



## President's *Report to the Board of Trustees*



**August 31, 2016**

**Following is a compendium of email reports to the Board for the month of August.**

1. A request has been made for legal advice on the implementation of SB 415, the California Voter Participation Rights Act of 2015. See the message below to Pilar Morin. 8/30/16

Last year the legislature passed and the governor signed SB 415--the California Voter Participation Rights Act. In its definitions, the law clearly includes community colleges. As I read the act, Mt. SAC is required, by January 1, 2018, "to adopt a plan to consolidate a future election with a statewide election not later than the November 8, 2022" if our current practice of November elections in odd numbered years "has previously resulted in a significant decrease in voter turnout."

To ascertain if this latter condition exists and we must change to trustee elections in November of even numbered years, the law provides the following definitions.

"Significant decrease in voter turnout" means the voter turnout for a regularly scheduled election in a political subdivision is at least 25 percent less than the average voter turnout within that political subdivision for the previous four statewide general elections.

"Voter turnout" means the percentage of voters who are eligible to cast ballots within a given political subdivision who voted.

So it would seem that, to determine if this is a mandate Mt. SAC must follow, we need more information. Namely:

- The voter turnout in November of 2014, 2012, 2010, and 2008 for all precincts within the Mt. San Antonio Community College District.
- The voter turnout in November 2015 for all precincts within the Mt. San Antonio Community College District.

This information can be requested from the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

If the average voter turnout in our district for the November 2015 election is 25 percent or less of the average voter turnout for the four general elections, then it would seem that Mt. SAC's Board of Trustees is mandated to adopt a plan by January 1, 2018 to change to elections in November of even numbered years--the statewide general election dates.

We currently have four trustees who were elected in November of 2013 to serve until 2017. Two ways to move to even numbered years by 2022 have been discussed.

- 1) Extend these current terms to 2018 and hold the next election in November 2018 to expire in 2022.
- 2) Take action to revise the November 2017 election to terms of five years thus ending in 2022 and thereafter hold elections in November of even numbered years.

We have three trustees who were elected in November of 2015 to serve until 2019. We have had discussions of similar options.

- 1) Extend these terms to 2020 and hold the next election in November of 2020 to expire in 2024.
- 2) Take action to revise the November 2019 election to terms of five years thus ending in 2024 and thereafter hold elections in November of even numbered years.

In reading several passages of California Election Code, it would appear that altering the term of a previously elected official is not permissible. If so, then Option 1 is not possible, and the district plan should incorporate the strategy given as Option 2. Your advice on the correct interpretation of this law and on how Mt. SAC should proceed would be appreciated. 8/30/16

2. [Attached](#) is the Enrollment Comparison Report using numbers from yesterday, 8/28/16 (the Sunday before the start of school) compared to 8/23/16 (the Sunday before the start of school last year).
  - Headcount is up 593 students or 1.68%. We have almost 36,000 student enrolled.
  - Credit headcount is up 775 or 2.8%.
  - Projected FTES is up 76 or 0.7%.
  - All numbers will increase as we go through the add period over the next three weeks.

Some observations:

- Most of the headcount growth is in part-time students: up 977 or 5.6%. We are working hard to encourage students to add a class or two.
- Almost all of the headcount growth is in returning students (up 481) and transfer students (up 305). (Returning students are former Mt. SAC students who have skipped one or more semesters. Transfer students have attended another college or university but have never attended Mt. SAC.)
- Full-time males are down 200 but part-time males are up 400. Full-time female attendance is flat but part-time females are up almost 600.
- We have 176 more class sections offered this year than last--an increase of 5.6%. We are allowing classes to remain with fewer students instead of cancelling.
- Evening enrollment continues a trend of modest decline--down 800. However, this will be a major area for late adds.

