



My name is Paul Medina. I am a first-generation, older non-traditional student at East Los Angeles College, where I currently work alongside many clubs as the student government Inter Club Council Chief Delegate. I also belong to the Comeback Committee where I assist with the return for in person instruction at ELAC. My academic goals are to transfer and double major in Economics and Asian Studies, then obtain my JD and PhD in Public Policy. I plan to embark in a career in policymaking.

I am running as the next Region XVII Legislative Affairs Director to become the legislative liaison in the region. I've always felt that politics is the art of the possible. In the last 20 years key legislative acts such as AB 540, AB 705, AB 2 and 19, have greatly shaped California community colleges. Other actions such as the Pell Grant has helped made education equitable for many.

The pandemic has been hard on students, my goals are for students to remain in school, thrive and transfer. As I have lobbied in the past in the hallways of the state capitol for students, I will continue to lobby throughout the state for the promotion and passage for legislation for programs crucial for community college student's success.

Programs such as financial aid, housing for students facing insecurity, increased food pantry services, mental health services and vocational programs. Non-traditional returning students can place confidence that I will urge leaders to continue increasing programs for older students, daycare services for children, larger options of evening and weekend courses and increased tutoring.

I also plan on advocating for programs pivotal for the success of historically marginalized communities, Women, working students, disabled, veterans, LGBTQ and DACA students. Disenfranchised communities of color such as AAPI, Black and Brown and formerly incarcerated returning students. My goal is to fight for students by working to close inequalities and create equity for all.

Rest assured I will be the best voice for students both local and afar, I alongside thirty-five ELAC students traveled to New Orleans for an alternative spring break to assist victims of the Hurricane Katrina. I previously worked for 10 years for an ambulance company. As well as with ELAC's Office of Outreach and Recruitment which allowed me to understand and help student needs.

At ELAC I have served as the Vice President of the Communications Club, Co-chair of the Economic Student Association and student benefits coordinator with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE). In 2021, I helped coordinate a rally in solidarity with Asian American and AAPI communities. I have been gracious to have benefited from programs such as financial aid, EOPS and have participated with the Honors Program, Pathway to Law, Latina Completion and Transfer Academy, Summer Shakespeare workshop and in several transfer center activities.

There are many great choices for SSCCC Region XVII Legislative Affairs Director. Please consider me for the position.