

Driving Forces

Fall 2005 Professional Development Day

Participants in the Fall 2005 Professional Development Day were asked to list driving forces at SMC. The question was, “What does SMC have going for it as an institution? Think of two strengths, or resources that can assist SMC in meeting this goal of student success.”

About 683 comments were received. An exact count of comments was difficult because some respondents used multiple post-it notes for their response. In some cases this was apparent from similarity in handwriting and proximity of the notes, so multiple notes were considered as one comment. However in other cases the compilers may have considered multiple post-it notes from the same respondent as separate comments.

After examination of the comments, fourteen categories were chosen by the compilers. They are, in alphabetical order:

Administrators, Leadership
Creative Problem Solving
Diversity
Faculty
Staff
Goals, Commitment, Enthusiasm
Location
Miscellaneous or Uncategorized
Quality of Instruction
SMC Policies or Culture
SMC Reputation
Specific Resources and Programs
Students
Support of Santa Monica Community

Comments were categorized according to the issues mentioned. On average, each comment mentioned 1.7 issues. The number of issues in each comment is shown below.

Issues Mentioned Per Comment	
Issues	N=
1	391
2	181
3	68
4	30
5	12
6	1

Issues mentioned in comments, sorted by number of comments:

ISSUE	N=	%
Faculty	277	24%
Staff	157	14%
Goals, Commitment, Enthusiasm	117	10%
Students	94	8%
SMC Reputation	88	8%
Miscellaneous or Uncategorized	84	7%
Administrators, Leadership	78	7%
Specific Resources and Programs	73	6%
Creative Problem Solving	42	4%
Diversity	40	3%
Location	32	3%
SMC Policies or Culture	24	2%
Quality of Instruction	21	2%
Support of Santa Monica Community	16	1%

Individual comments

Comments are listed by issue. Comments which mention only one issue are listed with that issue. Please note that **comments that mention more than one issue are listed multiple times, once with each issue.**

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Location	50
SMC Policies or Culture	52
Quality of Instruction.....	54
Support of Santa Monica Community	56

Faculty

Mentioned by 24% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

A major asset of SMC is the experienced (both in the field and classrooms) part time faculty
A strong faculty
A talented and dedicated faculty
A very qualified faculty body
Amazing professors-that prepare students very well for universities
An outstanding faculty
Attentive qualified faculty
Caring and well-qualified faculty
Caring faculty
Caring, energetic faculty
Competent faculty
Competent, caring, well prepared, conscientious teachers who love helping students reach their maximum potential
Concerned faculty that helps the students be prepared for their next steps
Counseling support
Excellence of faculty and their love for their disciplines
Excellent counseling, department helping students transfer to quality 4 year schools
Excellent educators
Excellent faculty
Excellent faculty
Excellent faculty
Excellent faculty (for the most part!)
Excellent faculty, great counseling dept. to guide students to get an education and hopefully survive in life!
Excellent instructors
Excellent instructors
Excellent teachers

Excellent teachers who remember who they serve
Excellent, caring teachers
Exceptional teaching faculty
Faculty
Faculty
Faculty extremely willing to give time and shoulder expenses to stay current in field
Faculty have the freedom to create a mini-universe for students within their four walls and can grow, learn and change and create a better world for students a few hours per week
Faculty involvement
Faculty is vital to SMC
Faculty strength and knowledge
Faculty who care about student success and manifest it through extra effort and self-improvement
Faculty's desire to help students
Good counseling
Good instruction from faculty
Good instructors
Good teachers
Great counseling department that guides students to success and motivates them to succeed.
Great faculty
Great faculty
Great faculty
Great faculty, (past, present, and future)
Great teachers
Great teachers who pay their own way to conferences
Historically high quality of faculty
Incredibly talented faculty
Infectious love of the subject matter by individual professors
Involved faculty
Its generally progressive faculty
Its outstanding teaching and student service faculty

Level of scholarship of faculty intellectually curious and prepared
Many dedicated, enthusiastic and caring instructors, both full-time and part-time
Many faculty who care about student's success
Many outstanding, caring faculty
Many PhD's. Writers and political activist amongst faculty
More counselors and peer mentors especially ones who transferred
More full time faculty
Numerous committed faculty members
Personable faculty
Personable, interesting full-time faculty
Persons that realize that teaching comes before the final grade. The grade is just the ending. Teaching is the adventure (journey)
POSITIVE, genuine faculty interest in student success, not admin....
Professors teach classes
Quality and dedication of teachers
Quality and excellence of many of our faculty
Skill-based faculty; real life experiences
SMC's ability to provide helpful and humanistic counselors who genuinely, encourage students careful planning to meet their educational goals and providing students with strong success workshops.
Some great faculty who love teaching and love their discipline...It's a passion
Strong faculty
Strong faculty who have high expectations from their students; caring faculty whose willing to give a lot more than what's required
Strong, talented faculty
Strong, talented faculty
Subject matter knowledge of faculty
Teacher's expertise
Teachers who are actively working in their fields outside academia in the real world
The personal integrity of teachers to provide and sustain class room learning
Very good and talented instructors and very nice facilities, e.g. Science labs
We have motivated and knowledgeable faculty
Well qualified faculty

Well qualified faculty

Comments in the category "Faculty" but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1. Commendable transfer record 2. Excellent teachers and selfless classifieds
1. Dedicated faculty 2. Resources outside class time (i.e. Library, LRC etc.)
1. Faculty very committed to student success 2. SMC's reputation
1. Great SMC image of excellence 2. Excellent faculty/staff 3. Desire to solve our problems
1. Highly educated, motivated teachers (versus researchers at UC or CSU) 2. Employees at all levels dedicated to thinking outside the box and coming up with unique and inventive strategies to help students
1. History of SMC e.g. transfer rate to UCLA, USC, etc. 2. Outstanding faculty, administration and classified staff
1. Reputation as a leading community college in CA 2. Majority of faculty, staff and administrators care about student success
1. Willingness of faculty, staff, students-caring to meet the goals on campus (committee work, etc.) 2. Willingness to get involved politically to change state budget priorities
A committed energetic faculty with a long reputation of excellence
A faculty and classified body who truly care about student success
A fine faculty that values education
A large number of caring, concerned professional instructors
A Talented and caring faculty and staff
A well prepared faculty, some very resourceful administrators
Abilities and training of people at SMC
Able to draw on excellent faculty and staff from great professional city of LA
Administration, faculty and staff's ability to draw on a wealth of education and life experiences
All student services overall (counselors, staff) innovative programming
Amazing helpful colleagues and administrators
Amazing Professors-Professors that care about the student, work hard to stay current in their fields, and are positive role models to students
Amazingly dedicated and talented staff, faculty and administrators

An absolute commitment among most administrators, faculty and staff to the success of the students. People genuinely love their work here
An innovative, creative, industrious counseling department: the counseling department leadership is second to none.
An understanding faculty and leaders, good reputation for student success
Attracts a diverse and extremely talented faculty
Campus members will always work toward success
Classified and faculty employees who want to be here
Collegiality of department colleagues
Committed and dedicated staff, administrators and faculty
Committed competent faculty and classified staff
Committed faculty
Committed faculty and employees
Committed faculty, staff, admin.; student services
Committed faculty, staff, managers
Committed teachers, staff and managers; tradition
Committed, creative, diverse student services department--addresses many student issues.
Competence for most who work here
Concern for students; desire to shape our own work environment; students' desire for progress and innovation
Core of solid faculty, instructional counseling, with concerns for student success
Core of staff, faculty and managers that want things to improve
Counseling department and welcome center: faculty and staff involved with student retention
Creation of a check and balance committee with students, staff and faculty
Creative, energetic, talented people at all levels
Creative, intelligent staff, faculty etc.
Dedicated and energetic people
Dedicated and motivated faculty and staff
Dedicated and professional faculty, staff and administrators
Dedicated and talented faculty
Dedicated and talented professionals throughout faculty and staff

