

Letter from the President: Welcome, Bruins!

By **Dr. Denece Huftalin** - August 16, 2021

Dear SLCC Students,

Welcome to Salt Lake Community College! I hope you had a fantastic summer and are ready for the new semester. We're so glad you've chosen SLCC as part of your educational journey.



Dr. Denece G. Huftalin was named the eighth president of Salt Lake Community College in September 2014. She first joined SLCC in 1992. (Ed Rosenberger)

After more than 18 months of offering limited classes on campus, we are thrilled to be back to a full on-site schedule this fall. We are excited to see many of you back in our classrooms and labs, alongside our exceptional faculty and staff who are committed to your success. All 3,500 of us stand ready to support, assist and cheer you on as you work toward your goals. And just as a reminder, we are committed to providing that support with precautions and campus-wide safety measures in place to maintain a healthy and safe learning environment.

Whether you are learning on-campus or online, I encourage you to meet with one of our excellent academic advisors. They will help you navigate your path in transferring to a four-year institution or starting a program that puts you on the fast track toward rewarding employment. Your advisor is your most important ally in achieving success at SLCC and will regularly reach out to you to keep you focused on your chosen educational path.

In addition to our dedicated advisors, you'll be spending your time with faculty committed to engaging you through the best teaching practices. All of our faculty have first-rate academic credentials, and many have years of direct work experience in the fields they are teaching. This combination of academic knowledge and real-world experience will be

invaluable to you and your learning. And with an average class size of 20 students, you'll have easy, one-on-one access to our incredible teachers who are eager to help you accomplish your dreams.

Whether you're starting new or returning to campus, just remember ... you've got this! And we've got your back, from enrollment to completion! Have a great year, and I hope to see you around campus.

All the best,

Deneece G. Huftalin, PhD
President
Salt Lake Community College

Resources to help first-year students

By **Bailee Jessop** - August 16, 2021



First-year resources are available at all Salt Lake Community College campuses. (Michael Nelson)

Starting college can be a daunting experience, but getting help is as easy as raising a hand.

At Salt Lake Community College, one of several resources available to first-year students is the “Raise Your Hand” feature, which can be found on a student’s [MySuccess](#) profile while logged in. By using this feature, any question students ask will be directed to an academic advisor.

Kade Timmer, an economic and political science student who graduated from SLCC, said asking questions and utilizing resources on campus made the difference during his college career.

“Whether it be a professor, counselor, librarian or information desk associate, they are there to help with any questions,” Timmer said. “They will point you in the right direction, literally, and make sure that you have left a conversation having all the necessary tools and resources available to walk away and complete what you are trying to accomplish.”

Verl Long, assistant director in academic advising, suggested that new students meet with their academic advisor before the semester to go over their degree requirements and create a successful plan for obtaining that degree. Students can find their designated advisor on the [SLCC website](#).

The staff at SLCC want to ensure students a successful college career, providing services for [health and stress management](#) at a low cost, massage, [dental care](#), counseling in all areas, and more.

Timmer said he had an “incredible” number of resources while at SLCC to achieve his academic goals.

“I had amazing access to advisors, professors, student leadership,” Timmer said. “I was also able to utilize other campus resources frequently, such as the library and the gym at the Redwood Campus, which helped not just my education, but also my physical and mental health.”

Long said that the most important thing for new students is to build a network through fellow students, faculty and staff, and friends and family.

“Finding support and encouragement from others is an invaluable way to persist through college,” Long said. “It is important to remember that employees at the college want to see you achieve and accomplish your educational goals so think of us as partners in your educational journey.”

Timmer also said the community at SLCC contributes to student success.

“I would tell all new students to enjoy the experience and the resources available at SLCC during their career, because it is truly unique, and there is no other college or university that I have attended that has met SLCC’s standard.”

Students can access more information about the resources available at the [SLCC website](#).