



President's *Report to the Board of Trustees*



November 30, 2016

Following is a compendium of email reports to the Board for the months of October and November.

1. Following up on a Board member inquiry, our Research and Institutional Effectiveness Office has provided a brief report ([attached](#)) on their use of data to support the operation of the college and the success of students. 11/30/16
2. I have asked our LCW attorney Pilar Morin to work on an analysis California legal protections of student rights that will enable us to take actions to establish Mt. SAC as a Safe Haven for groups of students who may be under threat of withdrawal of federal protections. [Attached](#) is my request to Pilar. 11/22/16
3. I thought you might appreciate hearing about a bright spot as we plow through all the difficult issues we have confronted lately. See the [attached](#) message from Liesel Reinhart Professor of Communication and Faculty Professional Development Coordinator, praising our new VP of HR, Abe Ali. 11/18/16
4. [Attached](#) is the analysis of the value of the Solar Power Site. 11/16/16
5. Mt. SAC experienced a campus-wide power outage last night about 6:30 pm. This was a So Cal Edison problem. I gave direction to cancel classes right away as this near total darkness was a major safety issue. Kudos to our staff for an orderly process to get students safely off campus. Power was restored about 8:30 pm. [See the attached Tribune coverage](#). 11/15/16
6. Our Mounties (7-3, 4-1 in conference) finished the regular season as national division central conference co-champions but did not make the playoffs. They will be hosting College of the Canyons (5-5) in the Golden State Bowl (Covina District Field) on Saturday, November 19th at 6:00 pm. 11/14/16
7. My apologies in not sharing the [attached](#) information earlier on the very positive outcomes from our Community Carnival and Open House. Just a TREMENDOUS turnout--over 5,000 people. Success was entirely due to the hard work of Yen Mai and her many, many volunteers--over 350. Many reported the value of the event to the college, especially our ability to draw a widely diverse population that would be difficult to reach with traditional messaging. 11/14/16
8. [Attached](#) is more news on California Ballot Propositions. 11/9/16
9. Measure M wins and will eventually be good for Mt. SAC as Metro lines move further east and southeast. Measures 51 and 55 both passed as well. Good day for California community college ballot propositions. 11/9/16

10. Jay, on the meeting regarding College Promise, you are welcome to attend the meeting with Mike Eng. It is scheduled for Monday, November 21st, at 1:30, here in my office. 11/4/16
11. The College Promise grants, established by AB 1741 by Frankie Rodriguez, were funded at \$15 million but are awarded through a competitive application process. The criteria in the bill are such that Mt. SAC would not be eligible. Here are some of the factors (quoted from the bill). 11/4/16
 - [P]artner with one or more school districts and one or more California State University or University of California campuses (Cal Poly has not participated in our meetings yet--although invited.)
 - [P]rovide K–12 students and families assistance that includes...taking and completing college preparatory courses. (Negotiating with PUSD has yielded only one section of English 1A at Diamond Ranch despite our offers of more. As you mention, there is a challenge in getting enough PUSD high school students to pass our assessment tests.)
 - Utilizing...student assessment indicators...that include multiple measures of student performance, including grades in high school courses, overall grade point averages, results from common assessments, and input from counselors. (These placement practices are not currently approved by the Mt. SAC Academic Senate.)
 - Providing students...access to courses, including, but not limited to, priority registration, and allowing them to register for a full academic year of courses at once. (Both these practices are currently prohibited by Education Code and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.)
12. Well, it seems this group has an interesting take on SB 1050. The language is entirely about preparation of high school students to directly enter four-year universities, especially UC. See the text ([attached](#)). 11/4/16
 - We continue to work with PUSD on dual enrollment and as part of the Pomona Regional Learning Collaborative, PRLC. PUSD cancelled one of the two pilot dual enrollment English classes this fall so the only one is at Diamond Ranch, not the neediest. The PRLC has not done much yet and "Regional" is a bit of a misnomer because Cal Poly is not participating. I have a meeting next Monday with Superintendent Richard Martinez and Dr. Nazanin Zargarpour, Senior Research Fellow at Claremont University and the organizer of PRLC. So far lots of talk and no action. We too are waiting to see what PUSD decides.
 - Dr. Baca and I are meeting with Mike Eng on November 21 about the College Promise Initiative, and I have talked to Mike about his ideas for a regional College Promise commitment.
13. I thought you might find this "Dear Neighbor" email ([attached](#)) from a Walnut resident refreshing. 11/4/16
14. The \$8.4 million is the actual amount that students pay. More than two-thirds of our students receive some form of financial aid, including BOG fee waivers, and do not pay any unit enrollment fees. For example, this Fall Semester we have 39,858 credit students enrolled. These students are taking a total of 266,655.5 units, an average of 6.7 units per student. At \$46 per unit, this would total \$12,266,153 if all had to pay enrollment fees. 11/4/16
15. Jill's report covers the discussion at Walnut Task Force on Mt. SAC Development. 11/2/16
 - City Planner Tom Weiner advised the group that Mt. SAC had appealed the stop work notice.
 - He insinuated that Mt. SAC cut off a majority of the stop work notices placed on the project area fences. I informed him that no one at Mt. SAC would be told to take that action.
 - We were criticized for sending the citywide letter out late.

