

## Michael Llanell-Vararaj

Michael Llanell-Vararaj was elected as the 2025–2026 Student Trustee for the San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD), representing over 31,000 students across the district. A pre-nursing major at the College of San Mateo (CSM), Michael's journey in the district began in Summer 2019 as a concurrent enrollment student, before starting as a full-time freshman in Summer 2023.

For Michael, community college wasn't a fallback it was his first choice. Early on, he immersed himself in student life, joining clubs, student government, the Promise Scholars Program, and Biology and Chemistry Scholars (BCS) at Skyline College. He also redshirted on Skyline's wrestling team, demonstrating his drive both on and off the mat.

Michael's leadership trajectory accelerated when he joined the Advocacy Board, was appointed as an ASCSM Senator, and was later elected to the Senate. Through the Senate, he rose to the officer position of Vice Chair, where he oversaw promotions and funding distribution for CSM's vibrant club community — supporting up to 46 active clubs at its peak. His outstanding commitment earned him the prestigious Allan R. Brown Outstanding Student Service and Leadership Award.

Beyond student government, Michael serves as President of the Transfer Club, President of the CSM Coastside Club, Vice President of the International Student Association, and holds multiple leadership roles across various student organizations. His volunteer work on campus opened doors to employment as both a Student Ambassador and Transfer Ambassador.

As Student Trustee, Michael is committed to advocating for the needs of students whose voices are too often unheard, ensuring that every student across SMCCCD is represented at the highest levels of district decision-making.

Michael's term expires May 2026.