

Letters of support for Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program Application for
Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program (SB 850)

Professional Organizations:

American Dental Hygienists' Association
California Dental Hygienists' Association
California Dental Hygiene Educators' Association
Peninsula Dental Hygiene Association
Mid-Peninsula Dental Society
Santa Clara Valley Dental Hygienists' Association

Education Organizations:

UCSF Master's Degree Program, Dr. Margaret Walsh
Elena Ortega, RDH, MS, UCSF Master's Degree Program
UCSF Public Health Graduate Program, Howard Pollick, BDS, MPH
Chabot College Dental Hygiene Program
Cabrillo College Dental Hygiene Program
Diablo Valley College Dental Hygiene Program
Santa Rosa Junior College Dental Hygiene Program
California Dental Hygiene Educators' Association

Industry/Corporate Organizations:

Crest/Oral B (Procter & Gamble)
Appletree Dental
Orasoptic

Individuals:

Dr. Jean L. Creasy, DDS, Trustee of the California Dental Association, Member of the
American Dental Association's Council on Dental Practice and Fellow in the American
College of Dentistry
Dr. Don Call, President SCCDS in 2004 , Current chair of the Ethics committee
Dr. William Perry, DDS, PC
Arlene Parker, Membership Council Co-Chair – CDHA
Janet Schlechter, RDH, BS
Dayna Hashimoto, RDH, BS
Kirsten Jarvi, RDH, MS
Raechele Manansala, RDH, RDA
Lyssa Quitoles, RDH
Foothill College Class of 2015
Foothill College Class of 2016



American
Dental
Hygienists'
Association

444 N. Michigan Ave.
Suite 3400
Chicago, IL 60611
P: 312/440-8900
F: 312/467-1806
www.adha.org

November 4, 2014

Chancellor Brice Harris
California Community Colleges

Dear Chancellor Harris,

It is a pleasure to write in support of Foothill-DeAnza District Chancellor Linda Thor's application for the baccalaureate degree pilot program in dental hygiene at Foothill College. The 21st century workplace has ever increasing demands on education and demands a skilled workforce. The American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) accordingly supports all aspects of formal dental hygiene education and has intent to establish the baccalaureate degree as the minimum entry level for dental hygiene practice in the future. How exciting to have Foothill-DeAnza leading that effort in California!

Medicaid's child health component is known as the Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis & Treatment (EPSDT) program. According to the 2013 EPSDT Participation Report (CMS-416) only 40% of California's Medicaid eligible children are receiving any dental services. Thirty-two percent of Medicaid eligible children received a preventive dental service. As the prevention experts, dental hygienists are the providers that can provide these much needed services to so many who are in need. In California, dental hygienists can be directly reimbursed by Medicaid. This, along with a baccalaureate educational foundation, will enable dental hygienists to bolster the workforce and maximize opportunities to address the needs of the public.

Systemic changes are underway in the health delivery system all across this country. Dental hygienists are well positioned to assume even greater roles and responsibilities in the delivery of cost-effective, preventive oral health care and to increase access to care. The baccalaureate foundation will prepare your students to provide patient care and affords them the foundation needed to maximize their employability and contributions to the health care sector.

We are inspired by the pilot project in California and encourage you to embrace the opportunity to broaden the workforce and foster the oral health delivery system in California with the creation of a baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene. Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact ADHA Director of Education & Research Pamela J. Steinbach, RN, MS at 312.440.8936 or pams@adha.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelli Swanson Jaecks, MA, RDH".

Kelli Swanson Jaecks, MA, RDH
President, American Dental Hygienists' Association

Cc: Phyllis Spragge, RDH, MA, Director, Dental Hygiene Foothill College
Karine Strickland, RDHP, BS, CDHA President
Lin Sarfaraz, RDH, District XI Trustee, ADHA
Ann Battrell, MSDH, Executive Director, ADHA
Pamela J. Steinbach, RN, MS, Education Director, ADHA



California Dental Hygienists' Association
The Voice of Dental Hygiene

November 11, 2014

Manuel Bacá, President, Board of Governors
c/o Clarissa Rangel, Board Liaison
California Community Colleges
1102 Q Street, Suite 4554
Sacramento CA 95814-6511
crangel@cccco.edu

Dr. Brice W. Harris, Chancellor
c/o Karen Gilmer, Assistant to the Chancellor
California Community Colleges
1102 Q Street, Suite 4554
Sacramento CA 95814-6511
kgilmer@cccco.edu

To Whom This May Concern,

California Dental Hygienists' Association (CDHA) is writing to express our strong support for the selection of Dental Hygiene as one or more of the pilot programs implemented under SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California.

Given the increasingly complex health histories of those who seek dental hygiene care across their life span, the growing evidence connecting oral health and systemic health, and the public's increasing need as well as demand for the prevention of oral disease and promotion of health, it is essential that dental hygiene students further their knowledge of case-based science as it applies to oral health care. Permitting community colleges to confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science will better prepare students for patient care in California as well as provide them with the necessary foundation to enter a variety of employment settings that require the baccalaureate educated graduate.

Dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs in California are currently offered at private colleges and universities, yet all dental hygiene programs in California must meet the same national accreditation standards, regardless of whether the specific institution confers a certificate, an associate degree or a baccalaureate degree upon graduation. Most California community college dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units, yet only receive the Associate of Science degree. Regardless of where students graduate, they must all

pass the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs.

