

General Information

Candidate Name: Nancy Greenstein

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Candidate's Current Occupation: retired administrator from UCLA – connected as volunteer, engaged with many community service projects, boards and committee

Candidate's Employer: N A

Campaign Contact Person (if other than candidate): 6

What qualifications do you bring to this office?

I have a bachelor's in elementary education, master's in social work and doctorate in education. My career has been in the public sector where I have worked in elementary schools, nonprofit organizations, public/government agencies, and institutions of higher education. As a Trustee, I have much experience and serve on SMC related boards, i.e. Broad Stage, Malibu Public Facilities Authority - chair (SMC partnership with Malibu).

I have served on numerous city related and regional boards, commissions and committees, i.e., County of Los Angeles West Vector Control District – vice chair, chair, Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation Board - Chair, Santa Monica Charter Review Commission – Chair, Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau - treasurer. Also active in civil rights and liberties' organizations and other nonprofits, for example: Southern California ACLU (past president) and its Economic Rights and Criminal Justice committees; Social Justice Learning Institute headquartered in Inglewood and working with schools throughout the Los Angeles area and in Houston committed to improve educational outcomes for youth of color; Students4Students - shelters for college students including SMC started by UCLA students. The first shelter is in a church in Santa Monica and now programs under the S4S banner are connected to colleges and universities throughout the state.

Why are you running?

I believe in the community college system and its critical role in providing educational opportunities for a diverse cross-section of our communities. During my service on the SMC board, this belief has been transformed into action, ensuring that SMC provides an excellent education for our students and is a valued member of our communities.

Our students come from varied backgrounds, some are coming from high school, from encountering circumstances that did not afford them the opportunity to attend school, and some have overcome incredible odds - disabilities, violence, poverty, and lack of family support. Others attend Emeritus College, a place reminding us one is never too old to learn.

My platform continues to promote progressive policies, with student success being number one, achieved with support for our faculty and classified workers, and the environment. Although, I have been joined by like-minded board members, my voice remains an important one and that of a leader.

I do not enter this reelection race lightly; I think about my past contributions and SMC's challenges for the future. I think about the role I play and its value to the students, the college, and the community. I know (and am told) that I have made positive contributions through my work with students, support of Equity, Pathways, and Inclusion programs, environmental advocacy, vision for the SMC Public Policy Institute, community engagement, support of faculty and classified employees, leadership style, and

community good will. There are ongoing projects of importance to me that require continued Board attention, including advancing student equity goals, which are even more challenging due to the impact of COVID on our students and their families.

With respect to COVID, we are in a recovery phase, hoping that there will not be significant setbacks. I was an administrator at UCLA and prior to this in the City of West Hollywood. In each position I had eclectic portfolios with significant responsibility for public safety and emergency preparedness. My professional experience continues to be an asset as we move through the varied phases of the pandemic and recovery.

Our college community understands the importance of student success and wellbeing. When I was SMC Vice Chair/Chair, we became part of the Aspen Institute California Trustee Fellowship to further decrease the racial equity gaps experienced by Black and Latinx students. We received a grant from Aspen and SMC was named one of the Aspen Prize Top 150 U.S. Community Colleges.

A few years ago, I was approached by a colleague working for the county to join her and a few others from nonprofit organizations to talk about services, training and educational opportunities for persons that work or want to work with individuals in need of housing and supportive services. At that time there were about 1500 job openings in this area. The need continues to be great. Though many agencies have training and orientation programs, more opportunities for career growth for students and participants are needed. With my leadership and faculty/management partners, SMC has formed a Homeless Service Sector Career Pipeline Advisory Group. Curriculum is being developed for classes that will lead to certificates in this field. Conversations include the importance of having students with lived experience and a continuum of classes enabling people to gain skills, promotions, and, importantly, receive higher wages. Certificates will also signal to hiring agencies that the individuals have completed coursework and studies in the field. The first classes will begin in spring semester. SMC faculty and administrators understand the importance of creating opportunities for students, and partnering with nonprofit and community agencies, and local governments. Once the curriculum is developed and approved, we plan to share it with other community colleges as the need is great. The emergence and development of this new program is a direct outcome of my work as a trustee.

