

## October 15, 2018

## Updated President's Waypoint: A Small Sample of Big Things Happening at SBCC!

I wanted to send this updated version with Tony Ybarra's photo (below) facing the right direction! I've also included the Undocumented Student Week of Action Schedule of Activities. In any case, lots of big things happening around the college.

**Lighthearted Philosophers Society's 12th Annual Conference.** Last Friday, Dr. Chis Kramer, Professor of Philosophy, brought to SBCC the Lighthearted Philosophers Society's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference. I opened the conference with an attempt at humor that the philosophers responded to generously. The attendees then went to work with the presentation of a paper on the philosophical footings of humor and other related topics. Lots of laughs, irreverence, and fun throughout the day! I understand the day ended with some stand-up comedy by participants at a local pub! Congratulations to Dr. Kramer and Dr. Bobro for a very successful event, spreading humor and happiness. A noble effort indeed!



A Music Department Benefit Concert. I joined 600 other fans last Wednesday for a wonderful benefit concert showcasing the amazing Santa Barbara City College Music students and faculty along with special guest Michael McDonald of Steely Dan/Doobie Brothers fame. Wow, what a show! While Michael was spectacular, the SBCC Music students and faculty stole the show, with many of us dancing in the aisles at the Lobero Theatre! The student "Lunch Break Jazz Band" directed by Jim Mooy, the "SBCC New World Jazz Ensemble" directed by Tony Ybarra, the talented leadership of Music Department Chair Dr. John Clark, singer-songwriter Tess Erskine (former student of Professor Nathan Kreitzer) were all completely off the charts! A huge thank you to SBCC Foundation CEO Geoff Green and foundation staff for hosting this event and making it such a tremendous success! What a beautiful evening.



**History Professor gives a lecture on the History of Rape Culture in the U.S.** This week also saw a poignant lecture from Dr. Danielle Swiontek, Professor of History, on the History of Rape Culture in the United States. Her work and this important subject are relevant more than ever. The Channels newspaper did an excellent recap of the event that you can find <u>here</u>.

Undocumented Student Week of Action. This week (October 15-19) the 11 California Community Colleges will engage in a week of advocacy and activities to support and build awareness of undocumented students throughout the state. Undocumented Student Week of Action is a student-led campaign to advocate for a permanent solution to codify the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program that includes a pathway to citizenship and provides support and resources to ALL undocumented students. These efforts reaffirm commitment to providing an open and welcoming environment for all students regardless of immigration status. Accordingly, the California Community College's Board of Governors voted unanimously to declare Oct. 15-19 Undocumented Student Week of Action. SBCC has maintained its commitment to supporting our undocumented students. The SBCC Board of Trustees passed a resolution during the 2016-2017 Academic Year, stating its support for undocumented students. A week of activities in planned (poster attached) that seeks to bring awareness about the unique challenges facing undocumented students and how we, as a college community, can support their academic success.



**Promise! Promise! Promise!** Finally, I had the honor of presenting with Dr. Ryan McCall, President, Marion Technical College (Ohio) and Dr. John Rainone, President, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College (Virginia) at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) national conference in Rancho Mirage. Our topics were on the various College Promise Programs. My part was complicated because of the two statewide California Promise Programs: The California College Promise Grant (formerly known as the BOG Fee Waiver) and the newer "California College Promise" (AB19). The highlight, of course, was our own SBCC Foundation College Promise, which is one of the most comprehensive programs in the nation.

If you have things to highlight, please be sure to keep Luz Reyes-Martin, SBCC Executive Director of Public Affairs and Communications, up to date on the activities. Thanks so much for all your great work!!

Together forward,

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