



FOUNDATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club, Foyer Room

MEETING MINUTES

Present:	Noah Aguilar Trustee Lisa Bartlett Scott Kitcher Kevin Middleton Dr. Lisa Schenitzki Emily Cramer, staff	M. Mahboob Akhter Anthony Ferry Jim Leach Brendan O'Donnell Elizabeth McCann, staff Andrew Hom, staff	Dr. Morgan Barrows Isaiah Henry Georgina Martinez Mark Schwartz Paula Barrow, staff
Absent:	Cara Davidoff	Dr. Elliot Stern	
Guest:	Dr. Jennfer La Bounty Taylor Brooks	Rodrigo Garcia	Lisa Inlow

1. Meeting called to order at 3:08 p.m.
 - Attendance taken and quorum achieved.
2. Board Development Committee – Jim Leach
 - Executive Committee 2025-2026 Slate of Officers Approval
Motion made by Jim Leach, seconded by Trustee Lisa Bartlett, motion approved.
3. Introductions proceeded around the table for new members and guests.
4. Consent Agenda
 - April 17, 2025, Meeting Minutes
 - Gifts Received (5/1/25-7/31/25)
Motion made by Dr. Lisa Schenitzki, seconded by Anthony Ferry – motion approved.
5. Finance Committee Updates – Anthony Ferry
 - Great finance meeting last week.
 - Overall, the markets and economy are strong.
 - Portfolio is sitting at an all-time high.
 - Tariff concerns are waning.
 - Market pricing has a 12% earning in 2025 and a 14%-15% target for 2026.
 - Rate cuts are expected to happen in late 2025.
 - Forecasted an increased probability of a soft landing to 75% from 60%. Probability of a recession down from 40% to 25%.
 - Foundation portfolio's total assets as of July 31st are at \$10.6 million.
 - Keeping an eye on Geneva Small Cap Growth and Oppenheimer, as they are below target marks.
 - Exploring further diversification in private equity.
 - No Foundation financial report but will have a report next meeting.
6. Associated Student Government – Noah Aguilar

- ASG Day had sixty-five members engaged in team bonding activities.
 - Wrapping up a successful Welcome Week.
 - Movie night tonight will be showing *Mean Girls*.
 - Students want to see more campus life.
7. Classified Senate Report – Georgina Martinez
- Classified Senate is very proud of the classified professionals, who went above and beyond for the Banner transition.
 - They are still focusing on helping students.
 - Helping classified professionals attend conferences and seminars with professional development funds to cover costs.
 - Looking to bring professional development speakers to campus.
 - Will be funding a scholarship again this year.
 - Will again be holding the Excel Leadership Academy. This is a two-day retreat which employees apply for, that teaches them institutional knowledge of the District and leadership qualities.
 - There are seven sessions in spring semester culminating with graduation in May.
 - This is a great opportunity to partner with District Services and IVC.
8. Board of Trustees Report – Trustee Lisa Bartlett
- She was a speaker at the last Excel Leadership Academy.
 - Trustees just worked through their Budget Workshop – Funds vary from year to year relative to property taxes.
 - Looking at the budget long term, they want to be cautious to keep things in good shape.
 - There are a lot of large dollar infrastructure projects in the planning stages, and they will be cautious with how they are rolled out.
 - The ATEP Campus just opened the Culinary Arts and Auto Tech state-of-the-art programs, offering their students a top-level education.
9. Faculty Representative Report – Dr. Morgan Barrows
- Faculty are busy with the start of the fall semester and getting used to Banner and the registration process.
 - Looking at prioritization hiring for the faculty needed across campus.
 - STEM outreach is happening, to get students involved.
 - Bringing food back to campus with a cafeteria and a new coffee shop.
 - The quad landscaping was upgraded to create a sense of community.
10. President's Report – Dr. Jennifer LaBounty for Dr. Elliot Stern
- College Futures Foundation placed Saddleback College #1 out of forty-two colleges in Orange County, LA County and San Diego County.
 - They looked at wage gains from Saddleback degrees and salary ten years after graduation.
 - For a two-year associate's degree, the earnings are \$18,300 beyond what a high school diploma will earn.
 - WalletHub Report looked at 650 community colleges across the U.S.
 - They looked at 18 key indicators.
 - Saddleback College placed 8th and IVC placed 12th.
 - The Basic Needs Center is now located in the College Center building.
 - There is a food pantry and clothing closet.
 - The clothing closet provides professional clothes, and this year they added uniforms for health, culinary and autotech programs.
 - There is also a Multi-Cultural Center where student can hang out and connect.
 - The Grand Opening is on Sept 30th. There will be a name reveal at the Ribbon Cutting.
 - International students bring cultural wealth and diversity to the campus.
 - In fall 2023, one hundred eight five international students enrolled.
 - In fall 2024, three hundred international students enrolled.

