

**Potrero Hill Democratic Club
City College Board of Trustees Candidate Questionnaire
for meeting Tuesday, September 13, 2022, 6:30pm
Potrero Hill Neighborhood House
953 De Haro St**

Candidate name: Vick Chung
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*Please write a brief response (up to 200 words) to each question. **Please email the completed questionnaire to contact_us@phdemclub.org by Monday, September 5.** The questionnaires will be made available online to club members.*

Please describe your qualifications for this office.

I have a robust understanding of City College from the perspective of a student leader. In engaging with students as their peers, and within the context of mentorships, I have come to understand the very barriers that these students must confront to access the institution. My personal healing journey through the Project SURVIVE, Ethnic Studies and LGBT Studies program has led me to understand the role and growing potential of City College to address the layers of issues marginalized communities face. And as a former student trustee, I bring the knowledge necessary to navigate the bureaucracies of governing an institution and bring forth the very solutions brought to me by the communities we serve.

If elected, what are your top 3 goals for CCSF? Specifically, how do you plan to accomplish these goals?

My top 3 goals are interconnected. Balancing the budget, increasing enrollment and improving retention are all centered on increasing the college's revenue stream. In the short-term, we need to synthesize solutions that will streamline registration and retention. Leaning on the input of students and immediate staff who can speak to the user-experience of interfacing with registration/retention systems, as trustee I will lobby the board to invest funding from the American Rescue Plan on a registration system that addresses the pandemic-exasperated barriers. Leaning on the knowledge of department chairs to understand the true demand of each course offering and to construct a class schedule that balances supply and demand, as trustee I will work to advocate for the gradual recovery of lost classes and programs. In the longer-term, work in Sacramento to reform the Student Success Funding Formula that harms large urban districts in higher cost of living areas, such as San Francisco and San Diego.

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

I have served with the incumbents of the 4-year term. I can attest to their short-sighted visions and short-comings as Trustees. I have witnessed them actively champion efforts to downsize the college. I cannot say the same about mayoral appointee Murrell Green.

If you are an incumbent, please tell us what you are most proud of. If you are the challenger, describe something the incumbent(s) did that you would have done differently

With regards to advocacy, for years, the incumbents have neglected to take an active advocacy role for the college. They have been either opaquely absent during opportunities to lobby state and city officials to (1) uphold our claim to leased-property and (2) boost funding for City College, or they have argued in favor of the privatization of educational opportunities.

As Trustee, I will (1) organize with community colleges across CA to amend the state funding formula, (2) organize with labor unions to bring the Aircraft Maintenance Program back to SFO, and (3) organize with community organization to demand data-backed, one-for-one housing replacement for our students whose access to education would be displaced by market-rate houses in the Balboa Reservoir Project.

What allocations in the current budget are higher/lower than needed and why? Please describe your current or previous experience with budgetary oversight.

While serving as a fellow fiduciary on the College Board, I know that the current budget allocates too much to consultants and third-party contractors. I repeatedly witnessed the incumbents squander college funds because they allowed the chancellor to (1) hire contractors instead of assigning the work to in-house staff, or because they (2) extended contracts to administrators and third-party contractors that failed to hold these entities accountable for any negligence. Simultaneously, the current budget does not allocate enough funding to support strong enrollment numbers via strong performance in registration and retention services.

In addition to what you might have cited in your goals, what is CCSF doing well that needs to be supported and maintained? How would you support these strengths as a trustee?

City College empowers its students with more than just self-advocacy through educational advancement. Our arts, physical education and social justice classes play a key therapeutic role in the healing journey of our students. And moreover, registered students of City College have literal access to family planning and reproductive health care, mental health care, employment assistance services, food pantries, and most importantly a community, not least of which is Project SURVIVE, the college's nationally recognized and award winning sexual violence prevention education program. City College offers a one-stop-shop to all the resources needed to address many of the factors that lead to homelessness. As a beneficiary of so many of the incredible programs at City College, and as a queer, young, person of color who has struggled with housing security and mental health, I know how well City College addresses the lattice of barriers that so often prevent marginalized communities from accessing other available social resources across institutions. It is also why a trustee must (1) advocate within the district to ensure that retention programs are adequately funded and supported district-wide to maximize access for students and (2) advocate to grow the college enrollment to make these opportunities available to all.

In addition to what you might have cited in your goals, what is CCSF not doing well and how would you bring about improvement or change as a trustee?

City College policy- and decision-making are insufficiently transparent, and they are insufficiently accountable to the community. The current board approves budget, instructional plans, and policies in the absence of faculty, classified staff, and student participation. Multiple administrations have also failed to be transparent with the participatory governance bodies and the board about how they arrive at budgets and instructional proposals. I will refuse to vote on any budget or instructional plan that has failed to be approved by the participatory governing system; I will only work with an administrative proposal that has the support of all college constituents because we can not grow our enrollment, revenue and institution without a strong, enduring, unified effort from

all college constituencies.

Thank you for taking the time to fill this out, and thanks for running!