- I was criticized for placing the hand-delivered letters on gates or on front doors because people enter their homes through their garages.
 - Task force members Layla and Dennis suggested the city make an offer to buy the West Parcel from Mt. SAC.
 - Dennis asked if I knew that Mt. SAC "blew" the LOS numbers; I replied I did not and he responded nastily that I should.
 - The next meeting of this group is December 6 and there is a council meeting next week.
16. Rupert Francisco and I are working on Mt. SAC's sponsorship ([see attached](#)) of the Hollywood Black Film Festival for a half page Mt. SAC ad in the Festival Guide. Dan Smith is supportive but is concern about his commitment level as a single person department. Mt. SAC will not only be a sponsor but will continue to work with the group. 11/1/16
 17. [Attached](#) is an email exchange that followed the meeting the morning among Lynn Glover, David Hall, Dave Wilson, and myself regarding Timberline/MSAC Evacuation Preparedness. 10/31/16
 18. [Attached](#) is the information requested by a Board member on the amount of student enrollment fees Mt. SAC collects. The data is for the latest full year, 2015-16. 10/28/16
 19. The Tribune's Steve Scauzillo reported ([article attached](#)) on Monday's protest of our solar project by the United Walnut Taxpayers. Well, really 17 of the 50 or so in attendance were Walnut residents according to Mt. SAC employees who know the group. Jill Dolan was in the vicinity as the group gathered and had an opportunity to talk to the media--note the quote in the Trib. She represented us well. The group did indeed cross the street to the front of Founders Hall at which point I spend about 20 minutes with them. The group was peaceful but verbally confrontational. The story fairly report the exchange. It was published top center in the Local section of Tuesday's paper. The story was also reported by LA 18 television. Of course, it's in Mandarin but you can't miss the special appearances by Mary Su and Eric Ching. And, of course, Layla. 10/26/16
<http://la18.tv/zh-hans/evening-news/%e6%a0%b8%e6%a1%83%e5%b8%82%e5%b1%85%e6%b0%91%e6%8a%97%e8%ad%b0%e5%bb%ba%e5%a4%aa%e9%99%bd%e8%83%bd%e7%99%bc%e9%9b%bb%e7%ab%99/>
 20. Many thanks to Dr. Baca for providing updated 2016 compensation data for Rio Hondo College President Teresa Dreyfuss. I have taken this opportunity to update my compensation from the 2015 data to 2016 data based on my current monthly regular pay this year. [See the attached update](#). Just for clarification, my request is for a 2% above COLA (which is 1% this year for a total of 3%) beginning this contract year, 2016-17, retroactive to 7/1/16. For the contract renewal that would extend the contract through 2020, I am asking for 2% above COLA for two additional contract years, 2017-18 and 2018-19. In addition, I am asking that the current \$10,000 403(b) employer contribution be increased \$5,000 in 2016-17, increased another \$5,000 in 2017-18, and increased a final \$5,000 in 2018-19 which would mean a \$\$25,000 contribution in that final year. 10/26/16
 21. Steve Scauzillo of the San Gabriel Valley Tribune published the [attached](#) article which appeared on the Local News page this Saturday. Jill will be at the proposed demonstration at the site this morning. 10/14/16

