

BOARD OF TRUSTEES	REGULAR MEETING
SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT	February 3, 2015

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Announcement:

- Superintendent/President Dr. Chui L. Tsang announced his impending retirement from Santa Monica College.

“After much consideration, I have made the decision to retire as President and Superintendent of Santa Monica College at the end of this academic year. While I am sad to be leaving the work that I love, I make this decision confident in the knowledge that Santa Monica College today is in great condition. I feel extremely privileged to have led this exceptional institution over the past nine years, and I am grateful to have served with the dedicated group of educators and enthusiastic community supporters who I now call my friends. I retire comforted in the knowledge that the College will remain in the care of an unrivaled faculty and staff who stand poised to lift this college and its students to ever greater levels of success. In your hands, I know that Santa Monica College will endure as an institution dedicated to the mission of helping every one of our students turn their dreams into reality.”

Updates:

- Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program: Dr. Jennifer Merlic, Dean of Instruction and Dr. Georgia Lorenz, Vice-President of Academic Affairs, presented an update on the timeline for the implementation of SMC's approved BA degree in Interaction Design
 - Lower division courses for the program already exist, so the list of those courses will be published in time for fall enrollment. This list will be very similar to the existing Graphic Design AS degree requirements.
 - Development of the upper division courses will begin this spring and to have them ready for students in Fall 2016.
 - Class sizes in the new Academy of Entertainment and Technology are 30 students per section, so with two sections it is anticipated that there will be up to 60 students in the first upper division cohort.
 - The first cohort of students, assuming they attend full-time, will be able to graduate in June 2018.
 - Pasadena City College has already been in contact about an articulation agreement and we will pursue such agreements with other area community colleges as well. We have also received at least one inquiry from an area high school, and plan to integrate the Interaction Design program with our LA High Tech initiative to build a pathway into the new bachelor's degree program specifically for high school students.
 - One of our first priorities is to establish an advisory board for the new degree program. Jamie Cavanaugh and Chris Fria will be reaching out to selected members of the current Graphic Design board as well as to some of the local employers who either wrote us letters of support or whom we know to be hiring Interaction Designers currently. We hope to have the first meeting of the new advisory board in early March, and to solicit input from them that will help guide our development of the curriculum