Dedicated employees
Dedicated employees
Dedicated faculty
Dedicated faculty
Dedicated faculty and community support
Dedicated faculty and staff
Dedicated faculty, staff, administration
Dedicated faculty/staff, willing to go extra lengths
Dedicated faculty-when they love where they work, it reflects in classroom success
Dedicated individuals, current decline of our place in the global economy, change in priorities.
Dedicated staff) faculty, classified, personnel, administration)
Dedicated staff and faculty
Dedicated staff and faculty
Dedicated staff who care about students; an excellent reputation to build from
Dedicated staff!
Dedicated staff, administrators and faculty
Dedicated staff/ faculty
Dedicated teachers
Dedicated work force
Dedication, persistence, and creativity and innovation of faculty and staff
Diverse faculty and student body
Diverse student body, diverse instructional staff
Diverse student body; highly qualified faculty and staff
Diversity, be it students, faculty, advisors, etc.
Driving forces 1. Students! 2. Faculty and staff!
Employees that are driven to give their best to students
Encouragement from all parts of campus (faculty, administration, etc.)
Enthusiastic and patient faculty and staff
Enthusiastic and skilled faculty
Enthusiastic motivated, faculty, both full and part time. Willing to take time with students and meet with them to fulfill their goals

Enthusiastic staff, faculty, students, and administration
Enthusiastic, learned faculty, including dedicated part-time faculty who care dearly about student motivation which leads to student success
Entrepreneurial spirit; love of teaching
Everyone works hard to give their best.
Excellence of the faculty and their ability to envision the potential in our students
Excellent and diverse faculty and staff
Excellent faculty and staff
Excellent faculty and staff personnel
Excellent faculty and staff; great reputation
Excellent instructors and support staff
Excellent instructors; an overall desire to change for the better
Excellent motivated faculty, staff, administration, and students
Excellent reputation but will this be enough? Committed faculty...hope for a better situation than the mess Piedad got us into
Excellent student resources including counseling and financial aid
Fabulous caring, concerned faculty and staff
Faculty and administration truly devoted to student success
Faculty and staff committed to creating an environment that fosters learning and teaching
Faculty and staff dedication
Faculty and staff ready to help
Faculty and staff that care regardless of the odds
Faculty and staff who want to help students succeed
Faculty and staff willingness to innovate
Faculty commitment to develop success students
Faculty expertise and experience
Faculty leadership that shows commitment to vocational ed. As well as 4 year univ. Ed.
Faculty leadership, commitment to SMC and its reputation/reality of excellent education
Faculty ready to try new (or revive old) techniques.
Faculty who are committed to student success

Faculty/staff of high caliber; location
Fantastic faculty to teach students, personnel wanting to go in a positive direction
Gifted faculty and committed staff
Great counseling, assessment orientation services
Great faculty and staff
Great faculty and staff that truly cares about student success
Great faculty/ great students
Great people
Great people
GREAT PROGRAMS, and a willingness to change and improve; A VERY ENERGETIC STUDENT BODY AND FACULTY/STAFF
Has faculty and student support services that advocate for student rights to knowledge and financial aid
Having a true dedication for excellence in all our endeavors (as students, faculty, staff and administrators)
Highly dedicated faculty and staff
Highly qualified instructors; excellent location; Proximity to universities downtown, etc.
In the face of problems, a committed faculty and staff
Incredibly committed faculty and staff
Individuals truly committed to education
Innovative and dedicated faculty
Interdisciplinary dialogue faculty associations, academic state, constructive workshops, DIVERSE STUDENT BODY!
Knowledgeable faculty and staff
Many bright hard-working, dedicated faculty and staff who are willing to work together when given the time
Many dedicated faculty and staff; progressive and educationally liberal
Many different types of students services to address various student needs; some fantastic faculty who work hard to teach students skills needed for the 4 yr. Schools and for their occupations
Many excellent caring faculty staff and administrators
Many faculty and staff who care about students
Many gifted faculty and staff focused on truly educating students

Many great, caring people who will always work hard for our students
More communication between students and faculty. And less restrictive rules
Mostly great faculty with a huge wealth of knowledge and insight to share with students (great administrators, too)
Motivated instructors
Motivated teachers who care and are willing to go above and beyond for benefit of all students
Motivated, motivating passionate faculty and staff
New building/ faculty committees, faculty
Optimism by most of faculty
Outstanding faculty and staff
Outstanding faculty; dedication from people in all constituencies
Outstanding faculty; forward thinking vision of premiere transfer institution with outstanding certificate programs
Passion of some faculty, staff, location in affluent community
People from all walks of life
People power: great enthusiasm and knowledge base
People who are devoted to college and its success
Political will of faculty/staff to lobby for more funds from state
Pride and self-esteem of people who try hard to do their best job which offer many talents
Pride on the part of students and all employees to be members of this campus in particular
Professors with passion to teach
Qualified staff and faculty
Quality faculty and diverse student body
Quality of education and counseling
Quality of the teachers; Classified staff who are on top of the jobs (i.e. Media center, library)
Quality students, staff and faculty
Recognition from our leadership that one key to student success is their motivation from their professors loving knowledge and scholarship
Sincere and genuine desire on the part of all its employees to serve our students
Smart students; committed faculty, reliable staff, changing administration

SMC has awesome front-line human resources. The institution needs to stop overworking its front-line faculty and staff and allow them enough time for their caring and creative natures to flourish in working with students.
SMC has many dedicated staff, faculty and students
SMC has many people who are willing , happily so, to dedicate many extra hours to make this a better school
SMC is a gathering place of passionate, committed, competent, bright, people (admin, faculty, staff, students, community)
SMC's commitment to provide students with state of the art media faculty with strong workshop teach them state of the art computer skills
Some employees who really care and give of themselves in so many ways
Some people of good will and strong commitment within all groups
Strong faculty and support programs
Strong faculty -perhaps the best of any community college. Strong faculty organizations so that faculty members views are heard
Strong, competent faculty and staff
Students and instructors who respect each other
Students want to succeed; most employees like to help
Talented faculty and staff (& probably admin)
Talented and caring faculty, staff and admin
Talented and dedicated faculty and staff that want to be here and see students achieve their academic and personal goals
Talented and energetic faculty and staff
Talented dedicated faculty and support staff
Teaching faculty that keep the 'Bar' high for future successful performance; Students that come here with high motivation to succeed
Terrific and committed faculty and staff and admin.; the belief that we really make a difference in the lives of students
The classified staff and faculty are creative in obtaining grants and use of resources available them by assisting in getting necessary materials when a budget is non-existent
The dedication and professionalism of all staff and classified workers
The highest level of faculty and staff
The people (staff, faculty) are bright and have passions for what they do and they believe in student success