What are the top issues of your campaign? How do you plan to address those issues once elected?

Issues and Action

- COVID Recovery – Bringing students safely back to campus, which includes, for example, student outreach, enhanced cleaning and sanitizing techniques, and HyFlex classrooms to bring online students seamless access into the on-campus classrooms.
- Equity, Pathways, and Inclusion –Work is beginning on the 2022-2025 Student Equity Plan to identify and remove institutional barriers, and to advance anti-racism and equity. (More discussion will be found in upcoming responses).
- Basic Needs – Students’ basic needs include access to nutritious and sufficient food, housing (further explained in an upcoming response), resources supporting physical and mental wellbeing, affordable technology, and other types of assistance.
- Fiscal – Monitoring the budget, ensuring that our audit does not contain any financial findings for the upcoming 16th consecutive year, working with legislators and state officials to provide adequate funding for colleges and programs.
- Support for faculty and staff

- SMMUSD - - Continue to work with District on concurrent enrollment, shared programs, resources, community projects, and more. We have a dedicated counselor working in the high schools to answer student questions and facilitate enrollment, including concurrent enrollment, and school-college partnerships. Young Collegians, a cohort of first generation and historically underrepresented students from SMMUSD high schools, with supportive staff from both Districts, enroll in college classes every summer, earn college credit, visit colleges, and develop skills and a mindset to enroll and succeed in college. Olympic and the Obama Center high schools have moved to SMC during the school district's remediation and renovation of the Muir/SMASH campus.

Please list all of your individual and/or organizational endorsements.

Requests are being submitted and questionnaires returned to groups whose endorsements I would be proud to have. At the time of filling out this questionnaire, decisions have not been made by the groups. When I ran in 2018, endorsements included Santa Monica Democratic Club, County Democratic Committee, SMRR, CEPS, SMC Faculty Association. UNITE HERE Local 11 and more. Currently gathering endorsements, which include Congress Members Ted Lieu, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, County Assessor Jeff Prang, Assembly Member Richard Bloom, State Senator Ben Allen, Santa Monica Mayor Sue Himmelrich and representatives of elected bodies, such as SMUSD Board, Rent Control Board, City Council, and all my colleagues from the SMC Board.

How long have you lived in Santa Monica? Where else have you lived, and why did you live there? 34 years

Will you pledge to serve on City Council for your entire four year term? I pledge to serve my entire term on the college board!

Party / Activism

How long have you been a registered Democrat? Have you ever been registered as a member of another political party, or as Decline To State? If so, which party and why?

40 + years as a registered Democrat.

My father was active in the Republican party in Nassau County, New York. When I was old enough to vote, I registered Republican to vote for him for District Court Judge. He was a respected judge and when it was time for reelection, he received the endorsement of the Republican, Democratic, Liberal and Conservative parties. By then, I was a Democrat living in California.

What is your experience with political activism? Have you ever volunteered or worked for a political campaign other than your own, and if so, in what capacity were you involved?

I was on the SMRR campaign committee for 20-ish years, leaving when I became an elected official. Helped candidates in statewide, national and county campaigns and worked on many initiative campaigns, for and against – supporting progressive issues and people, Democrats and like-minded individuals for nonpartisan posts.

Which political candidates have you endorsed or supported publicly in the past? Please list as

many as possible.

In Santa Monica, our SMRR and Democratic Club endorsed candidates.,
Have you ever signed for or publicly supported efforts to recall a public official from office? If so, please list the name(s) of the officials and why you felt they should be recalled. No
Please list any organizations with which you are a member, including any leadership position you have held in each organization. Shared relevant information in the question on qualifications earlier in the questionnaire.

Please confirm that you have read the latest version of the California Democratic Party Platform, as found here:

<https://cadem.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CDP-Platform-2022-FINAL-1-1.pdf>

List any items in the CDP Platform with which you disagree. (This is in no way a litmus test for our endorsement; however, because the party delegates have worked so hard on every word of this platform document, we believe it will be a helpful guide to comprehend the policy differences between each candidate.)

I have read the platform. The following is the response that I shared in seeking the county Dems endorsement. It is obvious to me much work went into the platform and that it is comprehensive.

