Division Highlights

During the 2013-2014 academic year, the ATAS division was led by acting deans Don Busché and Anthony Teng. Their tenure lasted through the Fall and Spring semesters. Thanks Don and Tony.

The division is excited to welcome our new dean, Gina La Monica. Dean La Monica brings a wealth of experience in the development and promotion of CTE programs. We look forward to an amazing 2014-2015 academic year.

Additionally, the BOT approved two of the ATAS division faculty to tenure: Lisa Inlow (CUL) and Glen Stevenson (DR/MFG). Congratulations to both!

Architecture – Drafting

Continuing from the Fall semester, the Architecture Department is continuing its leadership in the design of the Team OC entry into the 2015 Solar Decathlon. Partnering with UC Irvine, Chapman University, and Irvine Valley College, we are developing the region’s entry to demonstrate the viability of energy efficient housing. This effort is also engaging the creativity of our Horticulture and Landscape Design faculty. Design efforts are continuing through the summer. Construction will begin in Irvine during the Fall semester.

Automotive Technology

Donations

We have been receiving monetary donations, vehicles, tools and equipment throughout the months of February and March. We have many wonderful supporters of the auto tech program. A big thank you goes out to Hyundai Motor America for their very generous donation of equipment. Another special thank you goes out to Mercedes Benz of Laguna Niguel for their generous parts donation. These individuals are what make our program so very special to our students and staff.

Awards

Here are the students who have qualified for the Tuttle Click Scholarship program. They are Greg Carlos, Bara Loeum, Ismael Tejeda, and Jeff Taylor. They each will be receiving a $750.00 scholarship for the 2014 spring semester, a complete tool box and the opportunity to work at a local Tuttle Click dealership. Congratulations for a job well done.

The Darrell Deeter Scholarship Fund awarded two $500.00 scholarships in May.

The Frank Panezich Automotive Technology Scholarship fund will also award two $500 scholarships in May. These award announcements were made at the award ceremony in May.

Students in Motion

Brian Fonseca has been hired as an intern at R & D Machine in Costa Mesa. Congratulations!

Peter Lindstrom has been hired full time at CP-Carrillo in Irvine. Congratulations!

Damien Nguyen was an intern at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena and now he has been hired full time! Congratulations!

Nathan Rojo, Ismael Tejeda, Bara Loem, Jeff Taylor and Greg Carlos are all currently working for the Tuttle Click Group. Congratulations!

Heather Cohen is currently employed as a smog technician at Car Max in Irvine. Congratulations to women in the automotive industry!
Jill Hughes is currently working at Fladebo Honda and VW. Congratulations to women in the automotive industry!

**General Report from Clifford Meyer, Department Chair:**

**Enrollment news**

The Auto Tech Department in spring 2014 offered 20 sections. We are approaching a 99% fill rate while maintaining a very high, over 75% retention rate! We currently had 490+ students enrolled in our program! This is great news and confirms that we are growing. Thanks to all the staff and students for making this happen!

**Presentations, Outreach and Tours**

During the months of February and March Clifford Meyer has been busy working on updating our Auto Tech website: (www.saddleback.edu/atas/autotech). We continue to contact the high school counseling departments to market the Saddleback College Auto Tech program.

Raj Dhillon has been working very hard visiting local shops and high schools to promote the Auto Tech Department. We have had booths at many of the local on campus events! Thanks Raj for working so hard! We appreciate all that you do for our students.

Vincent Pollizzi and Clifford Meyer hosted a tour of the Auto Tech Department for the San Clemente High School Automotive Partnership Academy. Here are a couple of pictures at the March presentation to the high school juniors and seniors.

On Monday, March 3rd the Automotive Technology Department received the partial diesel engine out of a 2012 Mercedes Benz Sprinter Van. Mercedes Benz of Laguna Niguel was generous to donate the engine after it was removed from a vehicle that was in an accident. The engine will be incorporated into the curriculum of the two diesel classes offered by the department.

On Wednesday, March 5th the Faculty and staff of the Automotive Technology Department received a large donation of tools, parts, and equipment from Hyundai North America. These items will directly support the activities performed by students in the classroom and the shop.

On Thursday, March 20th the students and faculty of the Automotive Technology Department participated in the Senior Day Event on the campus courtyard. The booth featured the shop vehicles as well as the student volunteers who spent the day handing out fliers and answering questions about the program and the career path.