The Tenacity and dedication our "community" (faculty, administrators, students and classified staff) to the goal of a liberal arts education
Tremendous and supportive faculty, classified staff and administrators to guide eager students
Tremendous variety of faculty and student interests and talents
Tutoring facilities, and the faculty who make an extra effort to work one to one with students
Very talented students and faculty
We have great counselors and staff who are student advocates. They tell it like it is and let the students know what they are up against when certain people are making choices against what the students really want or need
We have great employees
We have more resources than other community colleges, we have an excellent mix of faculty and staff; a community college one; Near the beach!
Willingness of most departments working together in meeting the needs of the students
Wonderful, caring gifted and talented faculty and staff; more students, more students, and more students

Staff

Mentioned by 14% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

A generally excellent support staff
Classified support staff who really care about students
Good secretaries
Great classified
Loyalty and dedication of classified staff
Outstanding staff which cares about students
Overall the staff is exceptional; very high quality people
Presence of many talented, gifted staff who can drive our vision forward
Professional classified staff
Professionalism and caring of staff at all levels
Provide a staff that cares for the success of its students
Really competent good and helpful staff, techs , custodians, media center, etc.
Support staff and collaboration with others on campus; knowing others on campus
Supportive Staff
Very friendly staff-still smiling in spite of adversity.

Comments in the category “Staff” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1, friendly atmosphere amongst coworkers (campus staff); 2. Constantly learning new and interesting things.
1. Altruism on staff 2. Common goal of excellence in education
1. Commendable transfer record 2. Excellent teachers and selfless classifieds
1. Great SMC image of excellence 2. Excellent faculty/staff 3. Desire to solve our problems
1. Highly educated, motivated teachers (versus researchers at UC or CSU) 2. Employees at all levels dedicated to thinking outside the box and coming up with unique and inventive strategies to help students

1. History of SMC e.g. transfer rate to UCLA, USC, etc. 2. Outstanding faculty, administration and classified staff
1. Reputation as a leading community college in CA 2. Majority of faculty, staff and administrators care about student success
1. Willingness of faculty, staff, students-caring to meet the goals on campus (committee work, etc.) 2. Willingness to get involved politically to change state budget priorities
1/2 its staff is energetic and willing to work toward change (the other half is obstructionist)
A creative and highly motivated staff with extensive experience and excellent skills
A faculty and classified body who truly care about student success
A Talented and caring faculty and staff
Abilities and training of people at SMC
Able to draw on excellent faculty and staff from great professional city of LA
Administration, faculty and staff's ability to draw on a wealth of education and life experiences
All student services overall (counselors, staff) innovative programming
Amazing helpful colleagues and administrators
Amazingly dedicated and talented staff, faculty and administrators
An absolute commitment among most administrators, faculty and staff to the success of the students. People genuinely love their work here
Campus members will always work toward success
Classified and faculty employees who want to be here
Committed and dedicated staff, administrators and faculty
Committed competent faculty and classified staff
Committed faculty and employees
Committed faculty, staff, admin.; student services
Committed faculty, staff, managers
Committed teachers, staff and managers; tradition
Committed, creative, diverse student services department--addresses many student issues.
Competence for most who work here
Concern for students; desire to shape our own work environment; students' desire for progress and innovation

Core of solid faculty, instructional counseling, with concerns for student success
Core of staff, faculty and managers that want things to improve
Counseling department and welcome center: faculty and staff involved with student retention
Creation of a check and balance committee with students, staff and faculty
Creative, energetic staff whose skills and energies have not been fully developed.
Creative, energetic, talented people at all levels
Creative, intelligent staff, faculty etc.
Dedicated and energetic people
Dedicated and motivated faculty and staff
Dedicated and professional faculty, staff and administrators
Dedicated and talented professionals throughout faculty and staff
Dedicated and talented staff
Dedicated employees
Dedicated employees
Dedicated faculty and staff
Dedicated faculty, staff, administration
Dedicated faculty/staff, willing to go extra lengths
Dedicated individuals, current decline of our place in the global economy, change in priorities.
Dedicated staff) faculty, classified, personnel, administration)
Dedicated staff and faculty
Dedicated staff and faculty
Dedicated staff, administrators and faculty
Dedicated staff/ faculty
Dedicated work force
Dedication, persistence, and creativity and innovation of faculty and staff
Diverse student body; highly qualified faculty and staff
Diversity, be it students, faculty, advisors, etc.
Driving forces 1. Students! 2. Faculty and staff!
Employees that are driven to give their best to students
Encouragement from all parts of campus (faculty, administration, etc.)

Enthusiastic and patient faculty and staff
Enthusiastic staff, faculty, students, and administration
Everyone works hard to give their best.
Excellent and diverse faculty and staff
Excellent faculty and staff
Excellent faculty and staff personnel
Excellent faculty and staff; great reputation
Excellent instructors and support staff
Excellent motivated faculty, staff, administration, and students
Fabulous caring, concerned faculty and staff
Faculty and staff committed to creating an environment that fosters learning and teaching
Faculty and staff dedication
Faculty and staff ready to help
Faculty and staff that care regardless of the odds
Faculty and staff who want to help students succeed
Faculty and staff willingness to innovate
Faculty expertise and experience
Faculty/staff of high caliber; location
Fantastic faculty to teach students, personnel wanting to go in a positive direction
Fantastic REPO and Media Resource center
Gifted faculty and committed staff
Great faculty and staff
Great faculty and staff that truly cares about student success
Great people
Great people
GREAT PROGRAMS, and a willingness to change and improve; A VERY ENERGETIC STUDENT BODY AND FACULTY/STAFF
Having a true dedication for excellence in all our endeavors (as students, faculty, staff and administrators)
Highly dedicated faculty and staff
Highly qualified staff; motivated student body

In the face of problems, a committed faculty and staff
Incredibly committed faculty and staff
Individuals truly committed to education
Knowledgeable faculty and staff
Large and diverse employee and student base
Lovely science facility to work in and excellent tech support staff in the physical science dept. And elsewhere on campus
Many bright hard-working, dedicated faculty and staff who are willing to work together when given the time
Many dedicated faculty and staff; progressive and educationally liberal
Many excellent caring faculty staff and administrators
Many faculty and staff who care about students
Many gifted faculty and staff focused on truly educating students
Many great, caring people who will always work hard for our students
More communication between students and faculty. And less restrictive rules
Motivated, motivating passionate faculty and staff
Outstanding faculty and staff
Passion of some faculty, staff, location in affluent community
People from all walks of life
People power: great enthusiasm and knowledge base
People who are devoted to college and its success
Political will of faculty/staff to lobby for more funds from state
Pride and self-esteem of people who try hard to do their best job which offer many talents
Pride on the part of students and all employees to be members of this campus in particular
Qualified staff and faculty
Quality of the teachers; Classified staff who are on top of the jobs (i.e. Media center, library)
Quality students, staff and faculty
Sincere and genuine desire on the part of all its employees to serve our students
Smart students; committed faculty, reliable staff, changing administration

