



Lori Gaskin, Ph.D.
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Academic Senate President



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Foreword

Dear Students,

Every college catalog has the quintessential letter welcoming you to the college and wishing you well in your academic pursuits. And on behalf of our Santa Barbara City College family, we extend to you a hearty welcome and warm wishes for an enriching educational journey!

However, we would like to deviate a bit from the formality of these letters and offer two thoughts as you plan for this significant life experience:

#1: *'When I was in college'...*

We know you probably cringe when you hear that from someone in education, but we've learned something very significant during our collective years as students and we feel compelled to share it with you. Learning is an extraordinary opportunity. It not only impacts your life in the here and now, but it's truly a precious gift that you are giving yourself that lasts a lifetime. So—how do you make the most of this experience? **Follow your heart.** Pursue a course of study because it gives meaning to your life; because it causes you to ponder, reflect, question and think; and, most important, because it gives you fulfillment.

#2: *Santa Barbara City College—The Place to Realize Your Educational Dreams.*

Now we need to brag. You have chosen (or are about to choose) an outstanding college that will become your alma mater! And what makes us exceptional?

- ✓ **SBCC's longstanding commitment to academic excellence** that is evident across the spectrum of our educational programs and student support services.
- ✓ **The quality and strength of SBCC's academic programs** in university transfer preparation, career and technical education, and foundational skills development.
- ✓ **A distinguished cadre of faculty and staff** who share the wonders of learning with unwavering dedication; and
- ✓ **An enriching learning environment** where one's potential and dreams are realized in a grand setting and within a college that is unparalleled.

In closing, we offer an enthusiastic welcome to you. We know that you will readily discover and be embraced by our **distinctions of excellence as you follow your heart** in pursuit of your educational dreams.

Warm regards,

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