Saddleback College Welcomes
New Assistant Dean of Counseling Services and Special Programs

Mission Viejo, CA – Saddleback College President Tod A. Burnett, Ed.D., is pleased to announce that Terence Nelson was hired as the Assistant Dean of Counseling Services and Special Programs, where he will oversee Extended Opportunity Programs and Services/Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education, Disabled Students Programs and Services, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids, educational support services to veterans and active duty military personnel and families, and student service-related grants including the Career Technology Education Collaborative.

Dr. Burnett stated, “I am thrilled to welcome Assistant Dean Terence Nelson, who has greatly impressed me with his knowledge and enthusiasm – two traits that are very important in his position. His commitment to leveling the educational playing field for economically disadvantaged and academically under prepared students is integral to ensuring that these students get the help they need to succeed.”

Jerilyn Chuman, Dean of Counseling Services, said, “Terence has been a pleasure to work with as a part-time counselor in our Transfer Center, and it will be wonderful to continue working with him in his new position. He offers bright new perspectives to our programs, and students, faculty, and staff alike will benefit greatly from his leadership.”

A graduate of Golden West College before pursuing advanced degrees, Mr. Nelson looks forward to working with community college students, who he says he personally identifies with. “I’m a major advocate for the community college system, and as a California community college graduate I recognize the positive influence that my mentors at that level had on my life. Community college faculty, staff, and administrators rarely have a chance to see the fruits of their labor, yet they make such a difference in so many students’ lives. I point to those individuals as the reason for my success,” said Mr. Nelson. “I am extremely excited to be part of the Saddleback College management team and look forward to developing and enhancing student-centered programs on our campus.”
Most recently before accepting his new position, Mr. Nelson was a part-time counselor in Saddleback College’s Transfer Center, where he worked with career/technical students in the grant-funded Teacher Preparation Pipeline program, which connects students with mentors to help them pursue careers in the field and become college instructors.

Prior to joining Saddleback College, Mr. Nelson worked as a part-time counselor at Golden West College, Pasadena City College, and Irvine Valley College, respectively. He previously worked as an athletics counselor at Imperial Valley College, and as a counseling assistant at West Los Angeles College.

Mr. Nelson earned a Master of Science degree in physical education at Azusa Pacific University, a Master of Education degree in counseling in student affairs at the University of California, Los Angeles, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology at the University of California, Irvine, where he transferred after earning an Associate of Arts degree in liberal arts from Golden West College. He participated in track and cross country at UC Irvine and Golden West College.

Mr. Nelson resides in Huntington Beach with his wife, Alicia, and one-year-old son, Peyton. He enjoys sports and athletics and has traveled with his wife to 49 of the 50 United States.

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. The college’s top-ranked transfer center is recognized throughout the state, and career training combines instruction with on-the-job experience that leads directly to employment in the community. On-campus services including job placement, counseling, and financial aid are offered to promote student success. Campus life is an integral part of the college, with outstanding athletic teams, theatrical and cultural events, and a multitude of student clubs and organizations. For more information on Saddleback College and its programs, please visit [www.saddleback.edu](http://www.saddleback.edu).

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