



FOUNDATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saddleback College Stadium, Ferry Room

MEETING MINUTES

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

- Meeting called to order at 3:07 p.m.
 - Attendance taken and quorum was not achieved.
- Board Development Committee – Jim Leach
 - Members of the Executive Committee will have lunch with a potential Board member later this month. Jennifer Voelker is the VP of Production and Programs with KARMA Automotive.
 - Will also meet with Javad Mokhbary about joining the Board.
 - Kevin McClelland may be interested in joining the Board again.
 - Will bring Jennifer Voelker for consideration to the full Board of Directors for approval at the December 11th meeting.
- Consent Agenda (No quorum approval)
 - August 28, 2025, Meeting Minutes
 - October 16, 2025, Meeting Minutes
 - Gifts Received (9/1/25-9/30/25 no quorum approval) and (11/1/25-11/30/25)
- Finance Committee Updates – Dr. Elizabeth McCann
 - Total investment portfolio as of the August 31st report was just under \$11 million.
 - Aristotal Value Equity and Oppenheimer International Growth are on the watch list for under performance in 2024.
 - Recommend implementing the consolidation of the Saddleback account to a multi-manager account in an effort to streamline administration, auditing, trading, etc.
 - Streamlining our accounts works better for auditing, reducing our overall accounts by eight or more.
- Associated Student Government – Noah Aguilar, absent no report.
- Classified Senate Report – Georgina Martinez
 - Unofficially hosted a Filipino potluck earlier this week with classified professionals, managers, and faculty in attendance. It is an annual event for District and Saddleback employees to gather, share, and celebrate their cultural heritage.

- In the process of creating shirts to support the 1st generation college students attending Saddleback College, as well as celebrating the many 1st generation college graduates that work as Classified Professionals.
- Thanked the college for today's classified staff's appreciation lunch.
- Faculty Representative Report – Dr. Morgan Barrows, absent no report
- Board of Trustees Report – Trustee Lisa Bartlett
 - At the last Board of Trustees meeting, there were lots of public comments about the \$750,000 agreement the Trustees thought was a grant but turned out not to be a grant.
 - Trustee Bartlett made a motion to direct the Chancellor and the legal team to look at funding for unilaterally pulling out of the grant agreement. She did not want the students to be penalized by pulling out of the \$750,000 grant agreement, which would be \$150,000 for five years.
 - She is working with the Chancellor and Dr. Stern to have the seven Trustees step up with one or more qualified leads with a private sector company, or business, or entity that would want to participate with paid internships. This would cover the \$150,000 for the year.
 - The Chancellor will bring it up to the Board of Trustees for approval.
 - This would also grow their grant program.
 - Still working on the newsletter. It will increase knowledge and awareness in the community about what the Trustees are doing and also help with student enrollment.
- President's Report – Dr. Elliot Stern
 - Dr. Elizabeth McCann sits on a college wide partnership committee, which finds partners for potential internships. This committee asks these questions:
 - What can we do with the partner in terms of cultivating a potential donor or a naming partner?
 - Do they have employees that need contract education?
 - Do they have employees that need to upskill with skill credit classes?
 - Coming off a nice high from the Foundation Gala that Dr. McCann will talk about.
 - Still on schedule to open the Math and Computer Science building in February.
 - Moving forward with a large colorful mural on the BGS building, facing the quad, to add art and nature all around the students on campus.
 - The college enrollment has fully recovered from the transition to the Banner platform. We were down 4,500 students but now back over 28,000 students for the second 8-week classes of the semester. Proud of everyone's effort to bring those students back.
- Foundation Report – Dr. Elizabeth McCann
 - Mark Schwartz gave the entire Foundation team his congratulations on the Gala.
 - Jim Leach said, "it was an extraordinary experience, beautifully done."
 - Dr. McCann thanked the attendees and those who supported the Gala. It was one of the top two most successful Galas in the Foundation's twenty-five-year history.

Gala Preliminary numbers

- **Table Sponsorships without a Title sponsor = \$117,500**
A Title Sponsor would have brought in \$50,000. This was the third highest Table Sponsorship total in the past twenty-five years. Off by \$20,000 from last year but made it up in other areas. We had a record number of attendees.
- **Individual ticket sales = \$8,700**
Basically, the same every year.
- **Underwriting = \$25,000**
This was a big year. Supporters underwrite for volunteer meals, photo moment, three videos, welcome reception. Last year we raised \$11,750 in underwriting.
- **Pre-event Cash Gifts = \$1,000**
This was low but we are still receiving cash donations.

- **Silent Auction = \$16,625**
The number is high, and the Silent Auction is still live. It is currently open to all faculty and staff on campus for a short period of time.
- **Live Auction = \$47,500**
Best in Gala history. This number beat last year by \$22,000 and the previous highest Live Auction by \$8,000.
- **Sponsor our Students = \$95,000**
This is a top three Sponsor our Students year. Average has been \$88,000.
- **Preliminary Total = \$311,325**
We are anticipating more with cash donations and closing out the Silent Auction. Hoping to get close to \$320,000.
- Dr. McCann thanked the Foundation team and stated, "There is something special about hosting an 'at home' event, even though it requires a lot more work."
- The 2026 gala is on October 10th at the new Math and Computer Science Building, opening in spring. The building won awards even before breaking ground.
- Adjourned meeting at 3:39 p.m.