



# President's Report to the Board of Trustees



**February 12, 2015**

1. Mt. SAC is benefitting greatly from California's economic recovery. This year's state budget has provided significant new resource opportunities that are being realized by the college's efforts to earn the maximum amount of state funding. In addition, the Governor's proposed 2015-16 budget would provide even more opportunities for Mt. SAC to obtain additional funding. Vice President Mike Gregory's recent report to the Board ([attached](#)) makes these key points:

- 13-14 Growth** Last year, 2013-14, Mt. SAC enrollment exceeded state funded growth of 1.63%. So during the 13-14 fiscal year we received \$1.81 M for the 2% growth and \$1.26 M for an additional 1.4% "over cap" growth. At that point, we still had 3.5% enrollment that was unfunded. It now appears that so many other community colleges were unable to grow that we will be funded for this as well—another \$3.16 M. Total for 6.9% growth is \$6.2 M.

2013-14 Growth Analysis	
Growth of 6.53%	\$6,236,781
Instruction Cost	\$2,654,280
Employee Compensation	\$1,660,621
Available for Other Costs	\$1,921,880

- 14-15 Growth** This year, 2014-15, state funded growth is 2.75% or \$3.59 M to Mt. SAC. We estimate that we will grow by 5.25% or 2.5% over cap. If fully funded (not known until this time next year), this would be \$2.69 M to Mt. SAC. Estimated instruction cost for the additional classes is \$2.65 M. We are still in negotiations with employee groups on sharing the base growth and potentially overcap growth.

2014-15 Growth Analysis	
Base Growth of 2.75%	\$3,587,437
Overcap Growth of 2.5%	\$2,687,358(?)
Instruction Cost	\$2,649,399
Available for Other Costs	\$3,625,396(?)
Employee Compensation	Negotiated

- 15-16 Growth** The Governor has proposed 2% growth for next year, or \$2.8 M for Mt. SAC. Remember that we must EARN that money by growing at least 2%.

2. The Governor's **proposed** 2015-16 budget holds several other enhancements for Mt. SAC.

- Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA of 1.58%): \$2.2 M on-going
- Equalizing noncredit rate to credit rate: \$4.8 M on-going
- Funding for increased operating costs: \$3.3 M on-going
- Student Success and Support Program: \$1.7 M on-going
- Student Equity Fund for College Plans: \$2.4 M on-going
- Block Grant (Equipment, Maintenance, etc.): \$9.3 M one-time
- Proposition 39 Energy Efficiency Projects: \$0.9 M one-time

3. Mt. SAC continues to benefit from Proposition 30, passed by the voters in 2012. About \$21 million of our \$132 million state general fund apportionment comes from Prop 30. However, the ¼ cent sales tax expires at the end of 2016 and the income tax surcharge on high earners expires at the end of 2018. A recent analysis by California Forward ([attached](#)) notes that one of the issues with the Proposition 30 tax structure is that it is largely reliant on high income earners whose income fluctuates greatly, particularly in times of recession. Consequently, while recent discussion of "renewing" all or part of Prop 30 would keep money flowing, California would still suffer from periods of boom and bust. The solution according to California Forward? A tax structure that has a mix of revenue sources, is broader and thus more stable in economic downturns.