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On Tuesday, April 22nd the students and faculty of the Automotive Technology Department participated in the Earth Day Events on the campus courtyard. The booth featured the shop vehicles as well as the student volunteers who spent the day handing out fliers and answering questions about the program and the career path.

On Thursday, April 11th Vincent Pollizzi and Raj Dhillon attended the Vital Link STEM and the Arts Career Showcase. This annual event hosted at the OC Fairgrounds gave the department an opportunity to interact with students from the local middle and high schools on Friday. On Saturday and Sunday the representatives spent their time interacting with families and future students of the Automotive Technology Program as well as the greater Saddleback College community. The event was well attended each day and valuable industry partners and future advisory board members were given an opportunity to interact with the student volunteers and the faculty. During this event Vincent Pollizzi was also asked to judge the UCI Performance Engineering Project student presentations.

On Tuesday, April 22nd the students and faculty of the Automotive Technology Department participated in the Earth Day Events on the campus courtyard. The booth featured the shop vehicles as well as the student volunteers who spent the day handing out fliers and answering questions about the program and the career path.
On Friday, April 25th 15 students from Laguna Hills High School Auto Shop visited the Automotive Technology Department as part of the Vital Link Career Pathways Day. During this four-hour event the high school students were teamed up with students from the Friday section of AUTO-100. The students spent time working in the shop on various projects such as how to buy a used car, how to change engine oil, and rotate and inspect wheels and tires. This event was also supported by the Campus Police who allowed the students to inspect the MRAP and the local representative from Snap-on tools.

The weekend of April 26th, Vincent Polizzii and Raj Dhillon attended the California Automotive Teachers Conference in Hayward, CA. The conference offered a great opportunity for the faculty of the Automotive Technology Department to network with vendors and professors from across the state.

On Tuesday, April 29th the students of Professor Clifford Meyer’s AUTO-104 class took a field trip to the CP Carrillo facility. The students had an opportunity to view the process and procedures involved in the manufacture of pistons and connecting rods.

On Friday, May 9th Vincent Polizzii was asked to be one of the judges at the first annual Volvo Technology and Student Leaders awards. This competition challenged students to develop a video presentation and interview in front of a panel of judges made up of from Volvo Corporate and Academia. The students came from local high schools and colleges and competed for a scholarship and a trip to Sweden.

On Wednesday, May 16 the students of Raj Dhillon’s AUTO-220 class and Vincent Polizzii took a field trip to the UC Irvine Hydrogen Fuel Research Center. The students were presented with the latest research into the use of hydrogen as a source of energy for transportation, home, and industrial use.

During the Spring 2014 semester the faculty attended numerous promotion and marketing events. At each of these events we were able to spread the word about the Automotive Technology Program, the Advanced Technology and Applied Science Division, and all the programs available at Saddleback College.

The listed are the events attended:

- UCI Performance Engineering Project - Irvine
- UCI Performance Engineering Project - Riverside
- San Diego High Schools Green Careers Conference
- Cruisin Grand car show in Escondido
- Capistrano High School
- Pioneer Middle School
- Laguna Hills Middle School

On Thursday, May 29 the Automotive Technology Department held their bi-annual Advisory Committee Meeting. The gathering was considered a success by all those in attendance. Representatives from both the local business community and our own college community were in attendance:

- Advanced TechNIQX Inc.
- California Fire Museum
- California Fuel Cell Partnership
- Dewey Pest Control
- K&N Filters
- Matco Tools
- Mathbotix
- Mission Viejo High School
- San Clemente High School
- Clifford Meyer - Professor, Automotive Technology
- Vincent Polizzii - Assistant Professor, Automotive Technology
- Ken Welch - Associate Faculty, Automotive Technology
- Raj Dhillon - Associate Faculty, Automotive Technology
• Mike Dale - Staff, Automotive Technology
• Jack Frost - Volunteer, Automotive Technology

Of the sixteen individuals in attendance many have been long time supporters of the program. In addition, we welcomed several new members and look forward to expanding our partnership in the years to come.

On Saturday, May 31st members of the faculty attended the weekly Cars and Coffee gathering of car enthusiasts in Irvine. The event is always well attended and offers a great opportunity to spread the word about the program and the college.