We still have 7600 open seats--1000 more than last year. But students on waitlists are down to under 12,000 or 2,000 less than last year--a decline of 15%. 8/29/16

3. [Attached](#) is a Board Action Item and Resolution to comply with SB 415 by implementing Election Code 10405.7 which is also [attached](#). This extends the next two Trustee terms to five years (2017-2022, 2019-2024) to shift to even numbered November election years. Thanks to Jill for following up with the LA County Registrar-Recorder's Office. 8/25/16
4. Campus is buzzing as we prepare for Flex Day tomorrow and for classes to start on Monday. You are quite welcome to attend all our part of the day tomorrow. The Flex Day Program is [attached](#). 8/25/16
5. Bill Lambert has been working toward a campus visit by Ed Roski through coordination the with Gail Kiralla, Senior Vice President for Corporate Operations at Majestic Realty, and a member of the Mt. SAC Foundation Board of Directors. As you know, Mike Gregoryk and I have been working with John Semcken on securing a major philanthropic donation from Majestic Realty and Ed Roski. This is the next step--bringing Ed to campus so he and I having some one-on-one time and he can see the campus. The promotional material we shared with John is [attached](#) and the proposed agenda for the campus visit is [attached](#) as well. We will keep you posted. 8/25/16
6. In a well-publicized action, the California Department of Education has released results from last year's standardized testing of public school students. Overall results are positive, but gaps in educational attainment (and college readiness) still persist for those historically underrepresented in higher education. More are college ready, but inequity is still evident. [Attached](#) is an article that makes the equity challenge clear. Also, I have [attached](#) a sample report of Westhoff Elementary, the school my daughter attended here in the Walnut Valley USD, so you can see the format of the data presentation. 8/25/16
7. Well, Citrus College has sure developed a unique marketing approach! See the [attached](#) mailer. 8/23/16

8. ITT Tech appears to be in trouble. They are one of our competitors with a school in San Dimas ([https://www.itt-tech.edu/campus/school.cfm?lloc\\_num=41](https://www.itt-tech.edu/campus/school.cfm?lloc_num=41)). See the [attached](#) article. 8/17/16
9. Fall enrollment is going about as expected. I have [attached](#) our daily comparison report. Observations:
- Headcount credit enrollment, year-over-year on this date, is up 2.5%, a gain of almost 700 credit students.
  - Projected credit FTES is flat--but this is expected and continues a recent trend of more students taking fewer units. Full-time students are taking 0.3% fewer units and part-time students are taking 1.6% fewer units.
  - Noncredit enrollment is up a bit over 1% and will improve as this population continues to enroll.
  - Most of our recent growth has been in noncredit and in summer and winter enrollment.
  - We are holding our own on enrollment due to an intentional strategy to offer more sections and allow them to remain with fewer students.
  - This is reflected in total active classes being up 3% and students on wait lists being down 15%. Available seats are up 33%. We have 10,895 available seats in open classes! 8/17/16
10. [Attached](#) is an updated list of members of the Community Facilities Plan Advisory Committee. We have 18 on the list as of today. Those of you who have not yet appointed two members still have time to do so before we get the group together for the first meeting. 8/12/16
11. We are pleased to announce that Ibrahim "Abe" Ali is being recommended for approval by the Board of Trustees to be our new Vice President of Human Resources. Abe is presently the Vice Chancellor of Human Resources/EEO at the Kern Community College District, serving Bakersfield, Porterville, and Cerro Coso Colleges. Abe has been the Vice Chancellor at the Kern Community College District for eight years, having previously served as the Vice President of Human Resources for the Redwoods Community College District for ten years. He has a Master's Degree in Educational Management from University of La Verne. Abe has been extensively involved in statewide leadership roles for Human Resources, serving on the Board of Directors and as president of the Chief Human Resources Officers Consortium (CHROC) for California Community Colleges. Abe also serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA). Abe's community experience includes work with the Boys and Girls Club and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE). Abe comes to Mt. SAC with a wealth of experience in every aspect of human resources management. Comments about Abe range from his breadth and depth of knowledge related to HR issues in California Community Colleges to his professional abilities related to organizing processes and establishing policies, interfacing with bargaining units and changing the face of labor relations. My thanks to the team on the search committee and to chair Dr. Yamagata-Noji for their fine work. 8/10/16
12. While efforts continue to attain the final permits for the Solar Project, the path forward keeps shifting--and we keep responding. Just this week two such shifts arose, and, as Sean Absher reports below, we are responding. We will continue to keep you informed. 8/10/16
- There are essentially three open items, of which one issue surfaced this week that presents the greatest challenge for getting the project started this September as planned. Below is a short summary of the open items and status, as follows:
1. Final Habitat Plan. Approval of this plan is a condition of the project and is nearing completion.