I am a Democrat because, as described in the introduction to the 2022 state platform,

“We support an excellent public education system, from pre-K through college, to empower our youth to reach their full potential; a universal, single-payer health care system; good union jobs; sustainably planned communities; a strong democracy from the workplace to the federal government; and a secure and peaceful world.”

The platform notes, “We believe in equality, liberty, and justice for all – the right of a woman to choose her own future; the right to fair treatment in the criminal justice system; the right to death with dignity; the right to equal access for those with disabilities; the right to free speech; and, the right to live without fear of hate crimes or gun violence.” These are our shared values. I am active and serve on the boards of organizations working on these issues, i.e., Social Justice Learning Institute (SJLI) headquartered in Inglewood with programs in schools throughout Los Angeles, SoCal ACLU, and Students4Students (S4S). S4S is a student run program providing shelters for college students who do not have housing. It was started at UCLA while I was there with the first shelter at a local church. S4S has grown to a network of shelters involving students at USC, UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis, and other schools.

The state platform encapsulates my beliefs quite eloquently.

Campaign Finance

Please indicate Yes or No to the following statements:

1. I pledge not to take contributions from oil, gas, and coal industry executives, lobbyists, and PACs. Yes

I pledge not to take contributions from police or law enforcement unions, lobbyists, and PACs. Yes

3. I pledge not to take contributions from development firms, lobbyists, and PACs. Yes

If you answered No to any of the above contribution questions, please explain here:

SMC

What kind of approach should SMC be taking in regard to COVID safety at this point in the pandemic?

A response team continues to meet regularly and is doing an excellent job in response to the COVID emergency. We pivoted to on-line classes and put the health and safety of students, staff, managers and faculty first. See response to a previous question on why I'm running for the SMC board for additional background.

What are your top priorities for SMC which you plan to address in this four year term?

See responses in previous questions for why I am running and top issues.

What can SMC do to reduce the achievement gap and increase completion rates?

What are the most important technological investments that SMC must make in order to keep up with hybrid instruction, if any? Discussed in previous responses.

What should SMC do to address its unhoused student population? Do you support SMC building affordable housing for unhoused students or students at risk of becoming unhoused?

We should build housing. The board unanimously authorized submission of a proposal for a planning grant, which we received, for campus housing and the process is underway. We are looking at the Bundy campus. Passage of SMC Measure on the November ballot will provide funding to combine with state funding to make student housing affordable. I support this effort.

SMC also has a Student Care Team that meets regularly, discussing issues and concerns of and regarding students. The basic needs programs have a variety of components including helping students with food, clothing and connections to other programs/services. SMC works with Safe Place for Youth (SPY) for students experiencing homelessness. I am on the Board of Students4Students(S4S); we operate shelters for college students and have one in Santa Monica that welcomes SMC students.

In what ways can SMC better collaborate directly with SMMUSD?

What are some other opportunities for SMC community partnerships that could be expanded upon? Since I have been on the board, the relationship and partnerships between the college and District have greatly improved, and services have expanded. The districts have a good working relationship and several programs/resources together, some noted in the answers above. We also provide priority enrollment to local students, a SMC Promise program, and expanded concurrent enrollment programs at no cost (for fees or materials) for local students.

Young Collegians, a cohort of first generation and historically underrepresented students from SMMUSD high schools, with supportive staff from both Districts, enroll in college classes every summer, earn college credit, visit colleges, and develop skills and a mindset to enroll and succeed in college.

I am most pleased that we were able to quickly accommodate the school district's need to relocate the high school students from Olympic and the Obama Center high schools to SMC during the school district's remediation and renovation of the Muir/SMASH campus. We welcome the students to the SMC campus and community, their new home for the next couple of years. We are always looking for and welcome opportunities to collaborate with the School District.

Social Justice

In what ways can SMC ensure that, in a real, practical sense, Black Lives Matter in our college community?