4. With community college receiving “center stage” attention, you might find this *Fast Facts* [attached](#) summary useful. As a chemist and a graduate of UCLA and UC Riverside, the factoid I liked the best was, “Transfer students from community colleges to the University of California account for 48% of UC’s bachelor’s degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).”
5. In 2010, landmark legislation (SB 1440) created the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) which guarantees that community college students who earn the ADT will be accepted to a California State University campus and that those students will need only 60 upper division units to earn a Bachelor’s Degree. A recent report ([attached](#)) from the Legislative Analyst Office reports on progress in implementing SB 1440. Both the community colleges and CSU have made substantial progress, but there is considerable work that remains to be done. Points from the LAO report:
  - Sufficient ADTs have been created by CCCs to date, and more are in the works.
  - The ADTs are based on transfer model curricula in college majors, created by agreement between CCC and CSU faculty at the state level, that potentially cover about 80% of transfer students if all CCC and CSU campuses were to adopt ADTs in these majors.
  - CCCs are offering associate degrees for transfer in most majors, but a few colleges lag far behind.
  - Many students remain confused and are unfamiliar with the new degrees.
  - CSU has admitted to the system every applicant earning an ADT. However, CSU did not provide data on the how many were admitted to their campus or major of choice.
  - CSU’s acceptance of ADTs is improving, but a few campuses are lagging in acceptance and a few majors have low acceptance among several campuses.
6. The media has been filled with stories about the selection of 15 California Community Colleges to be a part of the pilot to award Bachelor’s degrees. (See the [attached](#) press release.) Here’s my own little Q&A on this initiative.
  - *Why the odd selection of majors rather than the real needs in Nursing, Computer Science, and so on?* Short answer: To get SB 850 passed, we had to overcome CSU’s objections about competition by agreeing NOT to offer degrees currently given by any CSU campus.
  - *Why is Mt. SAC not on the list?* Short answer: We didn’t apply. The faculty felt that there were too many uncertainties—to the extent that a reasonable analysis of opportunities and challenges could not be made. (See the next bullet point.)
  - *Will this work?* Short answer: If my colleagues at the pilot colleges do a good job. The pilot has many challenges: 1) Pilot colleges will be compensated by the state for upper division courses at the same (low) rate as for lower division courses. 2) The fee for upper division is \$84 per unit which is not enough to pay for the program, 3) Standards and processes do not yet exist for establishing the Bachelor’s Degree. Questions remain about state approval of courses and programs, meeting the separate accreditation approval, establishing faculty qualifications to teach upper division, negotiating compensation with faculty unions, and more that no one as yet realizes.
  - *Will employers hire our BA/BS graduates?* In my opinion, employers hire graduates based on what they know and what they can do. These BA/BS degrees are all in applied fields for which community colleges do a great job. And we already have close ties with the regional employers who know and appreciate our CTE programs. Yes, employers will hire our Bachelor’s Degree graduates.
7. Mt. SAC is taking a different approach in making Bachelor’s Degrees more accessible to our students. This fall the BA degree in Business Administration will be offered by University of La Verne here on the Mt. SAC campus. (See the [attached](#) agreement.) Already available on our campus through Southern Illinois University are degrees in Fire Science Management ([link](#)) and Aviation Management ([link](#)). We are in conversation with three local universities about bringing the Bachelor’s in Registered Nursing (BRN) to our campus.

8. We are proud of our high standards here at Mt. SAC—our motto is “excellence and distinction.” A recent story in the Chronicle of Higher Education ([attached](#)) reported favorably that Mt. SAC had not lowered in standards in accepting math courses from other colleges to meet our graduation requirements, a particular problem at some community colleges around the nation who have been cited for a double standard with regard to student-athletes. Kudos to faculty in the Math Department and to our faculty and coaches in our varsity athletic programs.
9. The latest *Data Points* ([attached](#)) from the American Association of Community Colleges reports on annual tuition and fees:
  - The average U.S. community college tuition is \$3,347 compared to \$9,139 at four-year institutions.
  - California, with about 12% of all U.S. community colleges, had the lowest college price at \$1,429.
  - California had the lowest four-year college tuition and fees at \$4,646 per year.
10. Dr. Robert Fairlie, Professor and Chair of Economics at UC Santa Cruz, has published a study of the effect of minority students being taught by minority instructors: [A Community College Instructor Like Me: Race and Ethnicity Interactions in the Classroom](#). A few points from the paper:
  - Minority students who are taught by a minority instructor are less likely to drop a class, more likely to pass, and more likely to pass with a B or higher.
  - The long-run benefits of minority students being taught by minority instructors include: 1) taking subsequent courses in the same subject, 2) choosing a major, 3) improving retention, and 4) increasing the number of degrees attained.
  - The performance gap drops from at least 20% when a minority student has a minority instructor.
11. Measure RR, our \$356 million facilities improvement initiative, passed in 2008 by a favorable vote of 70%. The college accesses these funds by issuing bonds which are repaid by property tax assessments. The college is now planning to issue Series C of these bonds to access the remaining \$135.7 million of these funds. The [attached](#) analysis by Rod Carter of RBC Capital Markets provided two financing options in a presentation at the recent Board Study Session. The first of these (Option 1 in the attachment) will be recommended by staff as the Board of Trustees considers action in the next few months.
12. Also at the Board Study Session, trustees carried out their annual Board Evaluation ([attached](#)). Part of this evaluation is the setting of priorities for this year. Goals listed by the Board:
  - Advocate for a clear strategy and plan to utilize the anticipated additional state funding.
  - Wisely use our fiscal reserves even in a more favorable budget climate.
  - Hold successful labor negotiations.
  - Resolve the issues with the City of Walnut and rebuild the positive working relationship.
  - Learn more about planning for the solar farm, student housing, and related projects.
  - Increase support for the Mt. SAC Foundation.
  - Grow FTES sufficient to capture all available growth money.
  - Add as many new faculty as possible.
  - Support the CEO and college constituents in seeing that the Student Success Initiative continues to be implemented successfully.
  - Resolve the parking structure issue.
  - Increase outreach to local legislators and the new member of the Board of Supervisors.
  - Make the dinner with local school superintendents and board members an important priority as we continue to work with our K-12 partners.