In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist has multiple opportunities and may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. These positions, including the advanced clinical practice of California's RDH in Alternative Practice, most often requires a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent. California's public educational institutions have a responsibility to prepare their dental hygiene graduates for all areas of gainful employment.

With the evolving models of healthcare occurring across the nation, dental hygienists in California are positioned to assume even greater roles and responsibilities in the delivery of cost-effective, preventive oral health care and to increase access to care. The California Dental Association, in their recent Access to Care Report, reported that 30% of Californians are not being served or are underserved by our current dental workforce. Given the increasingly complex and varying needs of the public, baccalaureate degree dental hygiene programs in California public education institutions are vitally important to the future of oral health.

CDHA is confident that any of the accredited community colleges that offer dental hygiene programs and submit an application for consideration in the pilot project are well placed to develop a successful baccalaureate degree program.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Karine Strickland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karine" and last name "Strickland" clearly distinguishable.

Karine Strickland, RDHAP, BS

President, California Dental Hygienists' Association



October 24, 14

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Executive Board of the California Dental Hygiene Educator's Association we are sending this letter of support for Foothill College's participation in SB 850. This is an exemplary dental hygiene program to engage in this pilot program.

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is revered as one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in the state with a long history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education. They have an up to date clinical facility to provide care to its community members. There is a great need for having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science given the increasing need of dental hygiene care across the Nation and the increasing need and demand for the prevention of oral disease and the promotion of health by the public. This would be an exceptional environment to pilot test an applied baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene in California.

The only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. These students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Currently the majority of these positions require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree outside of clinical dental hygiene, and some require a master's degree. It is so important for high caliber students to have an opportunity to earn a baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene in California community colleges, such as Foothill College. With the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will serve an important role in these new, emerging models along with the expansive need supporting the Affordable Care Act. We are confident that Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is well equipped to develop a baccalaureate degree program. Foothill College Dental Hygiene program has great leadership, has a supportive administration and is an excellent choice to be involved in the SB 850 pilot program to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

Regards,

Gay Teel, RDH, MA
Executive Director



November 3, 2014

Brice Harris
Chancellor of the Community Colleges
1102 Q Street
Sacramento CA 95814-6511
mdrummond@cccco.edu

Dear Mr. Drummond,

The Peninsula Dental Hygienists' Association (PDHA) is writing to express our strong support for the selection of Foothill College Dental Hygiene as one of the pilot programs implemented under SB 850. This bill would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California. The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is one of the premier dental hygiene programs in the state, with a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care.

Given the increasingly complex health histories of those who seek dental hygiene care, the public's need and demand for the prevention of oral disease and promotion of health and the growing evidence connecting oral health and systemic health, there is a great need for dental hygiene students to further their knowledge in case-based science as it applies to oral health care. Having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science will better prepare dental hygiene students for exceptional patient care. It will also provide them with the necessary foundation to enter a variety of employment settings that require the baccalaureate educated graduate.

Dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs in California are only being offered at private colleges and universities, yet all dental hygiene programs in California must meet the same national accreditation standards. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units. These students must pass the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs.

In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist has multiple opportunities and may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Most of these positions, including the advanced clinical practice of California's RDH in Alternative Practice, require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent. California's public educational institutions



have a responsibility to prepare their dental hygiene graduates for the highest level of practice as well as for all arenas for gainful employment.

With the evolving models of healthcare occurring across the nation, dental hygienists in California are positioned to assume even greater roles and responsibilities in the delivery of cost-effective, preventive oral health care and to increase access to care. The California Dental Association, in their recent Access to Care Report, reported that 30% of Californians are not being served or are underserved by our current dental workforce. Given the increasingly complex and varying needs of the public, baccalaureate degree dental hygiene programs in California public education institutions are vitally important to the future of oral health care.

PDHA is confident that Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is well placed to develop a successful baccalaureate degree program and is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana Trang". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Diana Trang, RDH, RDA
President, Peninsula Dental Hygienists' Association

Contact:
DianaTrangRDH@gmail.com
2045 Spyglass Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066



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November 6, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the selection of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California.

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in the state with a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care. There is a great need for having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science given the increasingly complex health histories of recipients of dental hygiene care across the life span, the connection between oral health on general health, and the increasing need and demand for the prevention of oral disease and the promotion of health by the public. I cannot think of a better environment to pilot test an applied baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene than within the Dental Hygiene Department at Foothill College.

Please consider in your deliberations that the only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. These students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Most of these positions outside of clinical dental hygiene would require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree for entry to the field. It is vitally important that there is baccalaureate degree dental hygiene in California public education institutions, such as Foothill College. With the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will be an important player in these new, emerging models. There is a need for such a program given the increasingly complex and varying needs of the public in the private and public practice of dental hygiene.

I am confident that Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is well placed to develop a baccalaureate degree program. The program is well respected throughout California. Therefore, Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

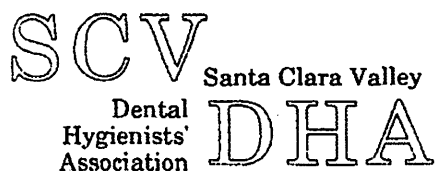
Thank you and best regards,
Mid-Peninsula Dental Society Board of Directors
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Vice-President-Ken Schweifler, DDS
Secretary/Treasurer-Reza Riahi, DDS
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Lee Panec
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Joyce Cheng Christopher Joy
Editors



Susan Treleaven, RDH, BS, President, SCVDHA
10340 Moretti Dr.
Cupertino, CA 95014

November 4, 2014

Dr. Brice W. Harris, Chancellor
California Community Colleges
c/o Clarissa Rangel, Board Liaison

Dear Chancellor Harris:

I am writing to express my strong support for the selection of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California.

