Dear Colleagues:

Marie-Claude, Jackin, Christian, Violette, Annette, Rachael, Jahan, Marthe Shéla, and I wish you and your family the very best for the holidays. We wish you health and happiness in the midst of the challenges we all face. There is more good than bad and more sunshine than rain.

Be safe! Get plenty of rest! Come up with some good resolutions!

I look forward to seeing you before you leave or as you return for Flex-Cal in January.

Best regards,
Jowel

December 15, 2011
Thanksgiving

I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving time with family and friends. We have so much to be thankful for; even in the challenging times we are crossing, it is still a pretty exciting moment in our lives. Thanksgiving week at the College was very quiet as the faculty members were gone and many staff members chose to take vacation time to be with family and friends. Those who remained attended a party on Wednesday where the new employees displayed their talent by bringing food, supplemented by a few others. The party was widely attended. This was a creation of Dean Betsy Julian. We thank her for that.

Elementary Math/Science Class

One of the highlights of recent weeks for me was meeting with the students from the Elementary Math/Science class taught by Professor Genele Rhoads. These young and bright students are doing their practicum by volunteering at an elementary school. The delight is not only are they helping teachers with students with diverse needs in their classes, but some of them have started their own programs at the schools. For example, Swan started a program called, “Math in the Morning”; and Daoud started a science program where none existed. That is true leadership we teachers are known for. The SCC students are learning so much from the experience and they are proud of it. It was very exciting to meet these future teachers and see the prospect for outstanding students into the teaching profession. I congratulate Professor Rhoads, her Math Department, and Dr. Betsy Julian for their support of the program. As an old soldier in teacher recruitment, I believe that we who are teachers ought to recruit and develop the best students for our profession. Genele is doing just that. To our faculty and staff, as you run into students who want to be teachers, I would recommend that you refer them to this class that will be scheduled again for the fall or to Genele, me or Annette Dambrosio. I also want to say that Professor Cabrera is also running a program with our Human Services students.

The SCC Police Department

You may hear a lot of talk and see writings about our Police Department. VP Ligioso informed the Chief of Police of our intention to implement the recommendation made in FaBPAC over the years to evaluate the Police Department as part of our budget issues. Since then many things have happened with the police, including resignations and positions that have gone unfilled, etc. The security of our employees and students is paramount. We are living in an era where more eyes are necessary to watch things for us because of the nature of the crimes that have been reported. Furthermore, we need equipment and surveillance for the Fairfield Campus and coordination of the equipment at Vacaville and Vallejo. We are taking a comprehensive look at all
these issues and not simply dismantling the Police Department. Our goal is to make us safer at the least reasonable and sustainable cost possible. VP Ligioso can use your suggestions, comments, and support as we move in this direction.

**Holiday Party:**
We look forward to seeing you all next week as we celebrate the holidays in the cafeteria on December 15, 12 to 2 p.m. Your great looking group of administrators will be serving lunch. There is a rumor that the Jolly One will be there at some point. Let’s come and celebrate the hard work our faculty and staff have done for us. Please make every effort to attend and encourage your colleagues to do so as well. Because of the length of the event, feel free to stagger attendance so everyone in your office can attend.

**Update on International Students’ Recruitment:**
The augmentation of our International Education program is in the planning stage. We are exploring several areas to delve into, in order to increase SCC’s international visibility and recruitment efforts. An opportunity to apply for grant monies to aid in the implementation of new international recruitment materials and projects related to the program enhancement process is being researched. Shemila Johnson will host an informal focus group meeting with our current International Education students and would like interested parties to attend. More information to follow.

**Vacaville Prison:**
We have received an invitation from the principal of the prison school to teach courses by correspondence to their students. Currently courses are being offered by Lassen Community College and Riverside Community College. We are scheduling a tour of the prison’s career tech program to see what they offer and entertain any ties we may want to develop with them.

**Visit to Armijo High School:**
Two of Joyce Everett’s children invited me to come to the high school and interact with their Black Student Union club. It was a privilege to meet the students and share personal stories as well as tips to persevere and be successful in school.

**Meeting with Heather Sanderson:**
Ms. Sanderson runs the Matt Garcia Center with the Police Activity League. She came by to thank me for some of our Human Services students who are volunteering and helping their members. She said they are doing a fantastic job for the center. She also wants students to come and work with the center students on Study Skills. She and Mostafa G hous will be meeting to see how some MESA students may be able to help her.
Interview with the Tempest:
Sharman Bruni, the Chief Editor of the Tempest, met with me last week for an interview. She is writing an article about my life and how I see things, and what I could say to encourage students. This came as a result of our agreement to interact more and for me to be more supportive of the student newspaper as a result of the cartoon incident. We now have each other’s email address and phone number to contact if there is an issue that pops up.