### 13. On Campus

- a. During Fall Semester final exams, library hours were extended to provide more opportunity for students to study. This was a result of a student initiative spearheaded by Chris Nguyen, Associated Student Body President. The initiative was a rousing success as reported by LeAnn Garrett, Department Chair and Systems Librarian, in the [attached report](#).
- b. Daniel Lamoree, Senior Systems Analyst/Programmer, has been selected to receive the prestigious RP Group Excellence in College Planning Award. Follow this [link](#) for more on the nature of the award.
- c. Adjunct Professor of Music Gregory Stier garnered praise from a former student—not for the student’s achievements but for supporting the music of this son. See the [attached letter](#) and the photo to the right.
- d. Electronics Professor Jim Uranga reports that our students did very well at Skills USA again this year. Results from the Regional Competition:
  - Gold Troy Majeska, Electronics Systems Technology, Residential Systems Installations
  - Silver Sergio Casas, Electronics, Industrial Motor Control
  - Silver Jesus Hernandez, Electronics, Electronics Technology
  - Bronze Sean Ruiz, Electronics, Industrial Motor ControlTroy Majeska will move on to compete at the State Competition April 23-26. Information about the competition may be found at <http://www.skillsusaca.org/competitions>.



- e. Professor of Horticulture Brian Scott reports that the two Mt. SAC Turf Teams finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the national competition. Brian says, “It pains us that Penn State took first, as we have been able to edge them out for several years now!” For more from Brian about the great performance of our Turf Team see the [attached report](#).

- f. Professor of Communication Jeff Archibald rained kudos on our Forensics Team coaches. Here is his report:

What an outstanding job our Forensics coaches did as hosts of the PSCFA Fall Championship tournament! Over three days, they hosted on our campus 45 schools from 5 states and some 700 students, coaches, and judges. They worked three very long days, but represented Mt. SAC with class and style and made everyone feel welcome. Danny Cantrell, Roger Willis, and Roxan Arntson, three probationary faculty members (with assistance from John Vitullo), showed the forensics community why Mt. SAC deserves its reputation for excellence. To top it off, they also coached their team to a 2nd place finish!

- g. Save the Date! Farm Day will be May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The Agricultural Sciences Department will once again be hosting a variety of events including hay rides and so much more, so please mark Mt. SAC Farm Day on your calendars!

- h. Talk about real world professional development! As shown in the phot to the right, one of the workshops offered by our Professional and Organizational Development unit is on fire safety.



## 14. Sports

- a. The 2014 State Football Championship competition marked the last game in Historic Hilmer Lodge Stadium until a multi-million dollar renovation occurs. To view the rendering of the new stadium follow [this link](#). (View in Googlechrome or upgraded Internet Explorer Browser.)
- b. Mt. SAC baseball is underway. The team started the season at 3-0 after a walk-off 6-5 win over visiting College of the Canyons by scoring four runs in the bottom of the ninth inning on five consecutive hits.
- c. The Mt. SAC Men's Soccer Team was outstanding again this year—making the State Championship Game, but falling to Cerritos College 3-1. Three Mounties earned post season awards:
  - Sophomore Defender Isaac Valencia was named to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Junior College Division 3 All-American First Team.
  - Freshman Goalkeeper Daniil Slepukhin and Sophomore Midfielder Cristian Robles were named to the All-West Region Second Team.
- d. Our State Champion Football Team has earned several post-season honors:
  - Head Coach Bob Jastrab was named the California Community College Football Coaches Association Coach of the Year by his peers. Bob led the Mounties to an 11-2 record, their 4th overall CCCAA State Championship, and 3rd in the past six years. This was Coach Jastrab's third such award.
  - Offensive Lineman Samuel Edmondson and Linebacker Sitiveni Tamaivena were named to the 2014 All-America Community College Football First Team.
  - Six other Mounties also earned First Team All-California Honors.
    - Justin Alo - Quarterback
    - Lolani Fa'aloua -Defensive Tackle
    - Tyquwan Glass -Cornerback
    - Derrick Macon -Wide Receiver
    - Tuisamoa Magalei -Inside Linebacker
    - Omaris Tolbert - Running Back