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in the state with a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care. There is a great need for having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science given the increasingly complex health histories of recipients of dental hygiene care across the life span, the connection between oral health on general health, and the increasing need and demand for the prevention of oral disease and the promotion of health by the public. As a graduate of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program, I cannot think of a better environment to pilot test an applied baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene than within the Dental Hygiene Department at Foothill College.

Please consider in your deliberations that the only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. These students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Most of these positions outside of clinical dental hygiene would require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree for entry to the field. It is vitally important that there is baccalaureate degree

dental hygiene in California public education institutions, such as Foothill College. With the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will be an important player in these new, emerging models. There is a need for such a program given the increasingly complex and varying needs of the public in the private and public practice of dental hygiene.

Being a long time board member of Santa Clara Valley Dental Hygienist's Association, and having seen the excellent accomplishments of Foothill College DH students and graduates, I am confident that this college is well placed to develop a baccalaureate degree program. The program is well respected throughout California. Therefore, Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

Thank you and best regards,
Susan Treleaven, RDH, BS

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Susan Treleaven', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

President, SCVDHA

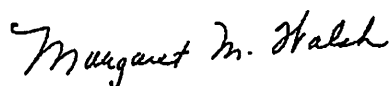
our teacher preparation and leadership courses in our graduate-level Master of Science (MS) Dental Hygiene program. Currently, we are in the process of seeking UCSF faculty appointments for several Foothill College dental hygiene faculty to reflect the teaching contribution they make to our dental hygiene graduate education program.

In addition, as evidence of the high quality of dental hygiene education offered at Foothill College, we have two Foothill College dental hygiene alumni currently enrolled in our dental hygiene MS degree program and have had three others who have successfully completed our dental hygiene MS degree program. Indeed, we have found the Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program has prepared their students well for graduate level education and has inspired many of them to pursue it.

Please consider in your deliberations that the only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. These students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Most of these positions outside of clinical dental hygiene would require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree for entry to the field. It is vitally important that there is baccalaureate degree dental hygiene in California public education institutions, such as Foothill College. With the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will be an important player in these new, emerging models.

I am confident that Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is well placed to develop a baccalaureate degree program. The program is well respected throughout California. Therefore, Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting. Our MS degree program faculty joins me in support of a bachelor degree program at Foothill College.

Thank you and best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret M. Walsh".

Margaret M. Walsh, MS, MA, EdD, RDH
Professor
Department of Preventive and Restorative Dental Sciences
(415) 476-9883



University of California
San Francisco

Department of Preventive and Restorative Dental Sciences

Elena Ortega, M.S.
Division of Oral Epidemiology
and Dental Public Health
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Fax: 415/502-8447
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Foothill College
12345 El Monte Road
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

Dear Chancellor Linda Thor,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to you in support of the Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program and its quest to be selected as one of the pilot programs for SB 850. The possibility for the granting of a baccalaureate degree at the community college level is an exciting step for California education and, most importantly, for the people of California.

I am currently a faculty member of the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Program at UCSF and also a faculty member at two community college dental hygiene programs in the East Bay. I have a long acquaintance and a high regard for the dental hygiene program and dental hygiene faculty at Foothill College. The Foothill graduates who have studied for their master of science in dental hygiene degree at UCSF have consistently demonstrated high academic preparation for the master's level education. Their academic engagement during the program is consistently outstanding. As a faculty, we at UCSF regularly invite Foothill College dental hygiene faculty to present their areas of expertise to our graduate learners in our education seminars as Foothill faculty have proven to be leaders and trail blazers in educational methodologies and practices.

California has a well documented need for improved access to quality health care for all our citizens, and I see the Foothill College baccalaureate prepared dental hygienist as part of the solution to providing quality oral health care to our diverse population. California citizens are living longer with complicated medical issues, and with the increasing evidence of oral health being intimately tied to general health, the type and quality of dental hygiene education is crucial. Presently, California students have no public baccalaureate education in dental hygiene available to them, and this opportunity for such a degree from Foothill College would fill this abyss with an amazing opportunity to positively change not only the lives of our students, but also the health of Californians.

I wish you success in this extremely important endeavor.
Sincerely,

Elena Ortega, RDH, MS

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of enabling a Baccalaureate degree in Dental Hygiene at Foothill College's Dental Hygiene Program. As the Foothill program has a long and distinguished history of providing dental hygiene education, it would be appropriate for a Bachelor's degree in Dental Hygiene to be located within the Dental Hygiene Department. There is a need for such a program given the increasingly complex and varying needs of the public in the private and public practice of dental hygiene. Additionally, graduates would be better qualified to apply for RDHAP and other advanced dental hygiene opportunities, including the Master in Dental Hygiene program at UCSF.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards

Howard

Howard Pollick, BDS, MPH
Health Sciences Clinical Professor
Director, Dental Public Health Residency Program
Dept. of Preventive & Restorative Dental Sciences
School of Dentistry
UCSF
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<http://dentistry.ucsf.edu/admissions/postgraduate-programs/dental-public-health>
GET HEALTHY – STAY HEALTHY



October 23, 2014

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my full support of the Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program in developing a Bachelor's Degree under the pilot program. We, Chabot College Dental Hygiene Program, are interested in collaborating on curriculum and a mechanism for a Bachelor's Completion Program that would benefit our dental hygiene students.

