

SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD

UNADOPTED MINUTES
April 21, 2010

APPENDIX C

12. RETIREMENTS OF STAFF WITH 10 OR MORE YEARS OF SERVICE

(a) Resignation to Retire – Elizabeth Banks

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Elizabeth Banks	Learning Resources Technician Technical Services 12 Years, 8 Months of Service	February 26, 2010

Dr. Quentin Carter began by stating, “Elizabeth Banks has worked for the Solano Community College District for around 19 years. She was first employed in the Registrar’s Office as a part-time temporary employee. There she helped register students for classes and balanced the cash register. During this time, she also worked as a student worker for the Assessment Center and the Financial Aid Office.

In 1997, Elizabeth was hired to work in the Library as full-time Circulation Technical Assistant. It was my honor to chair this particular hiring committee, and I have never regretted the choice that we made in hiring Elizabeth. In Circulation, Elizabeth supervised checking out library materials, overdue books, and the Textbooks on Reserve Program. In 2006, Elizabeth moved from the Circulation Department into Library Acquisitions, where she coordinated the ordering of library materials and the serials function. What I find the most amazing in all of the years I have worked with her is the loyalty and affection Elizabeth inspired in her student workers. They all truly adore her, bar none. She still keeps in contact with many of them.

Elizabeth was also very involved with the Solano College community. She served on numerous hiring committees. She was very involved in the African-American Staff Association and served for three years in a row as a Grand Marshall at the African-American Staff Association Student Appreciation Graduation.

In 2000, Elizabeth and Alfred’s teen-age daughter, Allison, died unexpectedly from walking pneumonia. To help them with their grief, Elizabeth and her husband Alfred started The Allison Banks Scholarship Fund for needy SCC students. For several years, they both also lectured in various counseling and social sciences classes about living with grief.

In 2003, Elizabeth was honored with the Classified Employee of the Year Award—a great honor indeed—and in 2006, she was honored again with an Appreciation Award from MESA.

Of most importance to me, however, is the fact that I will miss seeing Elizabeth on a daily basis—someone whom I have grown to admire and respect and now consider family. I have over three hundred varieties of roses in the two rose gardens on my property, and for years, on a daily basis, I would bring in a rose for Elizabeth and put it on her desk in the morning. I will miss doing that. Elizabeth’s husband, Alfred, who is a gourmet chef, would reciprocate by

always sending Elizabeth to work with a lovely lunch, which she inevitably shared with me. Needless to say, I already miss that! The two of them also honored me in 2006 by asking me to give a reading at the occasion of the renewal of their wedding vows.

What touches me the most, however, is that Elizabeth and Alfred—whom I call Dad—consider me family. This is illustrated by the following anecdote, and I am going to end with it. Four months ago when Elizabeth went in for hip replacement surgery, she wanted to make sure that I was there after she got out of the recovery room. And since hospital policy is that only immediate family can visit right after surgery, she told the hospital personnel that her brother was going to show up. What with the good fortune of today's blended families, no one even gave a second look when this white brother came to visit his black sister in recovery. That is a very good thing indeed!

Elizabeth, I shall miss you at work very much; however, I know that you and Alfred will be up to visit very soon at our house.”

Dr. Carter gifted Mrs. Banks with a lovely bouquet of roses in honor of her retirement and in appreciation for all she has done.