- In fall 2025, over four hundred international students enrolled.
 - We have developed relationships with the Ministry of Education in China. Saddleback students, faculty and managers were able to take four trips to China. The last trip had ninety students participate.
 - Saddleback College covers the Basic Needs students' fees, except for \$400 for a visa application and tax.
 - The Foundation has provided emergency grants for students.
 - First Gen Students
 - Experiencing equity gaps across the board.
 - Focusing on how to help them meet their goals.
 - Saddleback College was just awarded membership with 1st Gen Forward.
 - Saddleback College is the only California community college included in this year's cohort.
 - This summer Saddleback joined in the UCI Emergence Program.
 - Twenty-four First Gen students participated for seven days, stayed in the dorms at UCI and took a class.
 - Retention and success of these students will be tracked.
11. Saddleback@ATEP – Lisa Inlow and Taylor Brooks
Culinary Arts – Lisa Inlow, Department Co-Chair
- Culinary classes moved from the village on campus to ATEP in Tustin.
 - The new state-of-the-art culinary building at ATEP is nothing like at any other culinary school.
 - There are four teaching labs, one is dedicated to baking, and another one is dedicated to restaurant production.
 - They are hoping to purchase a biofuel tractor that will utilize leftover cooking oil.
 - They have a culinary garden on the grounds and would like to add a pizza oven to the area. This will bring the two programs together.
 - They are planning to host events.
 - They want to purchase a catering truck to bring food to Saddleback campus.
 - They rewrote the entire program and have new classes that support production.
 - There is a 72-seat dining room, and dining room service has started.
 - At week four, they will start inviting groups in to dine on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
 - They have two baking chefs; one teaches the Art of Baking and the other Baking 1 & Baking 2.
 - There is a menu planning and purchasing class where students learn how to make money in the industry.
 - The new Food and Wine Pairing class is already full, and they have an all-new Different Cuisines class.
 - The classes run the restaurant one day a week on Thursdays.
 - New certificates and degrees:
 - Basic and Advanced Culinary stackable.
 - Baking and Advanced Baking.
 - Catering for students who want to start their own business.
 - The online Hospitality Management course is fed by a Federally approved internship program.
 - Two students in the program have been placed at the Ranch in Laguna Beach.
 - Looking forward to growing this program.
 - New Chinese student cohort just started this semester. There are thirty Chinese speaking students with interpreters. This cohort will drive the apprenticeship. Once in the apprenticeship, they work with their mentor and at the same time take Saddleback hospitality courses online. The organizations they are working with pay for their education.
 - Pathways are all transferable to a bachelor's program.
 - In the Food Systems class, the students learn where food comes from.

- They have an amazing composting machine that turns scraps into charcoal, used in the growing beds.
- The Farm to Table class teaches students how to grow and then serve the food.
- Hired several new prestigious chefs that are currently in the industry.

