



A California Non-Profit PAC

**PDA-CA CANDIDATE
QUESTIONNAIRE for the
SAN FRANCISCO NOV. 2020
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD RACE**

NAME OF CANDIDATE: Han Zou

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Date of the Election : November 3, 2020

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PDA-CA is non-profit state political action committee formed in 2018 by grassroots progressives active in Progressive Democrats of America (PDA) in California. The primary objective of PDA-CA is to identify

highly progressive Democratic Candidates within the state for statewide offices including, but not limited to, Governor, State Assembly and State Senate, and for offices at the county and municipal levels. Candidates may be invited to apply for the Endorsement of PDA-CA. If that occurs, the candidate may enjoy grassroots help from the activists within PDA-CA to include walking precincts, phone banking and other activities, to assist that candidate to win election to the office sought.

We ask that the candidate observe the format of this questionnaire, and have it back to the requestor in PDF by the time designated in the cover letter, in order to be eligible for endorsement.

NOTICE: YOUR RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE PDA-CA WEBSITE AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING AND USE.

1. Are you 100% committed to continuing Free City and how will you accomplish that in light of the budget cuts and COVID?

I'm proud that City College was the first in the country to provide free community college education. I will work to expanded to not just covering the per unit fee of classes, but also the health fee, web registration fee, course material fees and increased access for undocumented students.

Enrolling for classes, even knowing what classes that are available, was always a challenge particularly for immigrant communities and limited-English speaking communities. The pandemic and the lack of in person services at campuses have made it even more challenging. I will work to make the enrollment process easier, create in-person enrollment options for students with limited technology access, and meet under-enrolled populations where they are - whether that's community events, WeChat, or in partnership with Community-Based Organizations.

There will be calls for austerity and budget cuts in the next year and City College will be asked to "do its part and take one for the team." Cuts to education during economic downturns are never the answer. CCSF needs reliable and consistent funding so that it can focus on enrolling more students and bettering the quality of it's classes without worrying about whether classes need to be cut or staff needs to be let go. I support the WERF legislation proposed by Supervisor Mar.

I believe that in a recession we should be investing in education and ensuring that City College is continuing to provide adult education, arts, and tech classes. San Francisco loves to talk about how much it values education but we need to back that talk with real investment and I will be a champion for that fight.

The educators, staff, and students of City College are leaning on the school even more now to provide stability and support during these times. Like Assemblyman Ammiano's Rainy Day Fund for the school district, WERF can be a safety net for City College that will support the school in the long term.

The City alone cannot get us out of the financial situation COVID-19 has put us in. We need more investment in education from the state government which is why I fully support the Schools and Communities First ballot initiative to reform Prop 13. Corporations cannot continue to make billions of dollars through loopholes while our education institutions are left fighting for scraps.

2. How will you respond to and cooperate with student demands and organizing efforts?

One of my first jobs at the Asian Law Caucus here in the city I was one of the workers to lead the fight to organize the nonprofit. I have a deep respect for the power of organizing. University Campuses have always traditionally served as a focal point for politically charged issues and we should never stifle debate and student's rights to make demands. CCSF and the city as a whole should do everything in their power to ensure that students continue to have a say in the running of the college and as Trustee, I will support any efforts to break down barriers to organizing.

3. How will you listen to and support all the workers at City College, including those represented by AFT Local 2121 (faculty and academic staff), and SEIU 1021 (administrators and custodians)?

I am proudly endorsed by both unions and as a member of IFPTE Local 21, I am committed to working with my union siblings to negotiate with employers for improved working conditions. As Trustee, I hope to work closely with both unions to make sure their voices are being heard and that their collective needs are being met. Both unions share a common vision of wanting to save CCSF and I will work closely with them to achieve this.

4. What are your views on land use and public lands?

I believe that the City College Board of Trustees needs to be laser focused on housing for students and educators. As a Trustee I will be working to push supervisors, planning, and the mayor to build student and educator housing in projects throughout the Westside and on major trans corridors.

I believe public land should remain public and have an issue with private interests being handed sweetheart deals and paying less than the market rate to develop public lands.

I want to see our land use objectives focus on helping us solve some of our most pressing social issues: homelessness, and the lack of housing that's affordable for families, and workers.

Thank you for your time & interest--Shirley Golub, PDA-CA Chair, SF Chapter