Sincerely,

Nancy Cheung, RDA, RDH, MPA/HSA
Program Director
Chabot College, Dental Hygiene Program
(510) 723-6951

Dental Hygiene Program

25555 Hesperian Boulevard · Hayward · CA · 94545 · Tel: 510.723.6900 · Fax: 510.723.7089 · www.chabotcollege.edu/DHYG



Cabrillo College

Dental Hygiene Department, 6500 Soquel Drive, Aptos, CA 95003

Memo

October 18, 2014

To Whom It May Concern
From Joanne M Noto, RDH, BSDH, MEd
First Year Clinic Coordinator
6500 Soquel Drive
Aptos, CA 95006
jonoto@cabrillo.edu
831-479-6480
Re: Bachelor's Completion Program

It is with great interest that I read about Governor Brown signing SB 850 that authorizes a pilot program enabling students to pursue fields of study not offered by Cal State University or the University of California.

As an instructor in the community college system for thirty-five (35) years, I applaud this legislation. The opportunity to complete a baccalaureate degree is of great benefit to our students and the citizens of California.

It is my understanding that Foothill College is applying to be one of the community college districts to develop a bachelor's degree in dental hygiene. I support the Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program in their application for this pilot program.

In addition I am interested in collaborating with Foothill College on the curriculum and a mechanism for a bachelor's degree completion program in this discipline.

Please give serious consideration to the application of Foothill College to develop this pilot program.

October 28, 2014

Chancellor Brice Harris
California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
1102 Q Street, Suite 4554
Sacramento, CA 95811

Re: Letter of Support for Bachelor of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene at Foothill College

Dear Chancellor Harris:

It is my understanding that Foothill College is planning to offer a Bachelor of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene upon approval from the State of California. The purpose of this degree is provide students graduating from two year dental hygiene programs the opportunity to continue their education at the bachelor's level.

Access to higher education has become a focal point in the State of California. Students need to be provided with as many opportunities as possible to complete their degrees and we feel that this degree offering by Foothill College will provide students with yet another opportunity towards that goal. Furthermore, we agree that the Foothill Program will complement our joint efforts and will provide needed and affordable options for graduating dental hygienists in our region.

We at Diablo Valley College commend you in your efforts to work toward granting a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene to Foothill College and we hope to benefit in the future from this pilot.

Sincerely,

Tish Young, Ph.D.
Dean of Biological & Health Sciences and
Physical Sciences & Engineering Division



October 22, 2014

Dear Phyllis,

Santa Rosa Junior College Dental Hygiene program enthusiastically supports the Foothill College Dental Hygiene program in the development of a bachelor's degree in dental hygiene under the Senate Bill 850 pilot program allowing community colleges to offer four-year degrees. Offering bachelor degree coursework at the community college would complement existing dental hygiene programs and courses by providing education content that is necessary for many dental hygiene roles that are not generally included in Associate degree curriculum. Of primary importance is the inclusion of community and public health education. An important consideration when discussing the future of dental hygiene education is the trend towards evolving dental roles, particularly in education, care coordination and community health.

Health care is a rapidly growing industry that needs skilled people. According to a recent Forbes Magazine article, over a quarter of the jobs on the top-20 list are health-related, including dental hygienists (No. 15). In these jobs, employees must work in teams and will succeed if they are service oriented, empathetic and perceptive. The Health Care Reform Act is expected to bring additional changes to the profession as we see an increased demand for mid-level healthcare professionals. Healthcare Practitioners are among the 50 fastest-growing occupations; these occupations are expected to grow at a rate of 25.4% as compared to 16.3% projected for all occupations in the state. Labor Market projections: Health care is the ultimate "population serving" industry with trained professionals expected to achieve the goals of health care reform and meet the diverse state population. Dental health care professionals are in increasing demand in Sonoma County.

Specifically in the profession of dental hygiene; the EDD projects that there will be growth of 7500 jobs from 2010-2020 with a median annual wage of \$96,317. The number of new jobs exceeds the number of replacement jobs. Dental hygiene is one of the healthcare occupations where the expected demand may experience long-term shortages. Data from the California's Strategic Workforce Development Plan 2013-2017. Many of these positions require a degree beyond the traditional Associates degree currently awarded to dental hygiene graduates in the state of California. The number and location of four-year universities in California offering Bachelor's degrees has decreased and the only locations are in Southern California.

The addition of Bachelor's degree program at Foothill College has the potential to provide an effective and efficient track for increasing educational opportunities for dental hygiene students by providing cost effective access points for their advanced education.

We are excited to collaborate with you on curriculum and curriculum alignment with the Santa Rosa Junior College Dental Hygiene program to bring this valuable opportunity to dental hygiene students. We would welcome any efforts utilizing all available strategies to facilitate streamlined educational opportunities for students.