SMC has awesome front-line human resources. The institution needs to stop overworking its front-line faculty and staff and allow them enough time for their caring and creative natures to flourish in working with students.
SMC has many dedicated staff, faculty and students
SMC has many people who are willing , happily so, to dedicate many extra hours to make this a better school
SMC is a gathering place of passionate, committed, competent, bright, people (admin, faculty, staff, students, community)
Some employees who really care and give of themselves in so many ways
Some people of good will and strong commitment within all groups
Strong, competent faculty and staff
Students want to succeed; most employees like to help
Talented faculty and staff (& probably admin)
Talented and caring faculty, staff and admin
Talented and dedicated faculty and staff that want to be here and see students achieve their academic and personal goals
Talented and energetic faculty and staff
Talented dedicated faculty and support staff
Terrific and committed faculty and staff and admin.; the belief that we really make a difference in the lives of students
The classified staff and faculty are creative in obtaining grants and use of resources available them by assisting in getting necessary materials when a budget is non-existent
The dedication and professionalism of all staff and classified workers
The highest level of faculty and staff
The people (staff, faculty) are bright and have passions for what they do and they believe in student success
The Tenacity and dedication our "community" (faculty, administrators, students and classified staff) to the goal of a liberal arts education
Tremendous and supportive faculty, classified staff and administrators to guide eager students
We have great counselors and staff who are student advocates. They tell it like it is and let the students know what they are up against when certain people are making choices against what the students really want or need
We have great employees

We have more resources than other community colleges, we have an excellent mix of faculty and staff; a community college one; Near the beach!
We have people (staff, administration) who care to make a difference
Willingness of most departments working together in meeting the needs of the students
Wonderful, caring, gifted and talented faculty and staff; more students, more students, and more students

Goals, Commitment, Enthusiasm

Mentioned by 10% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

A commitment to education as a force
A renewed focus on student success for this year instead of school politics
Commitment to helping students make a better life for themselves
Commitment to students how hard so many of us work to fill in gaps and listen to students
Core concern of all constituents to be the 'best' college
Courage, enthusiasm for what we do - belief in what we do
Determination
Ever optimistic and hopeful human nature
Excitement for joy of discovery
Expanding the campus, open more classrooms and hire more faculty to help students
Generosity of spirit
Many people do care enough to work for the goal or an ideal campus-as long as there are people who do care-from all of the campus constituency, there's still a glimmer of hope to achieve a better SMC
Most employees have a strong commitment, even passion for the college and students
Motivation to meet standards and criteria of accrediting agencies
Motivation, social intentions, plans, goals defined
New focus by governing bodies on student outcomes and success
Optimism that others feels as I do and want to improve SMC
Our commitment to student success
Our passion for life long learning
Overall desire institutionally to make SMC reach its potential
Passion of most who work here
Passion to succeed; desire to engage
People are optimistic that things will get better
Strong desire to improve

Student centered
The regeneration of our energies and focuses. All obstacles considered, the plain and simple fact is we must succeed
Wanting students to succeed
We do have a 'vision'

Comments in the category “Goals, Commitment, Enthusiasm” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1. Reputation as a leading community college in CA 2. Majority of faculty, staff and administrators care about student success
1. Willingness of faculty, staff, students-caring to meet the goals on campus (committee work, etc.) 2. Willingness to get involved politically to change state budget priorities
A committed energetic faculty with a long reputation of excellence
A desire to do what's right and venture outside the ' comfort zone'
A desire to work for all students' success
A diverse employee and student pop. By ethnicity, income, age, and ed. Goals and achievement
A faculty and classified body who truly care about student success
A hope for the future with a new president
A thirst for learning
Administration desire to make SMC renowned
Amazing Professors-Professors that care about the student, work hard to stay current in their fields, and are positive role models to students
Campus members will always work toward success
Committed and dedicated staff, administrators and faculty
Committed competent faculty and classified staff
Committed faculty
Committed faculty and employees
Committed faculty, staff, admin.; student services
Committed faculty, staff, managers
Committed teachers, staff and managers; tradition
Committed, creative, diverse student services department--addresses many student issues.

Concern for students; desire to shape our own work environment; students' desire for progress and innovation
Core of solid faculty, instructional counseling, with concerns for student success
Dedicated administrators who stay the course, keep their vision in sight and mowing down any weeds which sprout up in their plan to provide an educational life enhancing environment.
Dedicated and energetic people
Dedicated and motivated faculty and staff
Dedicated and professional faculty, staff and administrators
Dedicated and talented faculty
Dedicated and talented professionals throughout faculty and staff
Dedicated and talented staff
Dedicated employees
Dedicated employees
Dedicated faculty
Dedicated faculty
Dedicated faculty and community support
Dedicated faculty and staff
Dedicated faculty, staff, administration
Dedicated faculty/staff, willing to go extra lengths
Dedicated faculty-when they love where they work, it reflects in classroom success
Dedicated individuals, current decline of our place in the global economy, change in priorities.
Dedicated staff) faculty, classified, personnel, administration)
Dedicated staff and faculty
Dedicated staff and faculty
Dedicated staff who care about students; an excellent reputation to build from
Dedicated staff!
Dedicated staff, administrators and faculty
Dedicated staff/ faculty
Dedicated teachers
Dedicated work force
Dedication, persistence, and creativity and innovation of faculty and staff

Desire to be the best
Diverse student population; student commitment to learning
Employees that are driven to give their best to students
Enthusiastic and patient faculty and staff
Enthusiastic and skilled faculty
Enthusiastic motivated, faculty, both full and part time. Willing to take time with students and meet with them to fulfill their goals
Enthusiastic staff, faculty, students, and administration
Enthusiastic, learned faculty, including dedicated part-time faculty who care dearly about student motivation which leads to student success
Excellent instructors; an overall desire to change for the better
Excellent reputation but will this be enough? Committed faculty...hope for a better situation than the mess Piedad got us into
Faculty commitment to develop success students
Faculty who are committed to student success
Gifted faculty and committed staff
Having a true dedication for excellence in all our endeavors (as students, faculty, staff and administrators)
In the face of problems, a committed faculty and staff
Incredibly committed faculty and staff
Individuals truly committed to education
Innovative and dedicated faculty
Intelligent creative energy and potential and vision towards positive change
Location and atmosphere; chance for success
Loyalty in helping your fellow workers to accomplish your dept. Goals
Motivated and driven students
Motivated instructors
Motivated students
Motivated students wishing to succeed
Motivated teachers who care and are willing to go above and beyond for benefit of all students
Motivated, motivating passionate faculty and staff
Motivation for a "hot" career

Optimism by most of faculty
Outstanding faculty; dedication from people in all constituencies
People power: great enthusiasm and knowledge base
People who are devoted to college and its success
Persistence, passion, and energy, and idealism, of students
Professors with passion to teach
SMC has many people who are willing , happily so, to dedicate many extra hours to make this a better school
Student enthusiasm and engagement
Students' drive for education, despite (for many/most) real obstacles of money, other obligations, weak skills, etc.
The Tenacity and dedication our "community" (faculty, administrators, students and classified staff) to the goal of a liberal arts education
Willingness of most departments working together in meeting the needs of the students
Willingness to examine and re-examine exactly what we mean by "excellence" (Then make appropriate adjustments)

Students

Mentioned by 8% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

A core of students who want to learn
A quality caliber of students in the accounting/business fields of study
A student body that wants to succeed, despite obstacles that many students face
An eager-to-learn and succeed student body overall
Competition: we need to continue to attract the best students to remain competitive
Desire for learning of students
Fantastic students
Fantastic students who are interested in learning
Highly motivated students! Eager to learn
Many serious and hard-working students
Prepared students
Some of the most talented junior college students in the state
Some smart and hardworking administrators
Student appreciation ; student success stories; interaction with students; student satisfaction
Student Diversity
Student Diversity- by ethnicity, age, social class
Student participation in sustaining Emeritus
Student preparedness for transfer to university
Students' desire to succeed
Student's energy
Students motivated by the learn to earn ethos
Students overwhelming desire to learn, to graduate, to transfer, and therefore refuse to take ' no' for an answer
Students that love to be here
Students- we have enough unlike some the other schools
Students who come to SMC motivated toward their success

Students who have come to SMC with a strong desire to succeed and learn
Students who truly want to succeed
Successful students who come back to say thank you and tell with pride of their accomplishments
Talented students
The very special students who have drive!!!

