

Rationale for Changing the Name of "PDA Day" to "All College Day"
Recommendation from the Faculty Professional Development
as reached unanimously on 26 March 2026
Prepared for the 4/1/26 Academic Senate Meeting
On behalf of Faculty Professional Development Committee ("FPDC")
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History

Every fall and spring, SRJC hosts an all-day event that has long been called "Professional Development Activities Institutional Day" (or PDA Day for short), the spirit of which is to provide a day during which employees are released from other duties and allowed to come together to focus on professional development (PD). While there are many opportunities throughout the year for employees to engage in individual and role-specific PD, the purpose of this day is to provide an opportunity to build community and solidarity around our shared mission and have an opportunity to work with colleagues with whom we don't usually cross paths.

Rationale for name change

"Professional Development Activities Institutional Day" is too long to be practical, which is why most of us refer to it as "PDA Day." But, in general, using acronyms in the names of events is not recommended, because there will always then be a need to clarify to outsiders and newcomers what the acronym means. This is particularly true in this case, given that "PDA" has at least one colloquial meaning - Public Displays of Affection - that we probably do not want to be associated with our professional event.

Further, while the current name of the event, when fully spelled out, is technically an accurate descriptor of the content of the day, it misses the spirit of the day, which is to share knowledge across disciplines and departments and build community. The title "All College Day" captures this spirit well. There are many other schools in the California Community College system that call their districtwide PD days "All College Day" (e.g., [Ventura College](#), [Long Beach College](#), [West Valley College](#), etc.), so this name choice is fairly standard practice.