

Mascot and Moniker Task Force

Joe Jennum and Uyen Mai, co-chairs

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Expectations



- Share your honest opinions
- One person speaks at a time
 - Raise your hand via “Reactions” or use Chat
- Debate the idea, not the person

Guests

- Invited to stay and watch, but not participate in discussion at this time
- The committee today will be discussing their thoughts on the research results of more than 900 voices to determine next steps.

Purpose of the Task Force

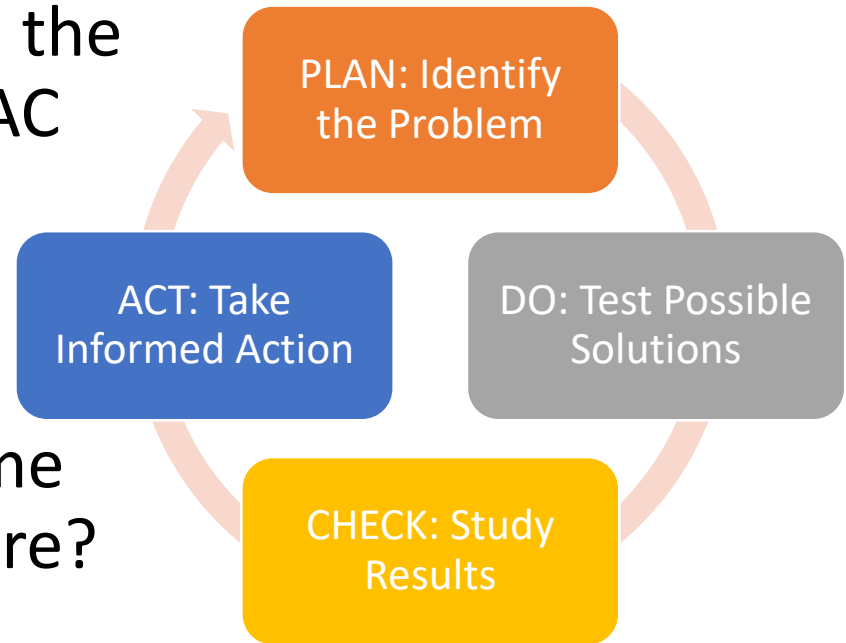


This task force will evaluate the Mt. SAC mascot (Joe Mountie) and athletic moniker (Mounties).

The task force will evaluate the strength of the two identities to determine if they appropriately represent the college for the next 75 years.

What do we need to know?

- Is the mascot, Joe Mountie, the right mascot to bring Mt. SAC into the future?
 - If not, what should be?
- Is the athletic moniker, Mounties, the right nickname for the college into the future?
 - If not, what should be?



Summary of Last Meeting in Sept.

- 7-6 believed that we do *not* need more research on the mascot Joe Mountie.
- 8-5 believed we needed to do more research to understand the moniker, Mounties.
- We also discussed that we need a decision on the Moniker first because it impacts the Mascot. For example, if you change the Moniker, then by default you must change Mascot.

Agenda

- Background on the Moniker, Mounties and Mountaineers
- Discussions on the Moniker
- Identify Next Steps

Research Results on Moniker

Should College Consider Changing Mounties Moniker

Community members were then asked whether the College should consider changing the Mounties moniker. About 33% of respondents indicated that it should, while another 48.1% felt it should not (Table 11).

Table 11. Should College Consider Changing Moniker

Change Mounties	Count	Percent
Yes	301	32.9%
Unsure	173	18.9%
No	440	48.1%
Total	914	100.0%

Research Results - Role

When the data is disaggregated by role, the only group with a majority of respondents indicating that the College should consider the change were Mt. SAC managers (Table 12). Only 29.2% of current students indicated that the College should consider a change to the Mounties moniker.