Comments in the category “Students” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1. Phenomenal instruction 2. Great students from Malibu HS, Santa Monica HS and Venice HS 3. Campus looks good and has a great reputation
1. Quality of instruction 2. Integrity in reputation of SMC 3. Safety of the campus 4. Multicultural student body
1. Willingness of faculty, staff, students-caring to meet the goals on campus (committee work, etc.) 2. Willingness to get involved politically to change state budget priorities
A beautiful and diverse student body
Concern for students; desire to shape our own work environment; students' desire for progress and innovation
Creation of a check and balance committee with students, staff and faculty
Creative, energetic, talented people at all levels
Desire to be the best
Diverse faculty and student body
Diverse student body
Diverse student body
Diverse student body for better relations between cultures.
Diverse student body, diverse instructional staff
Diverse student body; highly qualified faculty and staff
Diverse student population; student commitment to learning
Diversity and maturity of students makes classrooms very dynamic learning centers-students can and do draw on unfamiliar points of view, while other students moderate juvenile behavior
Driving forces 1. Students! 2. Faculty and staff!
Enthusiastic staff, faculty, students, and administration
Everyone works hard to give their best.

Excellence of the faculty and their ability to envision the potential in our students
Excellent motivated faculty, staff, administration, and students
Great faculty/ great students
GREAT PROGRAMS, and a willingness to change and improve; A VERY ENERGETIC STUDENT BODY AND FACULTY/STAFF
Having a true dedication for excellence in all our endeavors (as students, faculty, staff and administrators)
Helping a diverse student population
Highly qualified staff; motivated student body
Individuals truly committed to education
Interdisciplinary dialogue faculty associations, academic state, constructive workshops, DIVERSE STUDENT BODY!
Interesting and diverse student body
International student program
It's a privilege to work at and attend a college with such a diverse, international student body
Large and diverse employee and student base
Location (beach in Santa Monica) weather...student diversity lends excitement
Motivated and driven students
Motivated students
Motivated students wishing to succeed
Multi cultural student body
People from all walks of life
People power: great enthusiasm and knowledge base
People who are devoted to college and its success
Persistence, passion, and energy, and idealism, of students
Pride on the part of students and all employees to be members of this campus in particular
Proximity to great educational institutions, UCLA, USC, Loyola, CSUN. Students with a vision of what we could be
Quality faculty and diverse student body
Quality students, staff and faculty
Seeing students utilize the resources available and taking full advantage of everything SMC has to offer

Smart students; committed faculty, reliable staff, changing administration
SMC has many dedicated staff, faculty and students
SMC has one of the most diverse student population-makes for an enriching learning environment
SMC is a gathering place of passionate, committed, competent, bright, people (admin, faculty, staff, students, community)
Some people of good will and strong commitment within all groups
Student enthusiasm and engagement
Students and instructors who respect each other
Student's attitudes and willingness to get to class even though obstacles. Personnel working for administrators; usually friendly, helpful
Students' drive for education, despite (for many/most) real obstacles of money, other obligations, weak skills, etc.
Students want to succeed; most employees like to help
Teaching faculty that keep the 'Bar' high for future successful performance; Students that come here with high motivation to succeed
The numbers of students wanting to be enrolled at SMC from all over because SMC has proven to be a leader in transfers to the 4 year universities
The Tenacity and dedication our "community" (faculty, administrators, students and classified staff) to the goal of a liberal arts education
Tremendous and supportive faculty, classified staff and administrators to guide eager students
Tremendous variety of faculty and student interests and talents
Truly diverse and (mostly) energetic student body
Very talented students and faculty
Wonderful, caring gifted and talented faculty and staff; more students, more students, and more students

SMC Reputation

Mentioned by 8% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

#1 in transferring to CSU, UCs and private colleges
A great reputation
A positive image in the community
An excellent reputation
Best transfer rate to UCs
Expectation that SMC is not just an average community college but a great one
Good reputation
Good reputation
Good reputation (helps enrollment)
Good reputation among students and in the community
Good reputation for strong academic programs
Great reputation
Great reputation for transfer
Great track record
High quality instructors
High transfer rate
High transfer rate to the UCs and CSUs
High transfer rates to four-year school.; greater success in low level math classes
International reputation
Its reputation
Its reputation
Our academic reputation is a strength
Our own track record- inertia
Our reputation for success, #1 in transfer to UC
Outstanding reputation
Outstanding reputation,

Outstanding reputation, (Capitalize on it!)
Positive reputation
Potential for external support and resources good due to reputation and students success (even despite recent bad publicity)
Recognition
Reputation
Reputation
Reputation as a feeder to 4-year colleges
Reputation as an academic leader among Community Colleges
Reputation for academic excellence
Reputation for excellence (academic programs etc.)
Reputation of excellence
Reputation of quality education which gives all staff the impetus to work hard each year for an even better school.
Reputation of the college as outstanding
SMC has a great reputation for educating the student to be successful
SMC is a brand name in Southern California
SMC is the CA Community college with the highest transfer rate to the UCs and Cal States
SMC past reputation and momentum
SMC's renowned reputation both nationally and internationally, capitalizing on that
Strong academic reputation
Strong prestige
Super reputation, make sure classes are available
The name of the college itself
Tradition of excellence
Tradition of excellence to build upon
Visibility
We have a very good reputation
We have an established excellent reputation

Comments in the category “SMC Reputation” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1. A widely recognized name in the community 2. Central location makes it accessible to many people-can't get better than this
1. Commendable transfer record 2. Excellent teachers and selfless classifieds
1. Faculty very committed to student success 2. SMC's reputation
1. Fantastic academic reputation 2. Leading transfer institution to UCs
1. Great SMC image of excellence 2. Excellent faculty/staff 3. Desire to solve our problems
1. History of SMC e.g. transfer rate to UCLA, USC, etc. 2. Outstanding faculty, administration and classified staff
1. Phenomenal instruction 2. Great students from Malibu HS, Santa Monica HS and Venice HS 3. Campus looks good and has a great reputation
1. Quality of instruction 2. Integrity in reputation of SMC 3. Safety of the campus 4. Multicultural student body
1. Reputation as a leading community college in CA 2. Majority of faculty, staff and administrators care about student success
1. Still has a good reputation in the community and with students. 2. The members of my department are cohesive, supportive and dedicated
A committed energetic faculty with a long reputation of excellence
A generally positive perception of SMC's educational quality among Comm. Colleges and Universities and the community
A great reputation for student success and a new profit foundation to generate private support.
Administration desire to make SMC renowned
An understanding faculty and leaders, good reputation for student success
Best academic and student services programs in the nation, #1 transfer rate-over 10 years
College has a good reputation thanks to the teaching provided here. (alumni talk about learning here, not about buildings or social ties)
Dedicated staff who care about students; an excellent reputation to build from
Excellent faculty and staff; great reputation
Excellent reputation but will this be enough? Committed faculty...hope for a better situation than the mess Piedad got us into
Faculty leadership, commitment to SMC and its reputation/reality of excellent education
Good reputation; large choice of classes
Good transfer rate to local colleges and universities