SOLANO SPORTS UPDATE:
From Dean Terri Pearson-Bloom:
I am pleased to be able to announce to you that the SCC Board has approved the naming of the Fitness Ramada after former Dean Robert Myers. This project has been ongoing since Bob announced his retirement last year. It takes a long time and many steps of approval before something this significant is decided. Several faculty and staff were aware of and supportive of this effort, but we have been keeping it quiet from Bob until it was completed. President Laguerre was extremely supportive and help to guide me in making this vision a reality. I spoke with Bob today about this honor and he was extremely excited, speechless, and touched by the gesture.

I would like to form a small sub-committee of anyone who would like to have input on the signage design that will go on the Ramada. We will be using fundraising money (already set aside) to pay for this expense and there is a budget. Please email me if you would like to be a part of this committee. Once the committee has come up with a plan we will take it to Maintenance Director Froehlich and President Laguerre for final approval. Thanks

Terri Pearson Bloom – Presentation to the Board:
Tonight I am here to present a proposal to name the Fitness Ramada in honor of Robert (Bob) Myers, former Dean of the School of Human Performance and Development.

Bob Myers has served the Solano Community College District with distinction for 19 years as the Dean of Physical Education and Athletics Division. Under Bob Myers the PE & Athletic programs soared to new heights, winning numerous championships and achieving great success on and off the field. Bob Myers founded the Solano College Athletic Hall of Fame, of which his was recently inducted. His contributions, accomplishments, and accolades are many and the students were the true benefactors.

This naming opportunity is being proposed to honor the service of Bob Myers to Solano Community College, and in particular to recognize the monetary and gift in kind donations he procured for the College through his fundraising. Bob Myers went above and beyond in this area. Bob solicited corporate sponsorships, sought out individual gifts,
held fundraisers, and through his efforts was able to generate hundreds of thousands of dollars, in the course of his career, in contributions to the College. I am asking that Bob Myers be honored for these financial contributions by naming the Fitness Ramada after him. The Fitness Ramada was a facility that was realized through the efforts and vision of the Measure G PE bond committee, of which Bob chaired. How fitting that a fitness facility that he helped to create, that was once just a patch of grass, will now bear his name. Robert L Myers is certainly deserving of such a lasting recognition. Our fall sports seasons have ended and many of our athletes have earned honors and awards.

**Solano Volleyball by Darla Williams - Head Coach**

Solano Volleyball finished their season in Bay Valley Conference with a 10-4 record. Overall we finished 18-11. Several athletes received some great recognition. Named to the First Team All Conference was Lainey Brown our Libero, led the conference in Digs and passing. Also named to the First Team was Natalie Perry our starting Outside Hitter, led the team in Kills and hitting percentage. Named on Second Team All Conference was Pilar Washington, our Middle Hitter, she led the conference in Blocks. All three of these players will return for their second season with the Falcons next fall.

A huge thank you goes out to our Booster Club President (Jesse Branch) and his helper (Larry Yoder) for taking action photo’s at all the Home matches. Thanks to our awesome Athletic Trainer, Alison Aubert & her program who help make each game successful and athletes safe. Thanks to our game personnel; Sam, Betty, Carl, Bobby & Dawna who attend and help out in every Home game. Our success is made possible with the generosity of many volunteers who step up to support our Volleyball Program & Athletic Teams.

BVC (Bay Valley Conference)
posted 10-4 record for a 3rd place finish in the BVC
Overall record: 18-11
Team Honors:
1st Team All Conference – BVC
#1 Lainey Brown - Libero
#6 Natalie Perry – Outside Hitter
2nd Team All Conference – BVC
#18 Pilar Washington – Middle Hitter

Solano Classic All tourney: August 31st 2011
Lainey Brown, Natalie Perry & Micaela Sylvester
Falcon Classic All Tourney: September 14th 2011
Courtney Sanchez, Julia Schraer & Pilar Washington
Modesto Classic: September 2nd, 2011
Lainey Brown set a new school record with 46 digs

**FOOTBALL**

SCC football finished as Bay Valley Conference champions with a conference record of 4-0. They finished the season with a 6-5 record overall and played in the Living Breath Foundation Bowl against Hartnell College.
Solano College Women’s Soccer Wins Bay Valley Conference Championship!

by Jeff Cardinal - Head Coach

The 2011 Solano Women’s Soccer team won its 5th Bay Valley Conference Championship in a row. The 2011 team finished with a conference record of 9 wins, 0 losses and 3 ties. Overall including playoffs, Solano finished the season with an overall record of 10 wins, 7 losses and 4 ties. The 2011 Solano team also qualified for the playoffs for the 10th season in a row and have been in playoffs every year since starting the soccer program in 2002.