Kind Regards

Carol

Carol Hatrick CDA RDA RDH MS
Director, Dental Programs
Santa Rosa Junior College
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chatrick@santarosa.edu
707 527-4583



November 5 2014

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is in support of the selection of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, allowing for an applied baccalaureate degree program at the community college level in the state of California.

The dental hygiene program at Foothill College is one of the most highly regarded programs in California, with awarding-winning graduates and dedicated faculty. Given the increasingly complex medical health histories of recipients of dental hygiene services across the life span, the connection between oral health and systemic health, and the increasing need and demand for oral disease prevention, the public wants and deserves additional services that dental hygienists with a Bachelor's degree can deliver. Most dental hygienists work in clinical practice, but for those interested in positions of research, education, administration, and at the corporate level such as with Procter & Gamble, at minimum a baccalaureate degree is the entry educational level.

Please consider in your deliberations that the only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs in California are at private colleges and universities. Dental hygiene students at Foothill College, a community college, graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive an Associate of Science degree. Students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board as students who've graduated with baccalaureate degrees. There is a need in California for an applied baccalaureate degree program that is housed in a community college setting.

I am confident that Foothill College is an excellent choice to place a baccalaureate degree program, granting its graduates a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science.

Sincerely,

Mary M. Lontchar

Mary M. Lontchar, RDH, MA
Scientific Relations Manager
Professional Oral Health, Procter & Gamble
Lontchar.mm@pg.com



APPLE TREE DENTAL

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Minneapolis, Minnesota 55433
www.appletreedental.org

November 4, 2014

California Community Colleges
Chancellor Dr. Brice Harris
1102 Q Street, Suite 4554
Sacramento, CA 95811-6549

Dear Chancellor Dr. Brice Harris,

I wish to express strong support for the selection of Foothill College to pilot a dental hygiene baccalaureate degree program as described in Senate Bill No. 850. Expanding educational opportunities for students is essential to meeting the growing demand for dental hygienists in the oral health care industry.

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in California. It has a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care, and is poised to make the transition to a baccalaureate degree program. Furthermore, today, private colleges and universities are the only institutions offering dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs in California. Selecting a public institution for this pilot will provide a much-needed alternative for students seeking a dental hygiene baccalaureate degree.

Dental hygienists often expand their professional careers beyond traditional clinical practice into other fields, such as research, education, public health, and administration. The majority of these opportunities require, at a minimum, a dental hygiene baccalaureate degree. As health care models and workforce needs evolve, and evidence of oral and systemic health relationships become clearer, dental hygienists will be an increasingly important member of interdisciplinary health care teams. Furthermore, given the complex and varying dental needs in our communities, it is vitally important to have a dental hygiene baccalaureate degree program among California's public institutions, such as Foothill College.

I am confident that the Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an ideal choice to pilot a baccalaureate degree program. In working closely with Dr. Dick Gregory and the Foothill College during the past three years, I know that the existing program is well respected throughout California. Dr. Gregory has personally employed Foothill College dental hygiene graduates during his years in private general dental practice. Additionally, as Dental Clinics Director at the Samaritan House, a nonprofit safety net clinic in San Mateo County, Dr. Gregory has supervised many Foothill College externs and been impressed with their skill level.

In early 2014, Apple Tree Dental, a nonprofit community clinic, is going to launch a clinic in California, providing access to dental services for all members of the community regardless of socioeconomic status, cognitive status, or mobility. I fully expect to employ Foothill College dental hygiene graduates and believe the Foothill College Dental Hygiene program should be your choice for a pilot program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Helgeson, DDS
Chief Executive Officer

October 26, 2014

Phyllis Spragge
Foothill College, Department of Dental Hygiene
12345 El Monte Rd
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

Dear Phyllis,

I am writing a letter in favor of Foothill College offering a Bachelor of Science degree to its dental hygiene students. The dental hygiene department at Foothill College is well recognized in the dental community as one of the best programs in the nation. Offering a Bachelor degree option will expand the options of graduates considering other avenues within the dental profession after the conclusion of their clinical career.

As you know, I am a senior district sales manager at Orasoptic. We are a dental manufacturing company owned by Sybron Dental Specialties. Ten percent of our field representatives in the United States previously gained valuable experience within the field as clinical hygienists. To be considered for employment as a field representative at Orasoptic, and most dental companies, a Bachelor degree is required. Having this requisite degree, as well as previous clinical dental experience, Foothill College graduates could potentially gain an advantage as they pursue sought after careers in dental sales.

Foothill College has an outstanding dental hygiene school and I am consistently impressed by the quality of its faculty and students. Adding this program will make an exceptional program even better and expand the opportunities of its graduates as they apply their skills in the dental field. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeff Chastain
Senior District Sales Manager
Orasoptic



Jean L. Creasey, D.D.S.
C. Craig Creasey, D.D.S.
General Dentistry

November 23, 2014

Dr. Brice Harris,
California Community College Chancellor
From: Jean L. Creasey, RDH, DDS

Re: Consideration of the Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as a participant in the SB850 pilot program.

Dear Dr. Harris,

I am writing in support of the Foothill-DeAnza Community College District Dental Hygiene Program's application to participate in the SB 850 pilot baccalaureate degree program.

As a Trustee of the California Dental Association, member of the American Dental Association's Council on Dental Practice and Fellow in the American College of Dentistry I can assure you that the Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program enjoys an excellent reputation for its academic and clinical programs. I believe it would make an ideal candidate for inclusion in the SB 850 program.

