



President's Report to the Board of Trustees



October 30, 2015

1. Last week Mt. SAC celebrated the groundbreaking for the new Business and Computer Technology Complex. The [attached flyer](#) shows the building location and several design sketches. For a dramatic online design sketch presentation of the exterior and interior design of the complex, follow this [link](#).



2. The Board of Governors has submitted its System Budget Request for next year, 2016-17 ([attached](#)). This request will be reviewed by the Department of Finance and will inform Governor Brown's January 2016 initial budget proposal for 2016-17. Highlights of the System Budget Request:
 - **3% Growth (\$175M)** – Restoring access to higher education for those who need it remains a major system priority. Both the 2014-15 and 2015-16 budgets included large increases for growth (2.75% and 3%, respectively), enough funding to restore approximately 130,000 students (headcount) over that time.
 - **COLA (\$100M)** –The statutory COLA for 2016-17 is currently estimated to be 1.6%, which equates to approximately \$100 million in funding for the CCCs.
 - **Workforce (\$200M)** - In November, the 25 recommendations of the Task Force on Workforce, Job Creation and a Strong Economy will be put forth to the Board for adoption. The recommendations target actions to provide policy guidance, regulatory review, and legislative and budgetary actions to increase the number of students obtaining CTE degrees, certificates, and industry-valued credentials.
 - **General Operating Expenses (\$250M)** – In 2015-16, the CCC system received \$267 million as an augmentation to base funding, partly in recognition of increasing costs (information technology, utilities, health care, etc.), declining purchasing power due to non-payment of COLAs between 2007-08 and 2012-13, and increasing CalPERS and CalSTRS obligations that will stress district budgets. While this \$267M was much needed, the system has still not recovered its buying power lost during the recession.
 - **Technology (\$22M)** –These funds would: 1) Enhance the existing network infrastructure of the entire system, ensure appropriate back-up, and augment the network bandwidth to respond to increased demand; 2) Add a centralized security center to promote network security; and 3) Support technology tools and services including an integrated library system, help-desk services, and video conferencing.
 - **Basic Skills (\$20M)** – The 2015-16 budget recognized the importance of basic skills by funding \$70 million in one-time initiatives: implementing research-based practices and ensuring CSU freshmen are prepared for college-level work. An additional \$20 million is needed to ensure that these efforts are sustained.
 - **Public Outreach (\$1.5M)** – This augmentation for the *I Can Afford College Campaign* ([link](#)) would increase ad buying by about 35% and allow for Spanish language outreach and more community outreach.
 - **Institutional Effectiveness (\$15M)** – The Institutional Effectiveness Initiative is a technical assistance program to improve student success. Enhanced funding will expand efforts to develop, monitor, measure, and implement a framework of data analysis and standards that will support all community colleges, expand on the community of practice model, and develop a more formalized training infrastructure.

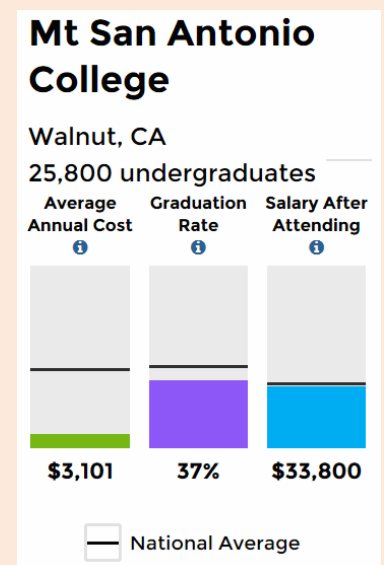
3. Economists at the UCLA Anderson Forecast expect the national economy to grow at a "healthy pace" over the next two years, with little chance of recession. As reported in their quarterly forecast ([attached](#)):
 - The group forecasts U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to grow in the 2% to 3% range through 2017, with improving labor markets and a declining unemployment rate.
 - Another factor that suggests the economy is not in any near-term danger of overheating is the historically low employment to population levels. The employment-to-population level fell about 5% during the recession and has come back about 2% during this expansion. This suggests that there are still many residents who are willing and able to work but as yet have not found full-time employment.
 - With regard to California, the UCLA Forecast focused on the outlook for the state's housing market. Their broad conclusion is that the state's housing supply will not keep pace with demand and building costs in California will continue to outpace costs faced by home builders in other states. Therefore, California housing is predicted to be less affordable over the next several years as prices outpace income.
 - UCLA forecasts California's real personal income to outpace the nation: 3.8% for California versus 3.2% for the U.S. in 2016, and 3.4% for California versus 3.3% for the U.S. in 2017. Similarly, the state's labor market will outperform the national labor market over the next several years. With the state suffering a higher unemployment rate than the nation as a whole through the recession, California will see a drop in this rate from 6.2% (5.3% for the U.S.) in 2015 to 4.8% in 2017.

