

## SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

December 10, 2014

Dr. Chui L. Tsang Superintendent and President Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Boulevard Santa Monica, CA 90405

Dear Dr. Tsang,

I am so pleased to hear that you are considering offering a baccalaureate degree in Interaction Design at Santa Monica College.

Approximately a third of our graduating seniors from our school district's high schools – Santa Monica High School, Malibu High School, and Olympic High School – attend SMC, giving them the opportunity to earn a top-quality, yet highly affordable, higher education.

As you are well aware, SMC not only has an impressive rate of transfers to the UC, Cal State, and other four-year universities, but also prepares students for careers in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. As a Pre-K – 12 institution with a renewed focus on 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning skills and Career Technical Education, we value such a resource right here in our own neighborhood and already know the incredible opportunity it affords our students. If SMC had the ability to confer a BA degree in Interactive Design, our graduates – as well as all SMC students – would truly benefit from the opportunity to continue to work, live and pursue a higher education while remaining in our communities.

Our goal is for every one of our students to have the ability to access quality higher education. We have that now with SMC and its two-year program; access to a BA degree at SMC enhances even further the opportunities afforded our students.

SMMUSD supports your proposal with enthusiasm!

With regards,

\$andra Lyon

Superintendent