Good transferring rate to UC and cal states
History: SM City College has been responsible for reaching and educating several generations of local resident families; This is evident when local bond issues are passed
Increase Campus size
Location; people all over the world wants to attend SMC
Our transfer center. It was #1 in the nation for having the best transfer rates. And the students who are big on working for each other.
Our transfer rate
Positive image in the community
SMC is located in a progressive, wealthy part of the city and has gained a positive reputation due to this endowment.
Strong reputation as a quality institution
Strong reputation of academic quality
The numbers of students wanting to be enrolled at SMC from all over because SMC has proven to be a leader in transfers to the 4 year universities
Well deserved reputation for academic excellence

Miscellaneous or Uncategorized

Mentioned by 7% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

1. Acquire junior high school (middle school) across the street for more space 2. More parking CLOSE to campus
Advocates of student learning
Affordability
Affordable education
Allowing us to go our way without excessive intervention from state agencies
Articulation Agreement
Articulation with 4 year institutions
Better communication with other colleges for transferring purposes
Chance to keep learning
Collegiality within out dept.
Everyday is a great day to be at SMC and give of yourself
Flex hours to create ideas and opportunities
Flexibility
Giving back: reciprocal involvement, volunteering. Without volunteering the Emeritus Program would still not be in existence. Our longstanding volunteers were students first who have decided to give back directly
Great wealth of knowledge on campus
Has the attention of the entire CNN audience
Having the challenge to do it
I will not fail them
In-classroom teaching; not online teaching
Inexpensive to attend
Its ability to secure grant funding more of the could be funneled to direct student resources as book loans, more reserve books, longer check out periods for reserve materials
Light bright environment and heat and air conditioning
Lower fee than universities

Money we obviously have a lot of it
More classes
More classes, fix budget
More courses for students
More financial aid
More science classes are opened as needed (so far)
Move communication and understanding between each work group
New Board of Trustees
New construction near completion
New facilities- Bundy campus, new theater, liberal arts building
New facilities; the AET campus has great computer lab, classrooms and not the Bundy campus
New 'Learning communities' (the Posse effect')
Opportunity for students that didn't succeed in high schools; A second Chance! To transfer to universities
Our problems are not overwhelming, we have strengths to build on
Possibility of sponsoring innovative projects such as a science park, center for labor organizing etc. Get some institutes here that boost our reputation
Preparing the next generation for the future
Project-oriented and good work attitude will bring SMC together
Reasonable fees
Relative autonomy (separation from LA community college system)
Required college orientation course
Resources, knowledgeable staff
Single campus district
Small campus so students don't feel so lost of overwhelmed
Some tutoring available
Student transfer Success
The Board (with 3 new members) has an opportunity to select an excellent Pres. Superintendent
The fact that people get jobs here and stay forever is a strength...usually
The nature of education is pure and constructive
The resignation of Piedad

The willingness to try new things
Valuing teaching as much as scholarship
We have capacity, capability, for shaping students academic habits and preparing for their careers
Well-rounded curriculum
Workshops like this
Workshops such as this one which will serve to move us forward

Comments in the category “Miscellaneous or Uncategorized” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1, friendly atmosphere amongst coworkers (campus staff); 2. Constantly learning new and interesting things.
1. Still has a good reputation in the community and with students. 2. The members of my department are cohesive, supportive and dedicated
A hope for the future with a new president
A new director of FA who is getting aid to students much faster than in the past
A rich culture of seminar and guest speakers for own students
A thirst for learning
Access; quality of course work; decreased class size; low cost
Adherence to course prerequisites
Alternate funding for specific needs (i.e.. The AS pays for library Saturday hours). Be open to doing things new ways.
Articulation to four year schools, outreach to high schools, joint committees working to solve problems, community liaisons
As a community college we are closer to the real-life realities of the problems of urban life; therefore we have the perspective and understanding (or the potential to achieve same) to address urban problems creatively.
Best academic and student services programs in the nation, #1 transfer rate-over 10 years
Campus has a range of courses; people are willing to work together and support one another
College has a desirable geographic location on the coast adjoining a major city with major universities
Collegiality of department colleagues

Creative freedom
Encouraging SMC students to participate in Professional Development day. I would like to see other times set aside for professor-student dialogue
Engaging campus activities
Good reputation; large choice of classes
Good transfer rate to local colleges and universities
Good transferring rate to UC and cal states
Increase Campus size
Innovations such as online teaching, bring education to deserving students who can't bring themselves to campus because of limited time and resources
Local demographics are such that much pressure can be put on the state for increased funding
Motivation for a "hot" career
New building/ faculty committees, faculty

Administrators, Leadership

Mentioned by 7% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

Administrative commitment to work effectively as possible with a limited budget
Articulate people to fundraise, lobby
Committed and concerned administrators
Current administration increasing support and funding toward nursing dept.
Department leadership interested in improvement
Good administration
Good leadership in academic affairs
Hard-working competent administration with strong potential if provided with positive leadership
More dynamic leadership (better administrators)
New director of institutional research who is reaching out and providing numbers, analysis and possible answers to our problems
Pat Brown -let's make her the next SMC president
Smart leadership
Strong administrative support
Supervisor allows participation rather than micromanagement

Comments in the category “Administrators, Leadership” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1. History of SMC e.g. transfer rate to UCLA, USC, etc. 2. Outstanding faculty, administration and classified staff
1. Reputation as a leading community college in CA 2. Majority of faculty, staff and administrators care about student success
A fine faculty that values education
A well prepared faculty, some very resourceful administrators
Abilities and training of people at SMC
Administration, faculty and staff's ability to draw on a wealth of education and life experiences

Amazing helpful colleagues and administrators
Amazingly dedicated and talented staff, faculty and administrators
An absolute commitment among most administrators, faculty and staff to the success of the students. People genuinely love their work here
An innovative, creative, industrious counseling department: the counseling department leadership is second to none.
An understanding faculty and leaders, good reputation for student success
Campus members will always work toward success
Committed and dedicated staff, administrators and faculty
Committed faculty, staff, admin.; student services
Committed faculty, staff, managers
Committed teachers, staff and managers; tradition
Competence for most who work here
Concern for students; desire to shape our own work environment; students' desire for progress and innovation
Core of staff, faculty and managers that want things to improve
Creative, energetic, talented people at all levels
Dedicated administrators who stay the course, keep their vision in sight and mowing down any weeds which sprout up in their plan to provide an educational life enhancing environment.
Dedicated and energetic people
Dedicated and professional faculty, staff and administrators
Dedicated employees
Dedicated employees
Dedicated faculty, staff, administration
Dedicated individuals, current decline of our place in the global economy, change in priorities.
Dedicated staff) faculty, classified, personnel, administration)
Dedicated staff, administrators and faculty
Diversity, be it students, faculty, advisors, etc.
Encouragement from all parts of campus (faculty, administration, etc.)
Enthusiastic staff, faculty, students, and administration
Everyone works hard to give their best.