Auto Tech – Taylor Brooks, Department Chair

- Trying to do as much collaboration with Culinary as they can.
- They have been planning the autotech site for the last three to four years.
 - Strove hard to match multiple areas needs in the industry.
 - Students have lots of avenues to go into and there are lots of areas to place students. Students that have received certificates have gone into different careers other than the automotive field. Alumni students are on different race teams, they are working for SpaceX and working on the Mars Rover Program.
 - The goal is for students to leave the program debt free and have gotten a glimpse of every area the auto industry has to offer.
 - The Advanced Transportation classroom was specifically designed to maintain, repair, and correct advanced driving systems.
 - They designed the building by looking at every make and model of the vehicles offered currently in the US.
 - Classes are scheduled at night since about 85% of their students work 40+ hours in the industry.
 - The adjunct faculty, many who are still working in the industry in a variety of different areas, are also willing to teach at night.
 - Stackable certificates allow students to go on a pause.
 - Some students receive a certificate and leave, then come back in a couple of years to get other certificates.
 - Classes are tailored around the students' needs.
 - Two classes are online.
 - They offer factory training for the Caterpillar and Quinn Dealership, a 5-year program.
 - The Quinn Dealership pays for everything, including tools, and uniforms.
 - Students are hired immediately and work for five years.
 - After 5 years students are given a \$60,000 toolbox and have a lifelong career with them.
 - They offer CVL Heavy Equipment and OCTA driving classes.
 - The OCTA program is two non-credit courses for 8 weeks at no cost.
 - OCTA will hire students that pass the classes, the driving test, background check, and drug test.
- They host a yearly automotive focused job fair where students are hired right out of programs.
 - On average, 15-40 students get jobs every year from the job fair.
- In October, they will be holding the largest automotive teachers group conference on the West Coast.
- They are ASE accredited.
- Currently, 470+ students are enrolled in the Autotech classes, excluding dual enrollment.
- Dual enrollment is offered with the local high schools in the area.
 - High school seniors leave with a college automotive certificate when they graduate from high school.
- The Saddleback@ATEP automotive program is one of the only colleges in the area offering an Alternative Fuels and Specialized Vehicles Certificate and an Associate of Science Degree.
- They offer a Certificate of Autonomous Vehicles and Advanced Driving Systems.
 - The class repairs autonomous vehicles.
 - The Auto 203 class will be able to rebuild the electronic components.

12. Foundation Report – Dr. Elizabeth McCann

- Dr. McCann thanked Lisa Inlow and Taylor Brooks for taking time out of their day to present to the Foundation Board of Directors.
 - Feuling the Future: 25th Annual Gala will be at Saddleback@ATEP Saturday, October 11, 2025.
 - We will be spotlighting the new facilities and programs and the people running them.
 - The Moving Forward theme will have a mid-century modern feel.
 - Planning a fun event.
 - There will be a Top Sponsor exclusive reception area in the Automotive Building.
 - A large reception and the silent auction will be in the Culinary Arts Building.
 - The dinner and program start at 7:00 p.m. in the paseo between the buildings.
 - An afterparty will be in the private VIP space with a fun DJ.
 - We have partnered with AMPD for entertainment.
 - Invitations went out.
 - Actively securing top sponsors.
 - How Board members can help fuel the gala:
 - Purchase a sponsorship opportunity.
 - Secure a new sponsor.
 - Bring people that will be future donors or Board members.
 - Donate to the silent or live auctions.
 - Donate gift cards.
 - Sign the Board of Directors' commitment form to let us know what you will be contributing to the Gala.
13. Rodrigo Garcia – VP of Administrative Services
- He started at Saddleback College in January.
 - He has been working in higher education for 25 years and has worked for three community colleges.
 - He likes to be involved because he has seen what foundations do for students by giving them support.
 - At Fullerton Community College he put together a golf tournament for veterans.
 - At College of the Desert, he was on their foundation board.
 - He is excited to be at Saddleback College.
 - Next major milestone with facilities will be the January opening of the Math and Computer Science Building.
 - Faculty and staff will be moving in sometime during spring break.
 - Will be inviting the Board of Directors to tour the state-of-the-art building.
 - The golf tournament is on March 9, 2025, at the Aliso Viejo Country Club.
14. Adjourned meeting at 4:57 p.m.