Having graduated from the Foothill Dental Hygiene Program early in my career, I am well aware of the considerable academic preparation that competitive candidates for admission must complete prior to their acceptance. Graduates of the dental hygiene program earn far more units than their ultimate associate degrees reflect. Additionally, they take the same National and State Board exams as their baccalaureate degree counterparts, have the same licensed duties but enjoy fewer opportunities for advancement. I personally experienced greater barriers to pursuing a D.D.S. because of my associate degree status. Unfortunately, there are currently no baccalaureate dental hygiene programs within the CSUS or UC system and those wishing to pursue baccalaureate status must pay the high tuition costs associated with private institutions.

As a beneficiary of community college education, I am a dedicated supporter of the California Community College system as a whole and have served on the Sierra Community College District Foundation's Board of Directors. I applaud your steps in pursuing the ability of Community Colleges to grant baccalaureate degrees.

Sincerely,


Jean L. Creasey DDS

**Donald R. Call, D.D.S., Inc
990 West Fremont Avenue, Suite E
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
408-736-6588**

Dear Dr. Brice Harris,

I've been a dentist in Sunnyvale since 1967. This is the 1st time I've ever felt strongly enough about an issue to write to a school Chancellor. The Foothill dental hygiene program is one of the best in the nation. Because of their reputation as well as its location literally hundreds of students apply for only a few positions. The faculty have the luxury of choosing students that have already completed (and proven their compliance) in two years of "prerequisites". Traditionally a Foothill dental hygiene graduate has had the equivalent of a Bachelors Degree so I'm gratified and encouraged that this degree may finally be awarded to these fine students.

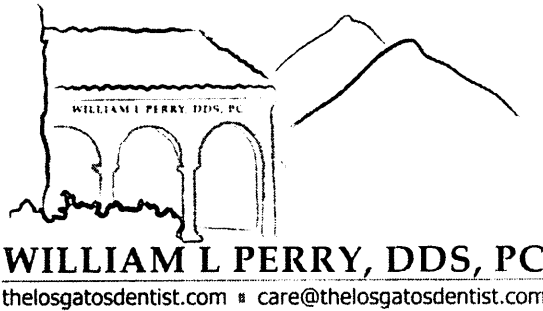
They are surely some of the top dental hygienists in the nation whom I hire whenever I can. I employ three full time hygienists and feel fortunate that at all three graduated from The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program, and one has worked for me for 40 years!

When I first set up my practice here in 1967, it wasn't even Silicon Valley. Now of course we lead the world in so many ways. It seems high time that our truly world class community college can award an appropriate degree to these highly educated hygiene students.

Dr. Don Call

President SCCDS in 2004

Current chair of the Ethics committee



November 10, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program being selected as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California. According to the American Association of Community Colleges, nineteen community colleges currently confer Bachelor of Science degrees in Nursing, Applied Science and in 37 health-related programs (such as dental hygiene) in six states. As a dentist, Board Member of Santa Clara Dental Society, delegate to the California Dental Association and Fellow of the American College of Dentists, I am aware that dental hygiene graduates of an associate degree program would not be eligible for certain jobs in the dental field, such as sales, marketing, education and research. A baccalaureate degree would also benefit dental hygiene graduates in the clinical track by being well prepared to work with diverse populations and have a solid foundation in current research and evidence based practice in dentistry. Further, access issues in California may soon be addressed in such a way that a Baccalaureate degree is essential. Graduating with a bachelor's degree would greatly increase the job opportunities for Foothill College Dental Hygiene graduates.

There are no dental hygiene programs in California at the CSU or UC campuses. The only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs in California are at private colleges and universities. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. These students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. I have always found faculty, staff and students to be very professional and have employed several recent graduates in my office. The program is well respected throughout California as are their graduates. I am confident that the Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is well placed to develop a bachelor's degree program.

Thank you.

William L. Perry, DDS, F.A.C.D

November 9, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the selection of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California.

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in the state with a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care. There is a great need for having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science given the increasingly complex health histories of recipients of dental hygiene care across the life span, the connection between oral health on general health, and the increasing need and demand for the prevention of oral disease and the promotion of health by the public. I cannot think of a better environment to pilot test an applied baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene than within the Dental Hygiene Department at Foothill College.

The only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. These students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. Please consider this fact in your deliberations.

In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Most of these positions outside of clinical dental hygiene would require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree for entry to the field. It is vitally important that there is baccalaureate degree dental hygiene in California public education institutions, such as Foothill College. Many RDH who have graduated from our community colleges with an Associate degree have gone on to complete degree completion programs- usually through private colleges at considerable cost. This would not be necessary if a Bachelors degree was available in the community college system.

With the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will be an important player in these new, emerging models. There is a need for such a program given the increasingly complex and varying needs of the public in the private and public practice of dental hygiene.

I am confident that Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is well placed to develop a baccalaureate degree program. The program is well respected throughout California. Therefore, Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

Sincerely,

Arlene Parker

Membership Council Co-Chair - California Dental Hygienists' Association

Employment Referrals, Professional Development and Newsletter Editor - Long Beach Dental Hygienists' Association.

November 8, 2014

Dear Dr. Harris,

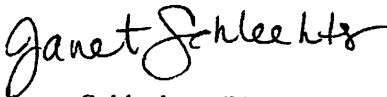
I am writing to express my strong support for the selection of the Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California.

