

Saddleback College Academic Senate
Basic Skills Resolution: October 28, 2009

Whereas on January 17, 2006, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges unanimously adopted the final draft of the California Community College System Office Strategic Plan, and

Whereas the Mission of Saddleback College is to "...foster student learning and success in the attainment of academic degrees and career technical certificates, transfer to four-year institutions, improvement of basic skills and lifelong learning," and

Whereas the Strategic Plan adopts as one of its primary goals the improvement of student "success and readiness," and

Whereas the Strategic Plan identifies Basic Skills as a key component to ensure student success and readiness, and

Whereas the Strategic Plan recommends that:

- 1) "Basic Skills development is a major focus and an adequately funded activity of the Community Colleges," and*
- 2) "The improvement of Basic Skills education must be an institutional priority and is an institutional responsibility," and*

*Basic Skills as a Foundation for Student Success in California Community Colleges.
The Center for Student Success and The Research and Planning Group for California Community Colleges, July 2007.
http://www.eric.ed.gov:80/ERICDocs/data/ericdocs2sql/content_storage_01/0000019b/80/28/07/ef.pdf*

Whereas the mission of Saddleback College's Basic Skills Initiative is to establish a comprehensive and interactive college-wide approach to building students' basic skills to prepare them for success with college-level coursework while supporting them to reach their academic goals. Faculty and staff across the disciplines provide this supportive foundation by using the best practices in basic skills education (i.e., reading, writing, math, ESL, and student services support), and

Whereas the College BSI Committee has been meeting for 1.5 years and has made significant progress toward increasing visibility of basic skills issues and implementing innovative practices to better serve these students' needs, and

Whereas the Saddleback College Academic Senate resolution, adopted May 6, 2009, states:

"Saddleback College supports the mission of the Basic Skills Initiative and recommends the hire of a full-time Academic Administrator as Director for the BSI program," and

Whereas the Proposed 2010-2013 Strategic Directions for Saddleback College, approved by the Consultation Council on October 20, 2009, state:

"Saddleback College will ensure that students gain the foundational skills necessary to complete college-level work and achieve career goals," and

Whereas the College BSI Committee depends on effective matriculation to complement these innovations, and

Whereas any reduction in matriculation and BSI funding at Saddleback will have a direct impact on the success of all college students,

Be it resolved that Saddleback College demonstrate its commitment to these stated priorities and established practices by providing adequate levels of support services and funding for Matriculation and BSI, in order to continue innovative, effective, and efficient models that enable the college to focus on student success.