Saddleback College Professor Honored at Orange County Teachers of the Year Gala

Anaheim, CA — Dr. Scott Fier, a chemistry professor and Saddleback College’s Professor of the Year for 2013, was honored at the Orange County Teachers of the Year gala on Friday, October 25th at the Disneyland Hotel. Dr. Fier, who was named Professor of the Year after being nominated by his students, was recognized along with 56 educators in the county at the Orange County Department of Education’s annual gala that celebrates outstanding teaching in Orange County.

Dr. Fier has taught at Saddleback College since 1993 and has served as more than a professor, but also as a mentor to his students. Dr. Fier stated, “I coached my first little league baseball team when I was eighteen, and that was my inspiration to become a teacher. Teaching is coaching. Coaches provide instruction, organize practice, and motivate their athletes so they can apply what they have learned in order to be successful in competition. This is what teachers do every day for their students so that they can be successful in life.”

“Congratulations to Dr. Fier, a truly inspirational professor who is very deserving of this honor,” said Dr. Tod Burnett, president of Saddleback College “It is always a pleasure to see our professors get the recognition they deserve, and I was honored to celebrate with Dr. Fier at the gala for his exceptional work. ”

During the gala, the Orange County Department of Education also honored The Dr. James Hines Foundation, established by Bill and Sue Gross in 1992 to honor Dr. Hines’ integrity, love of learning, and passion for excellence. Dr. Hines was an English professor at Saddleback and retired from the college in December 1993. He passed away in January 1994. The Dr. James Hines Foundation has awarded more than $2.6 million to exemplary teachers.

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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