As a graduate of the Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program I know that it is one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in the state with a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care. There is a great need for having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene for three primary reasons: 1) given the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will be an important player in these new, emerging models; 2) it is an affordable pathway for those students who desire a baccalaureate degree but have no other local educational options; and 3) the high interest of future dental hygiene students. I cannot think of a better environment to pilot test an applied baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene than within the Dental Hygiene Department at Foothill College.

Please consider in your deliberations that the only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. As a former Foothill College dental hygiene student, I graduated with over 150 quarter units and earned an Associate of Science degree. I took the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. Upon graduation, I did go on to obtain my Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene degree. However, had the opportunity been available, I would have preferred working toward a baccalaureate degree in lieu of an associate degree given the units earned in such a rigorous program.

I am confident that Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is well placed to develop a baccalaureate degree program. The program is well respected throughout California as are their faculty and graduates. Therefore, Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

Thank you and best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Schlechter".

Janet Schlechter, RDA, RDH, BSDH

Dayna M. Hashimoto, RDH BS
UCSF MS in Dental Hygiene Graduate Learner
431 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, Ca 95050

November 4, 2014

Dr. Brice W. Harris, Chancellor
California Community Colleges
c/o Clarissa Rangel, Board Liaison

Dear Chancellor Harris:

I am writing to express my strong support for the selection of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California.

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in the state with a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care. There is a great need for having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science given the increasingly complex health histories of recipients of dental hygiene care across the life span, the connection between oral health on general health, and the increasing need and demand for the prevention of oral disease and the promotion of health by the public. As a graduate of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program, I cannot think of a better environment to pilot test an applied baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene than within the Dental Hygiene Department at Foothill College.

Please consider in your deliberations that the only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. These students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Most of these positions outside of clinical dental hygiene would require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree for entry to the field. It is vitally important that there is baccalaureate degree dental hygiene in California public education institutions, such as Foothill College. With the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will be an important player in these new, emerging models. There is a need for such a program given the increasingly complex and varying needs of the public in the private and public practice of dental hygiene.

Being a recent graduate of the Dental Hygiene program at Foothill College, I am confident that this college is well placed to develop a baccalaureate degree program. I am currently in the Master's degree in Dental Hygiene at UCSF. Foothill College prepared me very well for my graduate level education. The program is well respected throughout California. Therefore, Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

Thank you and best regards,
Dayna M. Hashimoto, RDH BS

11.5.2012

Dear Chancellor Harris:

I am writing to express my strong support for the selection of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California.

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in the state with a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care. There is a great need for having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science given the increasingly complex health histories of recipients of dental hygiene care across the life span, the connection between oral health on general health, and the increasing need and demand for the prevention of oral disease and the promotion of health by the public. I cannot think of a better environment to pilot test an applied baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene than within the Dental Hygiene Department at Foothill College.

Please consider in your deliberations that the only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. These students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Most of these positions outside of clinical dental hygiene would require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree for entry to the field. It is vitally important that there is baccalaureate degree dental hygiene in California public education institutions, such as Foothill College. With the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will be an important player in these new, emerging models. There is a need for such a program given the increasingly complex and varying needs of the public in the private and public practice of dental hygiene.

I am confident that Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is well placed to develop a baccalaureate degree program. The program is well respected throughout California. Therefore, Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

Thank you and best regards,

Kirsten Jarvi, RDH, MS
Kjarvi111@gmail.com

Raechelle Manansala, RDH, RDA
1477 Grove Avenue, #305
Burlingame, CA 94010

November 4, 2014

Dr. Brice W. Harris, Chancellor
California Community Colleges
c/o Clarissa Rangel, Board Liaison

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the selection of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California.

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in the state with a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care. There is a great need for having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science given the increasingly complex health histories of recipients of dental hygiene care across the life span, the connection between oral health on general health, and the increasing need and demand for the prevention of oral disease and the promotion of health by the public. I cannot think of a better environment to pilot test an applied baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene than within the Dental Hygiene Department at Foothill College.

Please consider in your deliberations that the only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. These students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Most of these positions outside of clinical dental hygiene would require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree for entry to the field. It is vitally important that there is baccalaureate degree dental hygiene in California public education institutions, such as Foothill College. With the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will be an important player in these new, emerging models. There is a need for such a program given the increasingly complex and varying needs of the public in the private and public practice of dental hygiene.

Being a recent graduate of the Dental Hygiene program at Foothill College, I am confident that this college is well placed to develop a baccalaureate degree program. The program is well respected throughout California. Therefore, Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

Thank you and best regards,
Raechelle Manansala, RDH, RDA

Lyssa Quitoles, RDH
4725 Norwich Way
San Jose, CA 95130

November 6, 2014

Dr. Brice W. Harris, Chancellor
California Community Colleges
c/o Clarissa Rangel, Board Liaison

Dear Chancellor Harris:

I am writing to express my strong support for the selection of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California.

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in the state with a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care. There is a great need for having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science given the increasingly complex health histories of recipients of dental hygiene care across the life span, the connection between oral health on general health, and the increasing need and demand for the prevention of oral disease and the promotion of health by the public. As a graduate of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program in 2012, I cannot think of a better environment to pilot test an applied baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene than within the Dental Hygiene Department at Foothill College. My ultimate goal is to complete a baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene. This opportunity would allow me to expand in my career as dental hygienist, beyond the clinical work environment.