On Sunday, June 1st Vincent Pollizzi represented the Automotive Technology Department at the C-STEM Day at UC Irvine. This National Science Foundation funded competition challenges students to work and improve C-STEM education in K-14 and to prepare students to be career and college ready.

Cosmetology

The Cosmetology Department has been busy throughout this Spring semester. Our two partner cosmetology schools, Hair California and Advanced Beauty College, have been approved by our Board of Trustees to continue provide quality cosmetologist and esthetician training.

During Spring Break, the Cosmetology Department participated in the Saddleback College first responder drill. Working with neighboring law enforcement, fire, and other essential first response services, the college simulated an active shooter situation. Students from the program were able to practice their skills in providing realistic make-up on the actors who performed as the shooter’s victims. Wow, what a great experience for everyone!

Electrical Technology and Computer Maintenance Technology

During the Spring semester, we had an unusually large number of students complete intermediate and advanced classes in both ET and CMT, which will yield a larger than normal number of certificates awarded this year and next.

Several electronics companies contacted us looking for employees. We advertised and discussed the opportunities with appropriate classes.

Student surveys showed high ratings and student satisfaction in every class.

We renewed articulation of the first CMT class with the Capo-Laguna ROP. This allows some students every year to complete the certificate faster.

Our advisory committee meeting yielded some excellent ideas to keep our programs relevant to the local electronics industry.

Environmental Studies – Ecological Restoration – Marine Science Technology

Earth Week was a huge success. This year’s theme was Water. Students participated in lectures, tree planting, campus clean up, and a vendor fair. A special thanks to the Environmental Awareness Club to help make the events a huge success. Check out the tree planting video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GcQtvueB1pM

The Environmental Studies students received close to $10,000 in scholarships. A special thanks to a donation from the Santa Margarita Water District, which allowed us to award three $2,500 scholarships to students who are interested in following a career in water.

The department chair was able to visit a breeding facility for seahorses and sea dragons. Today, seahorses are facing extinction from over fishing for the pet and medicine trade, and habitat destruction from global warming and development.

Students were busy this semester working in the native garden, including installing new solar power lights.

Debra Kettler, an ENV 200 student, is a volunteer docent at the Dana Point Headlands. Since completing the class, she is looking to expand her work (working with some of the other docents at Dana Point) and develop it into a full self-guided tour including flora, fauna, geology, and local history for the Headlands Reserve.

Fashion Design

The Spring Fashion Show was a resounding success. Catering was provided by our Culinary Arts program. A full house was able to enjoy the fashion creations of our talented students.
Throughout the semester, our fashion classes bring the real world to the classroom by arranging for industry “field trips” in the area. During the summer, we have the time to conduct trips to other fashion capitals. This summer one of our classes did an industry tour in New York City.

Foods – Nutrition – Culinary Arts

Nutrition

The Nutrition Department offers two online sections of Fundamentals of Nutrition. During the spring semester, instructor Joanne DeMarchi, with the help of Thomas Mackenzie at CIDDE, offered voice feedback comments on some class assignments. Traditionally, the students had received only written feedback on assignments in this course. An anonymous survey was conducted at the end of the semester to determine student preferences, on assignment feedback, in an online class. Here are some of their comments:

“The voice feedback was helpful to me because I felt like I was in a traditional class setting. It was more personal to me.”

“While listening to the feedback of the CTA, it really gave me a positive connection with the professor as a learning tool based on what was being said. Whether critical or positive feedback, I think anyone could take that at a learning level. Being it is an online course; we are constantly reading a lot and submitting typed responses. The voice feedback felt we had a mediator...a voice... a leader... to direct us, making it more fun and motivating.”

“I loved the voice feedback. It was nice to hear from the instructor in an online class. Written feedback does the job just fine, but hearing what your instructor has to say has a bigger impact.”

And then an opposing view:

“I think written comments are fine. Voice feedback is okay if the student is curious about what her professor’s voice sounds like, but I don’t see the need for voice feedback when written comments get the job done, provide sufficient clarity, and probably take less time. However, I am just one voice.”

As an online instructor, the most valuable take away was discovering if my “ah-ha” moment (trying voice feedback) was beneficial and valuable for my students. I’ve determined that it is something I will continue to implement in the future, based on the comments received on my survey.