Solano’s 20 game shutout streak in conference play not conceding a single goal in 20 matches, dating back to 2009 ended in 2011 when Solano gave up a goal in its 9th conference match of the season.

The 2011 Solano Soccer season came to an end in the Nor-Cal playoffs with a 2-1 close fought match with Cosumnes River College.

Janelle Richards (Vacaville High School), a freshman defender for Solano was named MVP, player of the year for the Bay Valley Conference. Janelle Richards was also named to the All Nor-Cal team and All State Team. She was also nominated for All Region and All-America and results for that have not been given yet.

Solano also had 3 first team All Bay Valley Conference selections: Sandy Garcia (Napa High), Alexsa Gonzalez (Hogan High), Yedith Martinez (Napa High) and 3 second team All Bay Valley Conference selections: Alyssa Orme (Rodriguez High), Victoria Paulson (Rodriguez High) and Briana Scholtens (Rodriguez High).

Solano’s Megan O’Dwyer (Vacaville High School) a freshman striker and Alyssa Orme (Rodriguez High School), a sophomore forward/midfielder were the leading scorers for Solano in 2011. O’Dwyer finished the season with a team leading 11 goals and 2 assists and Orme finished the season with 8 goals, and 8 assists. Both players tying for the team lead with 24 points! Sophomore Briana Scholtens (Rodriguez High School) and Freshman Ashley Yoell (Vanden High School) played GK for Solano combining for 12 shutouts on the season in 20 matches!

The 2011 sophomores were also recognized on sophomore day. Solano recognized the following 6 sophomores: Sandy Garcia, Alexsa Gonzalez, Yedith Martinez, Alyssa Orme, Corina Petty (Vallejo High School) and Briana Scholtens for their commitment and hard work representing the Solano College Women’s Soccer Team and Solano College!

Solano College Women’s Soccer continues to move many players on to continue playing at the 4 year level!

In 2011, Solano Women’s Soccer had 8 players on scholarship competing and continuing their education at 4 year universities. Those included:

1. Jessica Hamister (Senior) - Cal State East Bay, Hayward, CA
2. Amanda Radich (Senior) - Kansas Wesleyan, Salina, KS
3. Sabrina Caires (Junior) - Nyack College, Nyack, New York
4. Brittney Cooper (Junior) - Kansas Wesleyan, Salina, KS
5. Natalie Guerrieri (Junior) - Biola University, La Mirada, CA
6. Vanessa Hollis (Junior) - Missouri Valley College, Marshall, MO
7. Kirsten Jennings (Junior) - Texas A & M International, Laredo, TX
8. Anna Nisperos (Junior) - Kansas Wesleyan, Salina, KS

In addition, in 2011, Solano had 4 players on scholarship who graduated after playing at their 4 year universities:
1. Kellie Detweiler - Menlo College, Atherton, CA
2. Katie Knopp - San Jose State University, CA
3. Giana Raccanello - Cal State East Bay
4. Adriana Vasquez - Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX

Solano College Theatre wins Christmas Tree Contest

Darcia Tipton and others in the Solano College Theatre scene shop outdid themselves and won first place in the Suisun City Holiday Tree contest! Kudos!

Volunteers Needed for Academic Decathlon

FAIRFIELD - The Solano County Office of Education is seeking adult volunteers to help with the North Bay Region Academic Decathlon scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 2012, at Gomer Historical School, 4522 Abernathy Road in Fairfield; and Saturday, January 28, and Saturday, February 4, 2012 at Rodriguez High School, 5000 Red Top Road in Fairfield.

The Academic Decathlon is a competitive event modeled after the Olympics that stimulates academic achievement and honors “athletes of the mind.” The competition provides students the opportunity to participate in an educational forum, which fosters a deep respect for knowledge, cooperation, and self-esteem.

Like the decathlon of the ancient Greeks, the Academic Decathlon consists of 10 exacting and exciting events. But, while the Greek events were contests of physical strength, the Academic Decathlon is a contest of academic strength. The Academic Decathlon includes tests in art, music, language and literature, mathematics, economics, science, and social science. In addition, there are communication tests that include writing of an essay, delivering a prepared and an impromptu speech, and an interview.

Encourage and support your local academic decathletes for their hard work by volunteering one, two, or three days of your time during the North Bay Regional Academic Decathlon. Contact Ken Scarberry at 707-646-7603 or kscarberry@solanocoe.net if you have any questions regarding the event.

To access the interactive North Bay Region Academic Decathlon volunteer sign up form: http://www.academicdecathlon.org/nbrad/volapplication-nbrad.pdf