Excellent motivated faculty, staff, administration, and students
Faculty and administration truly devoted to student success
Faculty leadership that shows commitment to vocational ed. As well as 4 year univ. Ed.
Great people
Great people
Having a true dedication for excellence in all our endeavors (as students, faculty, staff and administrators)
Individuals truly committed to education
Many excellent caring faculty staff and administrators
Many great, caring people who will always work hard for our students
Mostly great faculty with a huge wealth of knowledge and insight to share with students (great administrators, too)
People from all walks of life
People power: great enthusiasm and knowledge base
People who are devoted to college and its success
Positive changes in city and college administration
Pride and self-esteem of people who try hard to do their best job which offer many talents
Pride on the part of students and all employees to be members of this campus in particular
Recognition from our leadership that one key to student success is their motivation from their professors loving knowledge and scholarship
Sincere and genuine desire on the part of all its employees to serve our students
Smart students; committed faculty, reliable staff, changing administration
SMC has many people who are willing , happily so, to dedicate many extra hours to make this a better school
SMC is a gathering place of passionate, committed, competent, bright, people (admin, faculty, staff, students, community)
Some people of good will and strong commitment within all groups
Student's attitudes and willingness to get to class even though obstacles. Personnel working for administrators; usually friendly, helpful
Talented faculty and staff (& probably admin)
Talented and caring faculty, staff and admin

Terrific and committed faculty and staff and admin.; the belief that we really make a difference in the lives of students
The Tenacity and dedication our "community" (faculty, administrators, students and classified staff) to the goal of a liberal arts education
Tremendous and supportive faculty, classified staff and administrators to guide eager students
We have great employees
We have people (staff, administration) who care to make a difference
Willingness of most departments working together in meeting the needs of the students

Specific Resources and Programs

Mentioned by 6% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

A fabulous library w/ a great staff
A great library
A great location with new facilities supported by the community
A great swimming pool
A growing dual enrollment program that continues to reach out to more and more high schools
A nurturing and stimulating environment in the English and ESL dept.
A wonderful library
Academic support for students i.e. Math lab; language lab, resource center; English tutors
An excellent resource center that [should be] used more
Career Counseling center is amazing at SMC and I think more students should know about it and that their career development class could be mandatory
Emeritus college
EOPS for financial help
Financial resources
Great language lab for helping students learn foreign languages
Great resources (i.e.. Welcome center, 1st student welcome day)
Great tutoring programs with volunteer tutors from the community.
Internship placement in prof. Voc. Programs
It helps having a disabled students leader program
Job placement in professional vocational programs
Laboratory and tutoring center in languages
Learning labs
Learning resource labs
Library
Main leadership in PE and Business Depts. are positive new factors
Many excellent facilities particularly science labs

Many fine student services
Open computer labs, (usually with unlimited hours)
Our math lab and increased use of computer tech in 2005-2006
Outreach (to high school students et al...)
Outstanding library for research and reference
Phenomenal student services depts.
Programs that draw both students and general public in Santa Monica
Scholars classes for easy transfer
Scholars program placed students into 'top' schools
Strength in all student support services to work collaboratively
Strong student and academic support services
Strong technology
The new library
Transfer (department) success rate
Transfer rate
Tutoring facilities, (need more)
Tutoring programs are strong--could be stronger
UC transfers
Welcome center-a new openness here to reaching out and enjoying with students
Welcome center-provides a personalized approach and concrete assistance to new students
Wired campus and comfortable library
Wonderful library building and resources to prep students for university life

Comments in the category “Specific Resources and Programs” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1. Dedicated faculty 2. Resources outside class time (i.e. Library, LRC etc.)
A great reputation for student success and a new profit foundation to generate private support.
A new director of FA who is getting aid to students much faster than in the past
A rich culture of seminar and guest speakers for own students
All student services overall (counselors, staff) innovative programming

Counseling 20 (student success seminars)
Counseling 20 and other related services helping our students learn how to make goals and achieve them
Counseling department and welcome center: faculty and staff involved with student retention
Excellent student resources including counseling and financial aid
Fantastic REPO and Media Resource center
Great counseling, assessment orientation services
GREAT PROGRAMS, and a willingness to change and improve; A VERY ENERGETIC STUDENT BODY AND FACULTY/STAFF
Has faculty and student support services that advocate for student rights to knowledge and financial aid
It's close to the beach, it has an awesome library
Lovely science facility to work in and excellent tech support staff in the physical science dept. And elsewhere on campus
Many different types of students services to address various student needs; some fantastic faculty who work hard to teach students skills needed for the 4 yr. Schools and for their occupations
Our transfer center. It was #1 in the nation for having the best transfer rates. And the students who are big on working for each other.
Our transfer rate
Outstanding faculty; forward thinking vision of premiere transfer institution with outstanding certificate programs
Seeing students utilize the resources available and taking full advantage of everything SMC has to offer
SMC's commitment to provide students with state of the art media faculty with strong workshop teach them state of the art computer skills
Strong faculty and support programs
Strong faculty -perhaps the best of any community college. Strong faculty organizations so that faculty members views are heard
Support services for diverse student populations
Tutoring facilities, and the faculty who make an extra effort to work one to one with students
We have more resources than other community colleges, we have an excellent mix of faculty and staff; a community college one; Near the beach!

Creative Problem Solving

Mentioned by 4% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

1. Control of negative complaining- seek positive solutions, like today's program 2. Among and between all campus factions
1. This meeting 2. Willingness to try and change
A community connection unlike UCLA or USC
Campus has many people to point out what could be done differently
Constructive ideas
Creative people seeking solutions
Having people who are trying to make things better and to solve our problems
Imagination
Initiation of committees to discuss and propose possible solutions concerning specific problems
Lots of creativity here
Lots of creativity here
Resolution to the problems between City of Santa Monica and SMC concerning the Bundy Campus
Resourcefulness: what we can do with what we got
Set-aside time and have forums for discussing important topics that concern the college, like today
Starting to listen and address concerns of SMC community
The commitment elected 3 new board members that hopefully will be supportive of potential solutions which will cost money
Willingness to innovate (sometimes)

Comments in the category “Creative Problem Solving” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1. Great SMC image of excellence 2. Excellent faculty/staff 3. Desire to solve our problems

1. Highly educated, motivated teachers (versus researchers at UC or CSU) 2. Employees at all levels dedicated to thinking outside the box and coming up with unique and inventive strategies to help students
1/2 its staff is energetic and willing to work toward change (the other half is obstructionist)
A creative and highly motivated staff with extensive experience and excellent skills
A desire to do what's right and venture outside the ' comfort zone'
Alternate funding for specific needs (i.e.. The AS pays for library Saturday hours). Be open to doing things new ways.
Articulation to four year schools, outreach to high schools, joint committees working to solve problems, community liaisons
As a community college we are closer to the real-life realities of the problems of urban life; therefore we have the perspective and understanding (or the potential to achieve same) to address urban problems creatively.
Creative freedom
Creative, energetic staff whose skills and energies have not been fully developed.
Creative, energetic, talented people at all levels
Creative, intelligent staff, faculty etc.
Dedication, persistence, and creativity and innovation of faculty and staff
Diverse input
Entrepreneurial spirit; love of teaching
Faculty and staff willingness to innovate
Faculty ready to try new (or revive old) techniques.
GREAT PROGRAMS, and a willingness to change and improve; A VERY ENERGETIC STUDENT BODY AND FACULTY/STAFF
Innovations such as online teaching, bring education to deserving students who can't bring themselves to campus because of limited time and resources
Innovative and dedicated faculty
Intelligent creative energy and potential and vision towards positive change
Interdisciplinary dialogue faculty associations, academic state, constructive workshops, DIVERSE STUDENT BODY!
Progressive thinking
SMC is less bureaucratic and more creative than most similar institutions
Willingness to examine and re-examine exactly what we mean by "excellence" (Then make appropriate adjustments)

