



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION HONORING DR. DEBRA STAKES
IN RECOGNITION OF HER
LABOR LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM
THE TRI-COUNTIES CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, Dr. Debra Stakes is being honored as the Labor Leader of the Year by the Tri-Counties Central Labor Council; and

WHEREAS, Debra is an instructor in Earth and Ocean Science at Cuesta College and is also President of the Cuesta College Federation of Teachers, AFT 4909. She received a BA from Rice University and followed that with a PhD in Oceanography from Oregon State University. Her postgraduate work included research appointments at MIT and Caltech and a year at the National Science Foundation; and

WHEREAS, she taught for the University of South Carolina almost 8 years, where she was the only woman on a faculty of 25 in geology. She moved toward managing big educational programs to support minority students to be more successful in science and math; and

WHEREAS, after meeting her husband Tom on a research cruise, Debra worked at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute for over 10 years as the only woman staff scientist. The move to Cuesta College in 2006 allowed Debra to rediscover her passion for teaching geology and eventually create new Oceanography courses that continue to be very successful.; and

WHEREAS, she became involved in the faculty union, first as a Division Representative, then as the COPE Chair. Then she added the V.P. position and moved into being the chief negotiator; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career Debra has been forced to work against gender bias and the inequity it creates. As Chief Negotiator she continues to focus on winning better compensation for faculty. She continues to boldly stand up for faculty concerns at Cuesta College and to encourage them to keep the strong bonds of partnership with the Tri-Counties Central Labor Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors and commends Dr. Debra Stakes for her outstanding contributions to our community and for being named the Labor Leader of the Year by the Tri-Counties Labor Council.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 14th day of October, 2014 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Conrad J. Mesato
Clerk of the Board

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Supervisor - 1st District
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Supervisor - 2nd District
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Supervisor - 3rd District
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Supervisor - 4th District
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Supervisor - 5th District