

My name is Madeline Mueller. I have been a faculty member at City College of San Francisco since 1965, and among a variety of degrees, am a proud holder of an A.A. from Bakersfield College. During these many decades with Community Colleges, I've been involved with many changes in the system, many trips to Sacramento, even many trips to these Board meetings. The past issues were California issues, but the recommendations you are going to vote for today seem more connected to a national movement to discredit public post-secondary education. I wrote a short paper a few months ago describing this takeover and have brought extra copies to this meeting. You've been hearing some negative statistics about Community Colleges from some speakers today and I'm reminded of the statement about three kinds of lies: "lies, damn lies, and statistics." But here are some contrasting statistics from the American Association of Community College headlined:

**"New Study Reveals Dramatic 20-Year Growth In Certificates, Degrees Awarded By Community Colleges"**

At

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/new-study-reveals-dramatic-20-year-growth-in-certificates-degrees-awarded-by-community-colleges-131135493.html>

and at:

<http://www.thestreet.com/story/11268777/1/new-study-reveals-dramatic-20-year-growth-in-certificates-degrees-awarded-by-community-colleges.html> and

also at <http://www.cnewsnow.com/?p=26554>

**"Minority Students Show Triple-Digit Increases in Credentials Earned"**

"Among the largest increases in earned credentials, the AACCC study notes are a 440% increase among Hispanic students and a 283% increase among Black students. Triple-digit increases also exist for Asian/Pacific Islander students and American Indian/Alaska Native students. Credential attainment among White students increased 90% in that same time frame."

The California Community Colleges are not broken. We don't need fixing; we need funding. I've also been finding more and more connections between the Foundations who paid for these Task Force recommendations and the push for student loan indebtedness, for increase testing services, and also connections to the online education industry.

I recommend that while you no doubt feel that you must vote to send on these recommendations that you proceed very, very carefully in their implementations.