Diversity

Mentioned by 3% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

A school that promotes diversity
Advocates of an environment where all have a voice in the direction SMC is going
An open international campus that faces to accommodate all who wish to come
Diversity
Diversity
Diversity and openness
Diversity in all of its glorious forms

Comments in the category “Diversity” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1. Quality of instruction 2. Integrity in reputation of SMC 3. Safety of the campus 4. Multicultural student body
A beautiful and diverse student body
A continuous growth in the level of education- the concern to offer the best education to students who come from diverse cultural and environment levels
A diverse employee and student pop. By ethnicity, income, age, and ed. Goals and achievement
Attracts a diverse and extremely talented faculty
Diverse cultural environment
Diverse faculty and student body
Diverse input
Diverse student body
Diverse student body
Diverse student body for better relations between cultures.
Diverse student body, diverse instructional staff
Diverse student body; highly qualified faculty and staff
Diverse student population; student commitment to learning

Diversity and maturity of students makes classrooms very dynamic learning centers- students can and do draw on unfamiliar points of view, while other students moderate juvenile behavior
Diversity, be it students, faculty, advisors, etc.
Encourages diversity
Helping a diverse student population
Interdisciplinary dialogue faculty associations, academic state, constructive workshops, DIVERSE STUDENT BODY!
Interesting and diverse student body
International student program
It's a privilege to work at and attend a college with such a diverse, international student body
Large and diverse employee and student base
Location (beach in Santa Monica) weather...student diversity lends excitement
Multi cultural student body
Our cultural and political diversity is a great strength
People from all walks of life
Quality faculty and diverse student body
SMC has one of the most diverse student population-makes for an enriching learning environment
SMC is a gathering place of passionate, committed, competent, bright, people (admin, faculty, staff, students, community)
Support services for diverse student populations
Tremendous variety of faculty and student interests and talents
Truly diverse and (mostly) energetic student body

Location

Mentioned by 3% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

An excellent location with a multitude of off-campus connections-etc.-UCLA. USC, schools abroad
Great location
Great location
Location
Location
Location
Location "by the seaside"
Location in one of the most exciting places/cities in the world
Location in West LA (location, location,. Location)
Location location location
Location location location
Location of the college in Santa Monica
Location on west side, near the beach
Location, Location, Location
Location---beach---weather
Nice location
Santa Monica College has a good location
We are in an extremely privileged place on earth with great resources, weather, reputation: It attracts great students from all over the world

Comments in the category "Location" but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1. A widely recognized name in the community 2. Central location makes it accessible to many people-can't get better than this
College has a desirable geographic location on the coast adjoining a major city with major universities
Faculty/staff of high caliber; location

Highly qualified instructors; excellent location; Proximity to universities downtown, etc.
It's close to the beach, it has an awesome library
Its urban, cosmopolitan character
Location (beach in Santa Monica) weather...student diversity lends excitement
Location and atmosphere; chance for success
Location; people all over the world wants to attend SMC
Location--a supporting community interested in the college
Passion of some faculty, staff, location in affluent community
Proximity to great educational institutions, UCLA, USC, Loyola, CSUN. Students with a vision of what we could be
SMC is located in a progressive, wealthy part of the city and has gained a positive reputation due to this endowment.
We have more resources than other community colleges, we have an excellent mix of faculty and staff; a community college one; Near the beach!

SMC Policies or Culture

Mentioned by 2% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

A deeply-held belief in community college as a force for good
Community as a whole
Community involvement
Comprehensive presidential search- all interest groups came to the table with the consultant
Consistence attendance at board meetings to make our needs known
Excellent SMC community
Great environment
Great supportive colleagues
Increased respect for the profession of college-level teaching

Comments in the category “SMC Policies or Culture” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

A desire to work for all students' success
Campus has a range of courses; people are willing to work together and support one another
Committed teachers, staff and managers; tradition
Diverse cultural environment
Diverse student body for better relations between cultures.
Encouragement from all parts of campus (faculty, administration, etc.)
Encourages diversity
Encouraging SMC students to participate in Professional Development day. I would like to see other times set aside for professor-student dialogue
Engaging campus activities
Its urban, cosmopolitan character
Loyalty in helping your fellow workers to accomplish your dept. Goals
More communication between students and faculty. And less restrictive rules

Our cultural and political diversity is a great strength
Progressive thinking
SMC is less bureaucratic and more creative than most similar institutions

Quality of Instruction

Mentioned by 2% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

Choices of classes
High academic standards
Many first rate academic depts.

Comments in the category “Quality of Instruction” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

1. Altruism on staff 2. Common goal of excellence in education
1. Fantastic academic reputation 2. Leading transfer institution to UCs
1. Phenomenal instruction 2. Great students from Malibu HS, Santa Monica HS and Venice HS 3. Campus looks good and has a great reputation
1. Quality of instruction 2. Integrity in reputation of SMC 3. Safety of the campus 4. Multicultural student body
A continuous growth in the level of education- the concern to offer the best education to students who come from diverse cultural and environment levels
A generally positive perception of SMC's educational quality among Comm. Colleges and Universities and the community
A large number of caring, concerned professional instructors
Access; quality of course work; decreased class size; low cost
Adherence to course prerequisites
College has a good reputation thanks to the teaching provided here. (alumni talk about learning here, not about buildings or social ties)
Counseling 20 (student success seminars)
Counseling 20 and other related services helping our students learn how to make goals and achieve them
Faculty leadership, commitment to SMC and its reputation/reality of excellent education
Quality of education and counseling
SMC has great institutions and wonderful assortment of classes for students and the people from the community

Strong reputation as a quality institution
--

Strong reputation of academic quality

Well deserved reputation for academic excellence
--

Support of Santa Monica Community

Mentioned by 1% of respondents

Comments only in this category (alphabetically)

Association with Santa Monica Community
Community support
Connections with community to develop programs, internships and jobs for students.
Local community support/ SM residents love SMC
Positive community support
Student success: leads to high level of public acceptance so the electorate supports the colleges initiatives
Support of the surrounding community
Supportive community outside the college that wants us to be the best

Comments in the category “Support of Santa Monica Community” but also in other categories (alphabetically)

Dedicated faculty and community support
History: SM City College has been responsible for reaching and educating several generations of local resident families; This is evident when local bond issues are passed
Local demographics are such that much pressure can be put on the state for increased funding
Location--a supporting community interested in the college
Positive changes in city and college administration
Positive image in the community
SMC has great institutions and wonderful assortment of classes for students and the people from the community
SMC is a gathering place of passionate, committed, competent, bright, people (admin, faculty, staff, students, community)