*In what ways can SMC best protect the undocumented residents of Santa Monica?
How would you use your position on the College Board to assist BIPOC and other disadvantaged residents of Santa Monica?
How do you plan to (in the moment) counteract any and all observed possible acts of microaggressions towards Women, African Americans, Hispanics, LGBTQ and others of marginalized communities from your fellow Board members or members of the public? What is your experience in dealing with these situations?*

Santa Monica College's student body is diverse, and many are activists helping to ensure that the needs of students are met. They are joined by supportive staff, and faculty, and board members in their efforts. There are numerous programs, educational opportunities, organizations and clubs serving the college community. Black Collegians Program/Umoja Community assists students of African American and African descent in transitioning to four-year schools, obtaining an AA degree, offering students counseling, camaraderie and academic related services. Extended Opportunity Program and Service (EOPS) "supports enrollment, retention, graduation and transfer of students who are challenged by economic and educational disadvantages". The Latino Center/Adelante provides a similar array of resources, counseling for students, communication opportunities and summer bridge programs. The DREAM Resource center has programs for undocumented students, ally training and more. Guardian Scholars serves Students who are or have been in the foster care system providing resources and services. The Center for Students with Disabilities connects students with counselors, services and assists with ADA/504 compliance. We have health and wellness programs, and partner with local agencies. "An initiative actively supported by students and campus community, the Equity Center became operational in the last two years. It serves as a public platform to inform and educate students, faculty and staff on best practices to eliminate systemic racism, gender bias, and LGBTQ+ inequities." SMC takes reporting of Hate Crimes, Sexual Assault, Domestic and Dating violence seriously. Professional staff are on campus and are routinely available for emergencies. A number of affiliated student clubs also deal with these issues and take part in the training and prevention programs.

Social Justice is a thread that should run through all our work and for many in the college community it does. The expertise on campus can be shared with the community and often happens organically. When students come with concerns, we may work with the families. Social Justice is discussed in classes, programs, can be seen in student activism and in protests. We are the only college to have a Public Policy Institute, AA degree and certificate in public policy that we are aware of in the state. The Spring and Fall Symposiums include topics related to social justice. We advertise these to the community and invite them to participate, which they do. I am particularly proud of PPI and I'm quoting a SMC publication that notes I was the "driving force in the establishment of the Public Policy Institute (PPI) at SMC, which offers AA degrees and certificates educating the next generation of policymakers." Please see the annual report for more information on the programs, <https://www.smc.edu/administration/governance/board-of-trustees/documents/2021-2022-Annual-Report-Final.pdf#search=annual%20report>

Regarding my experience in dealing with microaggressions and protecting individuals. I have written policy, developed programs, organized workshops and mandatory trainings. I have advised student groups, worked with survivors, organized communities and mediated differences. Much of this was part of my responsibilities while working for UCLA and the city of West Hollywood. In WEHO I worked with the city council and served as the public safety administrator, which included being the first and facilitating staff person for the Gay and Lesbian /Sheriffs Conference Committee and the Public Safety Commission. I worked in Public Safety at UCLA tasked with bridging divides between PD and the campus community among other responsibilities. I received the National Jeanne Clery Safety Award for my work with sexual assault survivors and was recognized by the UCLA LGBTQ Center at a graduation ceremony for my work with them. There is much more I can share; for those who may be interested in my work, feel free to contact me.

Do you support California Proposition 1? Yes

Do you support the citizens initiative ballot measure which would tax real estate transactions over \$8M and provide revenue for affordable housing, rent subsidy, and SMMUSD? Why/why not? Yes, because it is a sensible plan for additional funding for our priorities.

Do you support the competing council-approved ballot measure which would tax real estate transactions over \$8M and provide revenue into the general fund? Why/why not? No - it is not good for the community and specifically could hurt renters.

Do you support the rent control ballot measure which would permanently lower the rent control General Adjustment cap from 6% down to 3%? Yes

Do you support the SMC bond measure? Yes

Do you support the 1% transient occupancy tax ballot measure? Yes

Do you support the cannabis business tax ballot measure? Yes

Additional Questions

What role do you believe the Santa Monica Democratic Club should have in our City?

One of leadership, particularly when it is an issue that ties to the state party platform and can help bring people together.

If elected, how would you attempt to interact with the Santa Monica Democratic Club and other political organizations to ensure community buy-in on new proposals?

I am working on many of the same issues as the Santa Monica Democratic Club through organizations that I am a member of and noted in other responses. I am a member of the Dem Club's Diversity and Inclusion committee.

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