4. Mt. SAC's Grant Office does a fantastic job of competing for federal, state, and private funds. The [attached](#) annual report tells the full story. Highlights:
 - 24 active projects for funding level of \$6,402,728 for 2014-15 and \$19,222,080 over the lifetime of these multi-year grants.
 - During 2014-15, Mt. SAC applied for 18 new grants and 16 were funded, a 94% success rate and \$8,943,717 in new funding.

5. Mt. SAC was honored to receive the Board of Governors Energy & Sustainability Award at their September 21 meeting. The press release is [attached](#). Below is a description of the winning project.

Mt. San Antonio College replaced the existing chillers in Building 2 with high efficiency units and integrated the project into the main campus' central plant. The district also achieved additional efficiencies by installing cost-effective pumps, cooling towers, boilers, and variable-frequency drives. The \$1.3 million project was funded with \$1 million of Proposition 39 funds, Investor Owned Utility Rebates of almost \$200,000, and \$100,000 of district funds. The district will see an annual reduction of at least 800,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) and 75 kilowatts (kW) with a subsequent energy bill reduction of nearly \$105,000.

6. Last month the White House released its new College Scorecard website ([link](#)). While much of the information can be found on other federally sponsored websites, the College Scorecard website is intended to be more user and smart phone friendly. In looking at all colleges in California (of which there are 307), one can easily view and compare the "average annual cost," "graduation rate," and "salary after attending"-that is, if the data is available. If the California colleges are sorted by "average annual cost," as expected, our community colleges are at the top of the list. Attempts to "view more details," though, resulted in errors, which indicates that the website is still under construction. There is also a related website, College Scorecard Data ([link](#)), intended for policy makers and researchers. The use of this website involves downloading massive files of data to explore on your own. Larry Gordon of the LA Times ([story attached](#)) seemed generally favorable about the new tool.



7. The American Association of Community Colleges has produced a thorough analysis ([attached](#)) of the above-mentioned College Scorecard that is designed to help you better understand the Scorecard and related data. It should aid your understanding of what the Scorecard does and doesn't say about each institution, facilitating answers to questions from potential students and the broader public. As you consider the Scorecard, it is important to remember the following:
- The Obama administration has retreated from its effort to rate colleges and tie those ratings to institutional aid eligibility, but the Scorecard remains a mechanism to compare and contrast institutions along a variety of factors.
 - Much of the data that have been provided are not pertinent to community colleges.
 - The Scorecard data are provided at the institutional, rather than program, level. For community colleges in particular, this focus can distort the information provided.

8. Around Campus

- a. Ron Kamaka, Men's Cross Country and Track & Field Head Coach, outshined all of the 2014-15 South Coast Conference (SCC) Men's Sports Coaches of the Year and was named the 2015 SCC Men's All-Sports Coach of the Year. In only his third season as Head Coach, Kamaka led the Mountie Tracksters to their 10th California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) State Championship this past season. He joins legendary coaches Hilmer Lodge (1957, 1962) and Doug Todd (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005) as the only Mt. SAC Coaches to capture a CCCAA Men's Track and Field State Championship.
- b. One of the benefits of our profession is to hear from former students who have achieved success in their professions and in their lives. Zelda Bolden in our Career & Transfer Center shared one such letter ([attached](#)). A brief quote, "You inspired me to reach for bigger and better things that I hadn't even imagined myself doing!" Way to go, Zelda!
- c. In a great bit of news the Department of Corrections has approved our students in Administration of Justice and Psychiatric Technician for work experience placement in Chino Men's Prison. Dean Jemma Blake-Judd reports, "I have to commend Rachael Brown, Special Projects Coordinator in our Tech & Health Division. It took more than six months of constant contact to make this happen." What a wonderful opportunity for our students to gain real work experience!
- d. The Mt. San Antonio College Art Gallery is honored to host *Moving in Color* an exhibition of Margaret Lazzari's painting. Margaret Lazzari is a respected Los Angeles based visual artist, educator, and author. The exhibition is on now through December 3. Details are on the [attached flyer](#).
- e. Congratulations to Lisa Sugimoto, former Interim Executive Director of the Mt. SAC Foundation, for being recognized (and on the cover) in Methodist Hospital's *Health Smart* magazine ([attached](#)). Lisa and her family are great community members, generous in their giving of time and treasure, and lifetime members of our community college family.
- f. Dawn Waters, Professor of Animal Science and Director of the Registered Veterinarian Program, reports that congratulations are in order for Mt. SAC's IHSA Horse Show Team. (IHSA is the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association.) Earlier this month at Cal Poly Pomona the team brought home the High Point Team Ribbon. This is the highest award given at IHSA Horse Shows. Photos and details are [attached](#). This is a big accomplishment for our students!

- g. On Tuesday, October 13, Congresswoman Norma Torres joined the Mt. SAC Financial Aid Roundtable for a spirited discussion about improving financial aid for our students. See the photo below. What a great crew!



