≤ 200 words) to each question.

1. Please describe your qualifications for this office.

After moving from Germany to California on my own at the age of 16, I found a lifeline in community college. Being part of the decision making process that affects students like me looking for a path to a better life is therefore a fundamental part of my values.

Building partnerships among different groups to make government work better for the people is my passion. I have consistently applied that passion from my first job in government at the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, to serving as Legislative Aide at Board of Supervisors, to the Recreation and Parks Department, and most recently during my White House appointment in President Barack Obama's Administration.

The relationships I have built are invaluable tools that I bring to City College as a Trustee.

Since joining the Board of Trustees, I have already established a partnership between City College and Five Keys Charter School, requested to record our Board meetings for public access, and joined the Marketing and Enrollment Committee.

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

Accreditation is the top issue at City College. However, additionally we can't lose sight of

these three issues I am focused on:

1) Enrollment

As a Trustee on the Marketing and Enrollment Committee, I am improving our marketing and increasing City College's visibility throughout San Francisco. I am conducting grassroots outreach in our neighborhoods and schools to educate the community on City College's multitude of programs, and am soliciting more student feedback to ensure that our students are satisfied with their experience. It is important that we strengthen our partnership with the SF School District and conduct outreach to schools well in advance of graduation.

2) Getting City College Back on Track

I am making sure City College manages voter-approved bond funds for facility improvements and capital projects better. I am also prioritizing the creation of a sustainable financial plan to ensure that CCSF remains a resource for students of all backgrounds.

3) Access to Quality Education

At our nine neighborhood Centers our students have the ability to craft their own educational goals. I am working hard as your Trustee to ensure that San Franciscans have the opportunity to improve their lives by supporting and promoting these neighborhood centers.

3. What specifically do you propose to enable City College to remain accredited?

First, as the largest public school in California, it is critical that City College remains accredited. This accreditation challenge has brought to light the current lack of a clear and transparent process of the current accreditation agency. I look forward to working with our elected officials, city college community, and other Community Colleges around the state to achieve a fair and transparent accreditation system.

Second, as a Trustee I am working hard to give our Chancellor Susan Lamb, administrators, faculty, staff, and students the tools and resources to be able to improve the areas City College needs to improve on in preparation for the final accreditation commissions visit Fall 2016. The City College community has done an incredible job already addressing some of the concerns and also pushing back where the commission's accreditation report went too far.

Finally, City College can't solve this crisis by itself and needs a broad coalition of advocates for assistance. As a Trustee I am building stronger relationships with the non-profit and business community to continue City College's history strong partnerships throughout the City. Every time I discuss City College I stress that we are still open, accredited and ready to enroll students.

4. What will you bring to the table that's not already there?

I have made a career of listening to the concerns of the people of San Francisco and bringing them to decision makers. My achievements for San Francisco residents result from talking to the community, understanding problems, and presenting solutions.

I listen to the diverse opinions of the people affected by City College and use that to inform my decision making. City College is making decisions now that will impact its legacy for decades, and my ability to listen to all sides is crucial as a current Trustee.

City college is facing an enrollment crisis among youth. The current City College enrollment rate by SFUSD graduates has declined from 26% to 16%, and Black and Hispanic student enrollment has declined tremendously. As a young African-American public official I have the unique ability to connect personally with these students and show them through the lense of my own educational path that City College is a critical pathway to a better life. I have spent a lot of time with High School students and Summer Youth programs serving as a role model and motivator. It is hard to dream of a better life if you don't know this future exists.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to public service. We look forward to seeing you at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House on August 4th.

Executive Committee, Potrero Hill democratic Club