Student Equity Highlighted at Presidents’ Welcome Breakfast
President Stern and Academic Senate President Dan Walsh hosted the Presidents’ Welcome Breakfast on August 13. Saddleback’s new full-time faculty and administrators were introduced.

The presentation included updates on the college’s Promise Program, auto awarding of degrees and certificates, vision/branding, equity, diversity, and inclusion, and featured special guest Dean Sally Heilstedt of Lake Washington Institute of Technology, who presented on the Four Connections, developed by Odessa College to close equity gaps and improve student success by putting a greater strategic focus on faculty-student relationships.

First Cohort of Students Show “Promise”
Saddleback College welcomed 409 students to the second cohort of the Promise Program. The students attended a Success Day on August 12, where they were able to meet their Success Coach, connect with their fellow Promise Program students, and take campus tours.

We’ve been reviewing the results of our first cohort, who had a very successful first year at Saddleback College. These 271 students outperformed the general student body of first-time freshmen in first-year grade point average, units attempted and completed, course success rates, and college-level math and English completion. Further, this group of students had significantly higher fall-to-spring persistence and fall-to-fall persistence rates overall, and eliminated equity gaps among Hispanic/Latino, low-income, and white students. Fall-to-spring persistence rates were 98 percent, compared to 80 percent for their general population counterparts, and fall-to-fall persistence rates are 87 percent, compared to 60 percent.

Degree Awards Increase Due to Implementation of Auto-Award
Saddleback College saw a 52.7 percent increase in degrees and certificates in the 2018-2019 academic year, due to the work of Admissions and Records and Counseling Services to ensure that students were awarded degrees and certificates they earned, even if they didn’t apply for the degrees. While our current efforts focused on students who were enrolled in Spring 2019, our future efforts will focus on students who enrolled prior to Spring 2019 and students who attended Saddleback after completing work at a four-year institution.
Auto-Award Project #1: Award counts by type of Award

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017-18 vs 2018-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>654</td>
<td>794</td>
<td>1536</td>
<td>93.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAT</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Achievement</td>
<td>2137</td>
<td>2237</td>
<td>3347</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Skills Award</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>100.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4058</td>
<td>4443</td>
<td>6783</td>
<td>52.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Difference between 2016-17 awards and 2017-18 awards was 9.5%.

Saddleback Administrators, Faculty and Alumni Participate in LA/OC Regional Consortium Presentations

Peter Lindstrom, a Saddleback alum and current part-time faculty for the college’s automotive technology program, participated in an alumni and student panel on August 8 at the LA/OC Regional Consortium annual retreat, facilitated by Kari Irwin, Assistant Dean for CTE. The retreat focused on “Realizing the Vision through Collaborative Partnerships,” and this panel was intended to highlight the student voice to over 100 career education professionals in Orange County. Mr. Lindstrom served on the panel with a student from Santa Ana College and Orange Coast College, and focused on highlights of his educational experience as well as opportunities to continue serving students with high quality services. Tony Teng, Dean of ATAS, also facilitated an afternoon general session on planning regional priority goals. The retreat shaped career education regional efforts for coming academic year.

Apprenticeship Program Planning Launches with Professional Development Visit

Responding to federal and state initiatives to develop apprenticeship programs, a team from Saddleback College led by Vice President of Instruction Tram Vo-Kumamoto participated in a customized professional development opportunity this summer with Harper College in Chicago. The visit was funded by the Strong Workforce Program to explore developing new CTE programs that address student and employer needs. Harper College is nationally-recognized for successfully providing apprenticeship programs to nearly 50 employers, and annually serving 150 apprentices.

The Saddleback team included Scott Fredrickson, Glen Stevenson, Stephanie DiAlto, Tram Vo-Kumamoto, Anthony Teng, John Jaramillo, Kari Irwin, and Israel Dominguez, who learned about Harper College’s development and implementation process, gathered best practices, and developed a draft project plan with timeline. The apprenticeship program planning and development will occur this academic year, and launch in Fall 2021.

Successful Accreditation Results for Paramedic Program

The Paramedic Program was recognized by the Committee on Accreditation for the EMS Professions
(CoAEMSP) for its outstanding results. Based on the outcomes reported for 2017, Saddleback College Paramedic Success Rates follow:

- National Registry Exam Written Exam: 96.1%
- Retention: 96.3%
- Job Placement: 94.1%

Saddleback College is the only nationally-accredited paramedic program in Orange County and has educated more paramedics in Orange County than any other program.

Grants Update
Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College will serve as sub-recipients on a UC Irvine grant award from the National Science Foundation to examine students’ perceived barriers to and benefits of cross-enrollment policies as well as to implement interventions to increase cross-enrollment participation. Dr. Jennifer Klein, Director of Planning, Research, and Accreditation, will serve as Saddleback’s Principal Investigator for this $259,889 sub-award.