Table 12: College Should Consider Changing Moniker by Role

Role	Count	Yes	Unsure	No
Manager	62	51.6%	19.4%	29.0%
Faculty	208	43.8%	16.3%	39.9%
Staff	171	29.2%	21.1%	49.7%
Current student	394	29.2%	21.6%	49.2%
Alumni or former student	69	15.9%	5.8%	78.3%
Community member/Donor/Retired	2	11.1%	22.2%	66.7%
Unreported	1	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	914	32.9%	18.9%	48.1%

Research Results - Gender

In terms of gender, females were only slightly more likely to want the College to consider a change; 35.9% compared to 32.0% of males (Table 13).

Table 13: College Should Consider Changing Moniker by Gender

Gender	Count	Yes	Unsure	No
Female	474	35.9%	18.6%	45.6%
Male	266	32.0%	18.0%	50.0%
Non-binary / third gender	17	35.3%	17.6%	47.1%
Prefer not to say/No Response	157	25.5%	21.7%	52.9%
Total	914	32.9%	18.9%	48.1%

Research Results - Ethnicity

In terms of ethnicity, about 50% those who are categorized as being of two or more ethnicities indicated that the College should consider a change (Table 14). This was followed by students who identified as White, for whom 43.5% indicated that the College should consider a change.

Table 14: College Should Consider Changing Moniker by IPEDS Ethnicity

IPEDS Ethnicity	Count	Yes	Unsure	No
African American/Black	26	38.5%	34.6%	26.9%
Asian	85	27.1%	22.4%	50.6%
Hispanic or Latina/o/x	350	30.9%	19.7%	49.4%
Native American/Alaskan Native	8	25.0%	12.5%	62.5%
Two or more	28	50.0%	21.4%	28.6%
Unreported	208	25.5%	17.3%	57.2%
White	209	43.5%	15.8%	40.7%
Total	914	32.9%	18.9%	48.1%

Discussion Notes

- On reflection, Task Force does not see as much need to do additional research on Mascot/Moniker.
- After historical presentations, many felt strongly against the Mascot.
- Task Force wants to vote on the Mascot, but give people not present a heads up on a vote and/or a chance to vote via email.
- Hearty debate on the Moniker and its appropriateness for the college. Task Force wants more time to think through the Moniker.

Next Steps?

- Yen will initiate vote via email on appropriateness of Mascot
- Task Force will ponder the appropriateness of the Moniker
- Yen and Marisa will share the historical information that was gathered (see following two slides)
- Next meeting will be Friday, Nov. 19

Joe Mountie Profile

- Here is the online summary of Joe Mountie history:
<https://www.mtsac.edu/profiles/jmountie.html>

Decisions

With students on board and classes underway, the period of decision making approached. The campus was there, the students and faculty had arrived. There was no tradition, few rules, only general guidelines and goals with which to work. Just a wonderful future ahead!

The students were mature, with an average age of twenty-five, and talented. Over half were veterans. They were eager to put the war years behind and look to a glorious future ahead. There was a common denominator of experience between faculty and students — World War II. Service in the armed forces by both faculty and students, working in defense plants, suffering through rationing in the civilian population were in the past. Every day brought the opportunity to mold the foundation and the future of the college.

A wonderful, understanding Board of Trustees gave stability to decision making. The administrators, young at heart, related to the needs of the students making it possible to work together, regardless of rank or position. The friendliness of the administration and the faculty permeated the campus. Oscar Edinger encouraged this bond of friendliness by vowing that if he didn't greet each student on the campus as his duties took him far and wide, he would buy a cup of coffee for the student. Everyone loved this offer and would sometimes purposely hide and then accuse him of not speaking. Everyone looked forward to that moment when they could exchange experiences and concerns over a cup of coffee.

The students rose to the occasion when dress rehearsals on campus were in order. For example, no one demanded discipline in the college library. This was not a high school, but a mature college group. Yes, there was noise in the library, but a healthy atmosphere. Maybe the veterans did study with their feet on the library table. They were comfortable. But when a visitor of distinction might happen in to see how the new college was progressing, everybody snapped to attention. One well remembered incident was the visit of a district superintendent to the library. He said he judged a campus by the attitude in the library. When he appeared, everything was exemplary! No reason to be concerned; the students knew what to do.