- h. Jennifer Galbraith, Dean of the Business Division, reports that our Interior Design Program has been awarded a National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA) 2015 Excellence in Education Award. NKBA has awarded “2015 Excellence in Education” certificates to NKBA-accredited schools that have demonstrated the highest standards of kitchen and bath instruction. As part of an annual requirement for accreditation, each school submitted two student-designed bath projects, which followed the requirements of the NKBA Student Design Competition. Student work samples were assessed by an NKBA Certified Kitchen Designer, Certified Bath Designer for compliance with the NKBA Planning Guidelines and adherence to NKBA Graphic and Presentation Standards. Program Coordinator Niki Tran submitted work by students Amie Gonzalez and Lisa Melling. Congratulations to Professor Tran and her students!
- i. In its first competition of the year the Mt. SAC Forensics Team took twelve top-three finishes at the 2015 Jannese Davidson Memorial Speech & Debate Tournament held October 18, 2015 at Concordia University, Irvine. Mt. SAC placed third overall in a field of twenty-two colleges and universities from across Southern California. Mt. SAC students took home five individual first place awards. Details are [attached](#). Good work!
- j. Robert Rogus, Professor and Co-Chair of the Aeronautics Department, thanked Jeffrey George of our IT department for visiting James Decker's Air Traffic Control Radar class and taking some wonderful photos of our students in action. Follow this [link](#) to view the gallery. Professor Rogus also shared an Associated Press article ([attached](#)) quoting union sources that there is a critical shortage of air traffic controllers. Professor Rogus points out three salient points missing from the story:
- The Federal Aviation Administration only hired 1,178 of a planned 1,772.
 - The FAA cancelled the hiring preference for Collegiate Training Initiative (CTI) graduates. (There were 3500 CTI graduates from which they could have hired in 2014.)
 - The FAA implemented a controversial 80 question “biographical questionnaire” as an initial screen for hiring. (Only 10% nationwide passed the screen in 2014, less than 40% in 2015.)

Sports Achievements

- a. Mt. SAC's Women's Golf Team won its 8th straight Orange Empire Conference Tournament at Sun Lakes Country Club in Banning on October 19th. Team member Sarah Juelch was low medalist shooting a 77.

- b. Mt. SAC has concluded another successful Cross Country Invitational season. Congratulations to the entire team of staff, volunteers, participants, and especially Doug Todd, Professor of Kinesiology and Director of Track and Cross Country. Doug shared some reflections on the event ([attached](#)) in speaking to that amazing group. I was particularly struck by one quote stating, “Thanks for working hard and, for so many of you, working anonymously. It doesn't happen without each of you—and while others may not recognize what you do, all of us who work on this event recognize your efforts. You are creating 'fans' for the sport and giving young boys and girls priceless memories and positive experiences that will benefit them for years to come.” Wow! That’s leadership!
For the ultimate Mt. SAC highlights, relive the excitement of all 107 races at the Cross Country Invitational by viewing this amazing video: [Watch the Ultimate Highlight Now](#)
- c. Congratulations to the Mt. SAC Wrestling Team for capturing the South Dual Team Championship for the fourth consecutive year. The team will vie for a California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) Dual Team Wrestling State Championship, hosting Fresno City College who captured the CCCAA Northern California Title. Details are [attached](#).

Public Policy Issues

9. Improving career pathways from high school through college and into the workforce are in serious need of improvement and thus have been a major focus of those in both Sacramento and Washington, D.C. In an effort to gather effective practices, three federal departments (ED, HHS, DOL) sought input from the field. The result is the publication, “Career Pathways: Approaches for the Delivery of Education, Training, Employment, and Human Services” ([attached](#)). This report provides insights into possible expanded roles for government in facilitating career pathways as well as barriers in doing so.

Facilitation

- Interagency partnerships and collaborations among education, training, and human services programs at the local, state, and federal levels.
- Integrated data systems establishing common or compatible definitions, frameworks, and performance measures across education, training, and human services programs.
- Coordination across systems by a single, federally monitored organization, combined with, at the local level, a pathways coordinator in a dedicated postsecondary position.
- Strong support, commitment, and investment from state leadership, local WIBs, and employer champions.
- Integrated support services including career guidance, case management, and comprehensive screening and assessment practices to identify transportation, childcare, and other support service needs.
- Technical assistance delivered by DOL, ED, and HHS as well as nonprofits and advocacy organizations.
- Active involvement of employers and other local or regional stakeholders who have industry connections.

Barriers

- Transferability and recognition of stackable, portable, industry-recognized credentials.
- Federal policy and regulatory roadblocks including length of training limits, work participation requirements, performance and outcome measures, and reporting requirements.
- Performance and outcome measures, primarily burdensome reporting requirements and funding mechanisms with incompatible eligibility requirements.
- Lack of articulation between credit- and non-credit-bearing pathways.
- Budget cuts to community colleges, career and technical education, and other state providers.
- Assuring that pathways are designed to meet real industry demand.