Saddleback College was also awarded $123,863 in supplemental funding for its existing NSF INCLUDES Alliance award. This supplemental funding, entitled “Supporting the Re-Entry of Women and Women Veterans in the STEM Workforce through NSF INCLUDES”, will support six females or veterans that have been identified to participate in targeted internships in engineering or computer science at SLAC and JPL under supervision of an engineer or researcher from the respective facility.

Hispanic-Serving Institution Grant Proposal
Saddleback College submitted a $3 million grant proposal to the U.S. Department of Education Developing Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) program on July 15. A Hispanic-Serving Institution is one that has an enrollment of undergraduate full-time equivalent students that is at least 25 percent Hispanic. To become an HSI, an institution must apply for designation via the Department of Education. Being an HSI means taking an internal look at processes and systems in higher education that have disproportionately affected underrepresented groups, and making “inclusion” a major component in all areas of the college. While the HSI designation and funding are geared toward helping Hispanic and low-income students, the activities, programs, and best practices that result will likely benefit all students.

If awarded, the project, titled “Saddleback College Connections: Transforming a College to Serve the Hispanic community” will help to prepare the college to better serve the growing population of Hispanic and low-income students, reduce equity gaps in academic outcomes for disproportionately affected Hispanic and low-income students, and increase financial literacy and reduce economic barriers to college participation for Hispanic and low-income students. The activities planned are expected to increase Hispanic and low-income student enrollments, as well as retention, persistence, success and transfer rates while also moving the college culture to better embrace diversity and inclusion.

Saddleback Customized Training Program Nominated for OCBC Award
The Economic and Workforce Development & Business Science Division has submitted a nomination for the college’s Customized Training Program into the Orange County Business Council’s Turning Red Tape into Red Carpet Program Award in Business Retention and Expansion.

The Turning Red Tape into Red Carpet Program Award recognizes outstanding and innovative programs in economic and business development that retain or generate jobs and investment on an ongoing basis. The Business Retention and Expansion award specifically honors economic development initiatives that focus on retaining and growing existing businesses within communities and regions. Awardees
demonstrate extensive cross-community collaboration and the ability to adapt and respond quickly to unforeseen events.

The Customized Workplace Training program was established at Saddleback in 2015 with the goal of providing training at an employer’s location to help increase productivity and close skills gaps within the organization.

Since the launch of the program, Saddleback College has delivered training to over 30 companies and has trained close to 500 of their employees in sectors such as advanced manufacturing, hospitality, health care, and IT. In delivering customized training to various companies in Orange County, the partnerships have yielded multiple benefits, such as employee enrollment college programs to further their education or build their skills, internship and employment opportunities for our students, and donation of equipment or supplies to our education programs. Due to these partnerships, a number of industry representatives have served on our advisory committees.

**Athletic Honor Roll for Spring Semester**

The Saddleback College athletic department is pleased to announce that 155 of the college’s 316 student-athletes have been named to the Athletic Honor Roll after grades were posted for the Spring 2019 semester, including 30 student-athletes with a perfect 4.00 grade point average.

The 155 student-athletes on the honor roll this past semester represent almost 50 percent of the student-athletes at Saddleback College this year. In order to make the honor roll, student-athletes must have passed at least 12 units during the semester with a 3.00 GPA or higher and finished the season in good standing.

In addition to the honor roll list, nine of the college’s 10 spring semester athletic teams posted an overall team grade point average of 3.0 or higher and will be nominated for Orange Empire Conference and California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) scholar-team awards. The women’s tennis team posted a school-record 3.75 average team GPA while the men’s golf team (3.39), women’s track and field team (3.37), men’s swimming and diving (3.34) and women’s beach volleyball team (3.31) were very close. The Gaucho baseball team (3.22), softball team (3.17), women’s swimming and diving (3.04), and men’s track and field program (3.00) rounded out the outstanding academic semester for Saddleback College athletic programs.

**Impressive GPA’s for Athletic Teams**

Nine of the college’s 10 intercollegiate athletic teams that were in season during the Spring 2019 semester have amassed an average team grade point average over 3.00.

Combined with eight out of 10 intercollegiate teams that were in season during the fall which posted team GPA’s of 3.00 or higher, that accounts for 17 of the college’s 20 sports teams finding the benchmark for overall academic achievement during the semester when their sport was in season.

Further, the athletic department is pleased to announced that we have confirmed at least 48 sophomore student-athletes from the 2018-2019 academic year have transferred to four-year colleges and will earn an estimated $2.25-million in scholarships over the next two years as they complete their education and athletic eligibility.

**Fine Arts Alumna Gets National Audience**

Brooke Dickson, Applied Music and Theatre Arts student 2014-2017, was featured on Good Morning,
America on August 12 with her internationally acclaimed band “The Regrettes.” Brooke is currently bassist and vocalist on tour with the band throughout the US, Europe and Japan.

**Save the Date: Foundation Gala**

Mark your calendars! The 19th Annual Saddleback College Foundation Gala will be held on Saturday, September 14 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Laguna Niguel. Sponsorships and tickets are available at the foundation website: [www.saddleback.edu/foundation/gala](http://www.saddleback.edu/foundation/gala).

Respectfully Submitted,

Elliot Stern
President