This past April, Lori Hoolihan, Co-chair of the Foods and Nutrition Department and Instructor for Fundamentals of Nutrition (FN 50) took advantage of the part-time faculty development funding to participate in the Experimental Biology conference. This is an annual multidisciplinary meeting of over 14,000 scientists and took place in San Diego this year. Nutrition sessions that Lori attended included:

- Malnutrition and Inflammation: Intimate Partners
- Dietary Modification to reduce risk of CVD
- Nutrition and Population Health – Are Changes on the Horizon?
- Nutrition Competencies in HPs Education and Training: A New Paradigm
- Neurocognition: The Food-Brain Connection
- Beyond Blood Pressure: New Paradigms in sodium intake reduction

Lori has full notes from these and other sessions if anyone’s interest is piqued! Email her at lhoolihan@saddleback.edu

Culinary Arts

CCC Culinary Competition –Shelton Farms @ The Energy Center in Downey

Brandon Hobbs – Hot Food Competition, Nikoo Vahdat & Fatemeh Mohammadi – Cake Competition

Fatemeh Mohammadi takes 1st place in the Cake Competition!

Doing What Matters – At the Marriott Job Shadow Event our students participated in this amazing event where they were given the opportunity to shadow different managers in the hospitality industry. Each student had the choice of front of the house or back of the house and spent several hours learning about the different responsibilities of their chosen job. The students came back to class excited about the opportunities available and level of professionalism demonstrated.

OC Entrepreneurship Competition – We were honored to have been selected as 1 of the 11 business plans to be pitched to the judges at the OC E’ship competition at UCI.
Outreach Efforts

Senior Day – Saddleback Quad – high school seniors were given an engaging cooking demonstration, samples and program overview.

Serra High School – San Jan Capistrano – 3 different high school classes were given an overview of our Culinary Arts Program, questions were answered regarding registration, program outcomes and career opportunities.

South Coast ROP – Program overview and Q & A

Oxford Preparatory Academy - Chef Lisa Inlow participated in an Entrepreneurship Workshop geared towards middle school students. The students were given a quick overview of the industry then put to work developing business plans. The students developed some impressive business concepts then participated in verbal presentations complete with videos, and sample products. Very impressive!

Catered Events

Fashion show – over 400 guests were served an assortment of passed appetizers created by FN 173 Catering students, students enjoyed learning about “real life production service”.

Tenure Reception - assorted desserts were served to 75 guests who came to congratulate our newly tenured faculty members.

Graphic Design

Amazing Graphic Design Work From Our Classes

Here is just a sample of some of the good stuff being done in the Graphic Design and Graphic Communications program at Saddleback College:

Karen Taylor’s Digital Illustration class continues to produce some stunning artwork in the vector format, which allows the art to be scaled up to print on a billboard or reduced to the size of a postage stamp, and always appearing razor sharp.

Believe it or not, the student work shown here are NOT photographs, but vector drawings! This artwork was produced by students Jayne Osborne-Dion (left)...

...and Brian Perry (right).

In the Fall term Steve Gonsowski's Intermediate Graphic Design class designed and produced unique and distinctive packaging designs for new restaurants. From original concept sketches to the production mock-up to final photography, this terrific work was done by students Nicolette Betuk, Corinne Gronnel and Jacqueline Nevarez.

During the Spring term, Gonsowski’s Intermediate Graphic Design class provided support to our colleagues in the Horticulture and Landscape Design program by designing the poster for the Spring Plant Sale. As selected in completion (shown below from left to right) the winning poster was created Nicolette Betuk with runners up created by Alexandra Fletcher and Trevor Lohrke.
Chris Claflin’s *Photoshop for Graphic Designers* class concludes with a capstone project that encompasses all the skills learned over the term. Below is an example of Abe Panian’s design of a movie poster for a feature film adaptation of the HBO series *Game of Thrones*, and Magen Ford’s design for a new Wes Anderson film.

Illustration Students Partner with English Department On Publication

Instructor Rudy Gardea’s *Graphic Illustration* students provided several stunning illustrations to accompany stories published in Saddleback College’s literary review “Wall”. This marks the 4th year of this successful cross-division collaboration, with the previous efforts garnering national awards for excellence. Shown below is a sample of the work by Corinne Gronnel (left) and Stevie Friend (right).