The college's first mountain man, Monsieur Sac, drawn by Stella Obrikat.

THE COLLEGE MASCOT "LITTLE JOE"

What seemed like minor decisions were basic to the future of the college. The football team needed uniforms. What were the school colors? Late in September students voted for school colors. Maroon and white won with a vote of 124. What kind of a mascot would the college display at the football games? The answer originated in the Art Department.

An editor's note from the 1947 *Chaparral* reads:

We would like to introduce to you Monsieur Sac, a little character whose origin is somewhat uncertain, who in turn will take over the job of introducing this book, section by section.

As is typical of so many Mountain Men, he is usually accompanied by two or three of his girl friends, whom we have never had the pleasure of meeting.

May M. Sac give you as many smiles as he did us while working with him in the production of this book.

Adolph Kath, art instructor, encouraged the talented students to work on this project. In the first *Chaparral* yearbook in 1947, Monsieur Sac was introduced as the first mountain man. What emerged the next year was the raccoon cap Little Joe — a very appropriate figure for the pioneer spirit on this rugged campus. Hook Miller and Stella Obrikat, art students, created and developed the designs.

It occurred to them that it would be interesting to do faculty caricatures for posterity. This they did with fun, humor and excitement as each caricature was completed and displayed. The faculty were all good sports and supported the project whole-heartedly.

LIL' JOSIE MAKES FORMAL DEBUT

An article from the November 24, 1948, issue of the *Mountaineer* reads:

After months of preparations and hundreds of beauty treatments the belle of Mount San Antonio made her formal debut during halftime of the Mount Sac-Santa Ana game [November 11].

Josephine, or Lil' Josie as she is known to her hundreds of friends and admirers, is not new to MSAC. Her picture has appeared on place cards and was on a division page of last year's Chaparral so she is not exactly a stranger here.

She wears the very latest in Mountaineer garb, Buckskin and Moccasins. Josie will probably be a contender for the Tournament of Roses Crown next year. Her shy smile and beautiful blonde hair are indeed an alluring combination.

Little Joe and Little Josie will be guests of honor at the annual Football Banquet and on that night their identities will be revealed to the world.

LITTLE JOE

The college mascot was presented at a half time break at the Fullerton game in November 1947. Mrs. Herbert Martin had directed construction of the head, with the raccoon cap donated by Mrs. Robert G. Fry. Little Joe's costume was made by Melissa Wingfield and members of her class. Others working on the project included Adolph Kath, art instructor, and the rally committee.

SCHOOL SPIRIT

An editorial titled "I Say Mountaineers" from the October 2, 1946, *Mountaineer* reads:

Yes, I say Mountaineers because that is what students of this institution will be called. All of the other schools are called after some animal, but we of college Moo SAC are on a little higher plane.

It also has many possibilities for novel ideas and stunts. Our drill team is all ready going to town on the "Daisy Mae" theme. Just think of those thirty-two beautiful girls out there.

One of the best ideas is to work up a school stunt to go to our games, especially those at home, dressed up as "Back-of-the-hills" Lil Abner. We all have some old Levies

that could be worn, and then a bright plaid shirt with perhaps Dad's straw hat from last year to go with them.

With only a quarter of us going like this, we would be a hundred and fifty strong, enough to make our NAME and drill team really stand out. If continued in future years, this could become quite a famous practice.

We couldn't do any of this if we were known as the Mt. SAC Lions or maybe Moo SAC Elephants. We do have a decent name so lets really make something of it!



ABOVE First Football Queen Margaret Gelzer was crowned at the Thanksgiving Day game in 1948. She and her princesses Helen Peirsol (bottom left), Joyce Long (bottom right), Anita Arnold and Nancy Welch (not pictured) were chosen by the football team. Included on the float were Little Josie and her escort Little Joe. LEFT Original drawing of Little Joe by Hook Miller.