22. [Attached](#) are a variety of elevation views of the solar project including two from Grand Avenue.
10/24/16
23. Regarding the City of Walnut Stop Order, I have agreed with Sean Absher's recommendation that we hold back just until mediation on November 17—this will not substantially delay the overall project. It will also be a show of good faith as we move into mediation. This will give Sean time to craft a response to the City of Walnut. It may also give us the high ground if there are attempts by the City or UWT to seek a TRO.
There will be some sort of presence of UWT on Monday morning on the south west corner of Grand and Amar. Jill and I have discussed a message and she will be there to represent the college. I just took a call from Steve Scauzillo and conveyed the basics of the situation. So look for a story in the Trib. Local TV may be there on Monday as well. 10/21/16
From Gary Nellesen:
Sean Absher and I, along with my staff, have just completed a call to discuss the City of Walnut stop work notice. We agree that there are no new issues raised by the order and that the project remains exempt from city authority. Our recommendation is to continue with the plan to mobilize equipment to the east side of Grand Avenue on October 31. We will begin placing material at the edge of temporary lot M at the beginning of November, however we believe that the clear and grub and earthwork on the West parcel should be delayed until the after the mediation scheduled for November 17. This would result in an additional 2 - 3 week delay to the project, but the since the delay would not further affect incentives or create other major cost impacts, it is wise to accept the delay and enter into mediation under these more favorable conditions.
24. Late today I received a Stop Work Order ([attached](#)) from the City of Walnut. Sean Absher will draft a letter of response. Meanwhile, we will proceed with the project. 10/20/16
25. Jill reports, "I wanted you to know that I dropped off the letters this morning to the Willows neighborhood above the solar site as well as portions of Snow Creek that back up to Lot M. Close to 50 letters were hand delivered." 10/20/16
26. Please let us know if you would like to attend the ACCT National Legislative Summit so that we can make arrangements in advance. Thanks. 10/20/16
27. [Attached](#) is compensation data for the newly hired CEOs at our neighboring colleges. You asked for lifetime years as a college president as well as time as president at their current college. The document has a second table with that data. Most salary information is from 2015 which is the last year data is available. I looked at the contracts of those hired in 2016 to get their data. I also found a news article reporting that the new PCC president got a \$33,000 raise (to \$293,000) this July, so I used this as the regular pay--with the benefits and other compensation from 2015. In addition, most of those who were former CEOs were presidents at colleges in multi-college districts and so reported to a Chancellor and not to a Board. That data is in the footnote. Hard to compare apples and oranges!
10/19/16
28. Well, we lost the second appeal in the Schirmer football referee kerfuffle ([ruling attached](#)). We are considering alternatives. 10/17/16
29. The grading letter ([attached](#)) was put in the mail today to ALL residents of Walnut. Jill will hand deliver to solar neighbors on Wednesday. 10/17/16

30. The California Supreme Court has rejected ([ruling attached](#)) the 'new project' test so that now state agencies can determine if additional environmental review needed. This decision is favorable to Mt. SAC's situation. While we feel we comply with either standard, getting rid of the "new project test" is good validation for our current project work vis a vie the 2007 Facilities Master Plan. I will get Sean Absher's take on this rule and share with the Board. 10/17/16
31. Gary Nellesen reports, "The final permit for the solar project is [attached](#). Construction mobilization is set for October 24, and I have forwarded that information to the California Energy Commission. We can expect our loan to be approved in December." 10/14/16
32. As requested by a Board member, [attached](#) is a Summary of Architectural Master Agreement and Terms and Conditions. 10/12/16
33. As requested by a Board member, and explanation of the services provided by Tilden-Coil is [attached](#) in Gary Nellesen's thorough response. 10/11/16
34. Earlier this week we received a letter ([attached](#)) from Tom Weiner, Director of Community Development for the City of Walnut, asserting that we did not provide a legally required timely response to their comments on the EIR for our Physical Education Projects and thus cannot proceed with the Board of Trustees certifying the EIR at the October 12 meeting. As you can see from the evidence cited in my response ([attached](#)) to Mr. Weiner ([email confirmation](#) and [Public Resources Code](#)), we did meet the legal requirement to PROVIDE that response in a timely fashion. That the City contends that they did not RECEIVE our response is not only unlikely but does not constitute the legal standard for compliance. 10/7/16
35. We continue to be in dialog with the City of Walnut regarding their development of a revised General Plan. Jill attended the most recent "Mt SAC Watchdog" group from City of Walnut and a major topic was the general plan. Jill shared the [attached presentation](#). 10/5/16
36. [Attached](#) is the action item planned for next week's Board Meeting to address the mandate of SB 415 Voter Participation. Let us know if further preparation or presentation at the Board Meeting would be useful. 10/5/16
37. In the [attached](#) Biological Opinion letter we have clear direction from US Fish and Wildlife on mitigation measures, measures we already have in our plans. As Gary mentions, the letter gives us direction on how to continue construction even during gnatcatcher breeding season. This letter will enable the Army Corps of Engineers to issue their permit so that construction will start October 17th. This timeline will enable us to meet our exiting planned schedule. 10/5/16