Graphic Design’s Portfolio Initiative

As a Career Technical Education program, helping our students make that critical leap “from classroom to career” is a primary goal for us in Graphic Design. The key to making that leap is creating a quality portfolio that successfully communicates all the skills and talent the student has to offer prospective employers. To that end, the Graphic Design Department launched our “Portfolio Initiative” to develop portfolios that represent a comprehensive and unified body of work from across the curriculum. Our faculty has been evaluating all the projects produced throughout the courses, eliminating redundancy and crafting a coordinated approach that will result in quality student portfolios – the key to making that leap to a career in the graphic design industry.

For example, this process revealed a need to photograph non-digital student artwork quickly and efficiently. We were able to purchase a lighting kit and convert a corner of a lab so student artwork can now be quickly photographed with portfolio-quality results. Already this simple investment is producing returns, as shown above in the photos from Steve Gonsowski’s class.

Graphic Design Program Hosts High School Students

This year we continued our tradition of proudly participating in several outreach efforts including Family Night in the fall, and Senior Day in the spring. We also promoted our terrific program when we played host to two tours of local high school students on Wednesday, February 12. Vital Link sponsored this event, and we were happy to get an opportunity to show off all the good stuff we have here in the Graphic Design Department!

Adjunct Faculty Presents Graduate Show

In May, Graphic Design adjunct instructor Jessica Ku presented her graduate show entitled “Designing Empowerment & Knowledge” to achieve her Master of Fine Arts degree. Yay, Jessica!

Perkins Grant Utilized To Enrich the Animation Program

During the past academic year the Graphic Design program utilized funding from a Perkins grant to expand and enrich our Animation Program. The objectives included the development of a new 3D animation and interactive animation curriculum. In support of this objective, Chris Claflin attended this year Game Developers Conference, and made several key contacts with major Orange County employers such as Obsidian and Blizzard, as well as several smaller “boutique” animation firms.

New Biomedical Illustration Approval

In May, the Graphics Department received approval to develop a Biomedical Illustration certificate and degree by the Los Angeles/Orange County Regional Collaborative (LAOCRC), which is a required step prior to approval from the State Chancellor’s office. Once offered, Saddleback College would be one of two community colleges offering such a program in Southern California.
Horticulture & Landscape Design

Our second open house event was held at TAS 116 on January 11, and it was standing-room participation from students, faculty members, advisory board members, a counselor and internship providers. It was full of positive energy among all participants regarding our department vision and direction as well as job prospects for the students. Also, it was wonderful to have all students’ supporting groups including Saddleback College counselors, internship providers and advisory board members, at which our students were able to hear from all supporting parties in one place. Overall, it was a huge success. For the next semester, it will be expanded to have a “multi-departments” open house to promote interdisciplinary enrollment.

Robert Farnsworth and Ken Lee met with Marianne Taylor, Going Native Gardens, who organize the Eco XPO Event at Los Rios Park in SJC on May 17 & 18. The department participated in this event by installing a native garden at Los Rios Park. It was part of our students’ class participation work with Marianne and City of San Juan Capistrano to educate the community about the importance of water conservation, embracing SoCal native plants as viable sustainable landscape design solutions.

Internships

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as Spring 2014 interns:

- Alex Conatser - Native Soils Gardens
- Stephanie Smith - Native Soils Gardens
- Cynthia Brink - Aliso Viejo Country Club
- Daniel Seprish - Aliso Viejo Country Club
- Laura Bard - ValleyCrest Design Group
- Albert Chavez - ValleyCrest Design Group
- Ivonne Friedman - ValleyCrest Maintenance Group
- Amanda Alexander - ValleyCrest Maintenance Group

Rapid Prototype Development

This Spring, Rapid Prototype Development (Advanced Manufacturing) participated in the OC Maker Challenge which was sponsored by CTEoc. This competition pitted K-12 and community college entrants in the creation of design and manufacturing of projects using 3D software and printers. Saddleback College took 3rd place for its entry.

As part of the OC Maker Challenge, the college was able to be part of the Airwolf 3D printer build. This multi-day event allowed our faculty and students build our own 3D printer and to see how we can use the technology to create other products.

In June, Saddleback College was recognized as a partner with the White House Maker Faire. As a national partner, the college was part of the academic community that recognized the importance of advanced manufacturing training.