2. US Army Corps of Engineers 404 Nationwide Permit. This permit is being processed by US ACOE and is nearing completion. An issue surfaced on Monday (8/8/16) when MT. SAC received notice from US ACOE's Regional Manager (Pam Kostka) that Craig Sherman, as legal counsel to United Walnut Taxpayer, urged USCOE to process an Individual Permit, which would take more time and environmental review. I sent a letter yesterday ([attached](#)) to Ms. Kostka explaining why the request should be denied. I expect USACOE will deny the request for the reasons stated in my letter, which is attached.
3. USFWS notified MT. SAC's environmental consultant (Helix) on 8/8/16 that it would take up to six weeks for USFWS to issue its biology opinion. This six week time period impacts the schedule and MT. SAC staff has confirmed this morning that USFWS has agreed to meet tomorrow (8/11) to discuss expediting the biology opinion.

With Gary Nellesen on vacation this week, as of now, the MT. SAC team attending the meeting would be Mika Klein and Larry Sward of helix. We can give some thought to whether Mike should be a part of the MT. SAC team. 8/10/16

13. Below is an update from Jill on last week's Walnut Task Force meeting. 8/10/16

Last Tuesday I attended the Walnut Task Force Meeting at City Hall. There were about 5 residents in attendance and it appears the Task Force membership has declined in total to about 8. On the agenda was the Mt. SAC Draft Subsequent Project/Program EIR. In brief:

- City staff told the group that the city hired a consultant to conduct air quality and traffic studies, focusing on these top issues rather than everything, per direction from the City Attorney. The studies found that air quality impacts were not adequately identified and that Mt. SAC underestimated the cumulative impacts of the project on both air quality and traffic. Staff also noted that no alternatives were provided. A summary of both studies will be sent to the Task Force members.
- I informed members that our team is in the process of preparing responses to submitted comments and that a public hearing is scheduled for the October Board meeting.
- I distributed copies of the 2015 Measure R and RR Report to the Community and one resident noted that the parking structure wasn't mentioned. I reminded her that the board removed that project from the RR list in July 2015. A few residents also noted that the solar project was not mentioned. (The solar project does not use any bond funds, neither Measure R nor RR.)
- The Task Force will have a booth at the Family Festival in October, which we will also be attending. Again, I think it's important we have some information on construction programs and well-informed staff members at this event to provide balanced information in case residents inquire.
- Lastly, one member inquired whether any Walnut residents serve on the Citizens' Oversight Committee. I indicated I would check in to that and respond. One member noted that, in the R and RR report, you invite residents to attend the committee's meetings. I told them that the next meeting was this Thursday. 8/10/16

14. In anticipation of our series of community presentations on excellence and innovation at Mt. SAC, Carol Nelson prepared a list ([attached](#)) of City Council, School Board, and Service Clubs and their members, meeting dates, and contact information. This information will also help in scheduling meetings of the Community Facilities Advisory Committee. These projects will get underway shortly. More information will follow. 8/6/16

15. [Attached](#) is information on our "60% Local Share" of the \$200 million Strong Workforce Project allocation--almost \$2.5 million in ongoing money to Mt. SAC. This money will be available to us immediately after approval by the Board of Governors on September 19th. Our Mt. SAC CTE Team is here at the CTE Summit in Oakland and will return with additional information on the use of these funds. As a first impression, there will be reasonable flexibility in use of the funds, in the process for

approval, and in reporting to the Chancellor's Office. The "40% Regional Share" looks to be flexible as well, but the process is less well developed. With myself as CEO liaison and Irene as CIO liaison to the LA/Orange County Regional CTE Consortium, we will be on top of this regional process as it develops.  
8/6/16