Saddleback College Announces Dr. Patricia K. Flanigan Appointed Dean of Online and Learning Resources

Mission Viejo, CA – Mission Viejo, CA – Saddleback College is pleased to announce that Dr. Patricia K. Flanigan, Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences, has been named Dean of the college’s newly created Division of Online Education and Learning Resources. Dr. Flanigan has worked at Saddleback College since 2000 as the Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences and is respected college-wide for her expertise in distance education and student success. In her new capacity as Dean of Online Education and Learning Resources, Dr. Flanigan will oversee the college’s distance education programs and learning resources including the college’s library services, Learning Assistance Program, Basic Skills Initiative, and other areas focusing on improving student success.

Dr. Donald Busche, Acting Vice President for Instruction, stated, “Dr. Flanigan is highly regarded throughout campus for her expertise in online learning and commitment to student success. Our new division was created to give the college’s learning resource programs the concentrated attention they deserve and I am thrilled that Dr. Flanigan will oversee this endeavor.”

Dr. Tod A. Burnett, President of Saddleback College, stated, “Under Dr. Flanigan’s leadership the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences has been a model in distance education. I have complete confidence that under her direction our new Division of Online Education and Learning Resources will show increased results in our college’s student completion rates and basic skills attainment.”

Dr. Flanigan stated, “Under Dr. Burnett’s inspirational leadership and vision, the creation of this new division embraces our college’s core value of student success. I am eager to work collaboratively with our college community to fortify the retention and persistence of students and to better enable them to transition to four year institutions or viable careers, as well as enhance the professional development opportunities for our faculty in support of the learning needs of our students.

As Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Dr. Flanigan managed a dynamic and challenging division with an average enrollment of 15,500 students each semester. Over the years, the division has become one of the largest and most productive in the South Orange County Community College District through successful enrollment management practices and by strengthening the process for hiring, mentoring, and evaluating faculty and staff, increasing their
access to professional development opportunities, and stimulating greater use of innovation in the classroom, including technology mediated instruction.

Prior to Saddleback College, Dr. Flanigan was Dean of Instruction at Lake Tahoe Community College, where she led administrative efforts to establish and implement a noncredit adult English as a Second Language program, Kids’ College, fire science training program, and a language learning center. In conjunction with faculty and administration, Dr. Flanigan wrote and implemented a Title III grant.

Dr. Flanigan served as a full-time faculty member at Mt. San Antonio College, where she was given 100% reassigned time to serve as Tutorial Specialist, Adjunct Faculty Support Coordinator and Title III Project Coordinator. In 1993, the tutorial program at Mt. San Antonio College won the Exemplary Program Award for the statewide community college system.

Previously, Dr. Flanigan was an adjunct professor of English as a Second Language and basic reading and writing skills at Mt. San Antonio College, Rio Hondo College, and Citrus College. She also was a high school teacher of bilingual education, teaching English as a Second Language to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.

Dr. Flanigan holds a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of La Verne and a Master of Arts degree in Latin American studies from the University of California, Los Angeles, for which she completed three months of fieldwork and a master’s thesis on the health conditions of Mazatec Indians in southern Mexico. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology from the University of California, Los Angeles, for which she completed six months of fieldwork living with the Zapotec Indians in southern Mexico. Dr. Flanigan is a credentialed instructor by the California Community Colleges in basic education and ethnic and is fluent in Spanish.

Located in Mission Viejo, Saddleback College provides quality higher education and training to the greater south Orange County community. Having served more than 500,000 students since 1968, Saddleback College offers more than 300 degree and certificate programs to help students reach their personal, career, and educational goals. For more information, please visit www.saddleback.edu.

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