Christina: It's Christina here. Today we decided to put out a little bonus episode covering Measure GO with Jill Dolan. With the elections on the horizon next week, we thought it might be good information for you to have as you start putting your attention towards the issues you most care about. This one is directly related to the facilities on the campus of Mt. SAC.

Christina: Also in response to the upcoming elections and all of the information that is probably coming your way from every angle these next few days, we decided to take this next week off from the podcast to give you a little space to focus. We'll be back with more Magic Mountie Podcast Monday, November 12th. Enjoy.

Liesel: Welcome to the Magic Mountie Podcast. This is a podcast that's dedicated to helping faculty and other college employees as they try and navigate the challenging fabric of serving students, especially at Mt. San Antonio College. But everyone's welcome.

Christina: I'm here with Jill Dolan.

Christina: Jill, do you want to tell us a little bit about what you do at Mt. SAC?

Jill Dolan: Sure. During my normal, when I'm not running a campaign, my job is director of public affairs, which means that I'm in charge of media relations, community relations, and government relations. I'm one of the primary liaisons between the college and the community, our lawmakers, and the media.

Christina: Wow, that's a big job.

Jill Dolan: Yes. Other duties as assigned, as well.

Christina: You sound like a very busy lady.

Jill Dolan: I am.

Christina: We're here to talk about Measure GO. Can you tell us a little bit about what that is exactly?

Jill Dolan: Sure. Measure GO is a general obligation bond that charges or adds $25 per $100,000 to property owners' tax, property tax. If your home is assessed at about 400,000, you'll pay $100 a year. What Measure GO is, it's a $750 million bond, and the Board of Trustees voted in July of this year to place it on the November ballot and have the voters decide if maintaining Mt. SAC's facilities, infrastructure, and assets for students is a priority to them.

Jill Dolan: The State of California does provide some funding to community colleges for infrastructure or capital projects, which means building things, but obviously with a campus that's 420 acres and over 70 years old, the state can't provide that much funding to help us repair and upgrade those aging facilities. We have had previous bond measures. There was Measure R in 2001, and that was for $221 million. Then in 2008 we had Measure RR, which was $353 million.

Jill Dolan: You can see what that money did very clearly on campus. We're building the stadium. The Mountie Café was paid for by RR funds, as was the child development center, the design technology center, and the business and computer technology complex, amongst other things that sometimes we can't see, like repairs to sewer lines or electrical systems. Maybe more exciting to some people is it would build a long-awaited student center, a library, two parking structures on the south side of campus. It's going to really complete, as much as we can, and transform the college for the next 20 to 30 years.

Christina: Wow. It's beyond just repairs. It's about building new structures as well, if I understand correctly?

Jill Dolan: Oh, yes, for certain. Amongst the items that are on the project list are a library, and we would also complete the physical education complex, so that's the tennis courts, a new gym, a swimming pool. Everything that's on the north side of campus athletics-wise will all be consolidated on the south side. Building 28 is an older building. That's our technology building. That's from the 1970s, and so we would be looking to rebuild a technology building, because it's hard to teach 21st century skills to students in 1970s buildings.

Jill Dolan: Our goal is really to provide the facilities so that our students will learn those 21st century skills and be able to transfer. If they're not interested in transferring, we still are going to expand our vocational training, our career technical education program, because that's a great need. The State Chancellor's Office has really made what they call strong workforce a priority, and we're right there with them.

Christina: That's interesting. That being said, what else do you think faculty need to know about how it's related to this future of the educational master plan?

Jill Dolan: Well, as you know, the educational facilities master plan was developed with input from faculty. I think that while students obviously are a priority, the faculty also deserve the best teaching facilities with the most up-to-date technology, because if the faculty don't have excellent facilities, then the students don't either, so it's really a joining of ... that Measure GO will benefit both constituencies.

Christina: Of course. That makes sense. Who can vote on the measure?

Jill Dolan: Okay. Actually, I forgot one special project. That's an auditorium. That will be the largest in the district, and that'll be open to the community as well.

Jill Dolan: As for who can vote on Measure GO, you have to live within the district, and our district's quite large. It encompasses Baldwin Park, San Dimas, Diamond Bar, La Puente, Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Laverne, Walnut, Diamond Park. Did I say Covina and West Covina? For example, I can't participate because I live in North Hollywood. But I can participate by putting social messages on my Facebook and Instagram. I drive around town when I'm at work with a Measure GO flag, and I've also been out putting signs out. If you don't live in our district, faculty could still help quite a bit in those areas. We need phone bankers, too.

Christina: Oh, that's a great point. How can they become a phone banker?

Jill Dolan: Okay. On the GoMtSAC website, there is a button that says volunteer. Push that button and you can fill out whether you want to volunteer to phone bank, if you want to donate to the cause, if you want a yard sign, or if you just want to volunteer in other ways. It's really easy. Or they could always call me.

Christina: How do they reach you?

Jill Dolan: Okay. Because it's a campaign, I can't use anything Mt. SAC related, so if people want more information, they can call me at 626-318-4247, or they can email me at J-I-L-L-I-E.Dolan@gmail.com.

Christina: What can we legally share in the classes about this?

Jill Dolan: You can provide information that can be found on the Mt. SAC website at www.MtSAC.edu/MeasureGO. You can tell your students that it's a $750 million bond that will cover upgrades and new buildings over the next 30 years, that it's based on the educational facilities master plan. You can provide as much information as you want. You just cannot say or urge them to vote one way or the other.

Christina: That's wonderful. Thank you so much for your time, Jill.

Liesel: Hey, thanks so much for joining us for the Magic Mountie Podcast. We love your likes. We love your shares. We love your comments. Please engage with our community. Download from wherever you love to get your podcasts, iTunes, Google, Rate My Professor. We're there, and we want you to be back with us next week. Remember, any opinions that are expressed in this podcast do not necessarily represent Mt. San Antonio College or any of its agents. We'll see you next time.