Please consider in your deliberations that the only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. Foothill College dental hygiene students graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. These students take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Most of these positions outside of clinical dental hygiene would require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree for entry to the field. It is vitally important that there is baccalaureate degree dental hygiene in California public education institutions, such as Foothill College. With the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will be an important player in these new, emerging models. There is a need for such a program given the increasingly

complex and varying needs of the public in the private and public practice of dental hygiene.

Being a recent graduate of the Dental Hygiene program at Foothill College, I am confident that this college is well placed to develop a baccalaureate degree program. The program is well respected throughout California. Therefore, Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

Thank you and best regards,

Lyssa Quitoles, RDH

Dear Chancellor Dr. Brice Harris,

The dental hygiene class of 2015 firmly supports the pilot Baccalaureate program for students enrolled in the Dental Hygiene Program at Foothill College.

As we graduate, we become the experts in our field. We will have the most current, cutting edge application of dental hygiene practices. Although, we work independently, we build collaborative relationships with dentists, medical physicians and colleagues. We have proven our competence to administer anesthesia, perform soft tissue curettage, expose and interpret dental radiographs, apply local antibiotics, administer nitrous oxide, create patient treatment plans and determine definitive dental hygiene diagnoses.

There is a direct link between oral health and our overall health. As registered dental hygienists, we are ethically obligated to educate our patients about their oral health. In addition, it is our responsibility to inform our patients about systemic diseases, tobacco cessation and nutritional counseling. With a Bachelor's degree in science, we could perform the scientific research needed to enhance public health. We are required to expand our professional competencies and knowledge with continuous education, thus allowing us to care for our patients with the most current and highest standards of care.

For competitive applicants to be considered for acceptance into this curriculum intense program, they have to first excel in two years of pre-requisite courses. Many of these courses included upper level science courses, such as, microbiology, biochemistry, anatomy and physiology. The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program curriculum is set with the highest standards throughout. The students have an elevated grading scale where 93% earns an A. Some of the courses taken are Oral Pathology, Oral Biology, Radiography, Anesthesiology, Periodontics, Oral Anatomy, Public Health, many clinical hours, community service hours and professional hours. The students complete 128.5 units towards the Dental Hygiene major not including the pre-requisite work. This program was started in 1964 and since then, has had 100% of the students passing the Dental Hygiene National Board Examination each year consecutively. Students given the chance to earn a Bachelor's degree from completing this program will be well prepared to become great advocates for Oral Health and will enhance the public's perception of this important healthcare field.

Foothill College Dental Hygiene students are educated, committed and have proven their competence in the field. These skills reflect those obtained with a Bachelor's degree, rather than an Associate's degree. Therefore, we urge you to support State Bill 850, the pilot Baccalaureate degree program at the Foothill Community College Dental Hygiene Program.

Respectfully,

The Dental Hygiene Class of 2015

Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program, Class of 2016
12345 El Monte Road
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

November 12, 2014

Dr. Brice W. Harris, Chancellor
California Community Colleges
c/o Clarissa Rangel, Board Liaison

Dear Chancellor Harris:

We are writing to express our strong support for the selection of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program as one of the pilot programs to implement SB 850, which would allow for applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand at the community college level in California.

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is one of the premier basic preparation dental hygiene programs in the state with a long and distinguished history of providing outstanding dental hygiene education and care. There is a great need for having community colleges confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene, Applied Science given the increasingly complex health histories of recipients of dental hygiene care across the life span, the connection between oral health on general health, and the increasing need and demand for the prevention of oral disease and the promotion of health by the public. As current students of Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program, we cannot think of a better environment to pilot test an applied baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene than within the Dental Hygiene Department at Foothill College.

Please consider in your deliberations that the only dental hygiene baccalaureate degree programs available in California are at private colleges and universities. We will graduate with over 150 quarter units to receive the Associate of Science degree. We will also take the same National Dental Hygiene Board examination and the same clinical licensing board exams as students from baccalaureate degree programs. In terms of workforce and future job opportunities, the dental hygienist may work in the fields of research, education, the corporate oral health industry, public health, administration, as well as in clinical practice. Most of these positions outside of clinical dental hygiene would require a minimum of a baccalaureate degree for entry to the field. It is vitally important that there is baccalaureate degree dental hygiene in California public education institutions, such as Foothill College. With the evolving models of healthcare, mid-level healthcare providers and the evidence of oral and systemic health relationships, the dental hygienist will be an important player in these new, emerging models. There is a need for such a program given the increasingly complex and varying needs of the public in the private and public practice of dental hygiene.

As current students of the Dental Hygiene program at Foothill College, we are confident that this college is well placed to develop a baccalaureate degree program. The program is well respected throughout California. Therefore, Foothill College Dental Hygiene program is an excellent choice to develop a bachelor's degree program in a community college setting.

Thank you and best regards,
Foothill College Dental Hygiene, Class of 2016

Vincent Vuong
W. Blum

Am:

R. O.

A. Sack

Amey Zia

Nguyen Hany

Ellyse G.

Michelle Antonio

Luxan Zurn

Kate Ekuni

Robert

Dawn Clap

Julia Rann

Josypon Hahn

Natalie

Rosaleen

Nandip Chohan

Steph J.

W. F. F.

Am

Am

Am

Thanhvan Cha