Dear Colleagues:

**A Pleasurable Segue to the Upcoming Semester**
This past weekend I was able to escape for a few days to take Marthe-Shela and her sister to Disneyland and the San Diego Zoo. I had not been to either place, and both were enjoyable. I must admit that it was pleasurable to take a few days to get lost in the excitement. The diversion was a great segue to what promises to be an important array of SCC Flex Cal activities this week.

**Operation Homefront**
As I shared with you previously, there is an organization called Operation Homefront that supports military members and their families. SCC Veteran’s Specialist, Amy Utt, and I met with its Executive Director a few weeks ago to participate in their back-to-school project scheduled in Northern California. As a contribution to this project, we are donating excess supplies from a Kaiser Permanente event that we had originally planned to send to Haiti. Instead, we are donating as much as I can transport to Operation Homefront, to include lunch bags, and blankets.

**Travis AFB Furlough Involvement**
As you may recall, I was an honorary commander at Travis Air Force Base and I am currently serving as a civic leader and advisor to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. I received some communications recently regarding the furlough of some military members as well as civilians employed by the Department of Defense (DOD). The furlough—a consequence of Federal government sequestration—amounts to a 20% salary reduction. In an effort to assist those being furloughed, I wrote a letter to the Chief of Staff and to the Base Commander inquiring about the possibility of encouraging businesses and even SCC to temporarily hire some of these DOD employees one day a week in areas where there may be a need. I am hopeful that the College will participate in this activity if it comes to fruition.

**Commission on the Future**
As a member of the Community College League of California’s Commission on the Future, I attended one of three Commission meetings last week. I wanted to participate in brainstorming the many issues that face our colleges. The Commission’s work has been validated in part by the state Legislature’s approval of the Student Success Taskforce, along with other ideas that have originated in the Commission. I like to serve as a Commissioner as the Commission always exchanges good ideas that we take to our home institutions.

**Dinner with U.C. Davis Chancellor Katehi**
U.C. Davis Chancellor Linda Katehi invited several Northern California education and philanthropic leaders to her home for a seasonal dinner featuring fruits and vegetables of the area. The occasion was
used to announce a worldwide project UCD would like to promote in regard to food production as part of economic and health activities. I shared with Chancellor Katehi SCC’s interest in agriculture, which could support the initiative. In addition, we discussed the potential of our collaborating on bringing international students from community colleges to UCD and discussed expanding our current transfer opportunities. Finally, we addressed the University of California’s health initiative in Haiti that has not gone too well. Chancellor Katehi and I discussed switching UCD’s focus in that project from a health orientation to a food and agriculture initiative.

**Dinner with Kaiser Permanente Senior Leaders**
Trustee Thurston and I were invited to a dinner with senior leaders from Kaiser Permanente. This event was part of an effort to educate the community on Kaiser’s efforts to become a Trauma II hospital. Kaiser’s interest is to extend its Northern California expertise to assemble a force of 15 neurological surgeons to serve Vacaville and Sacramento. At the dinner we shared our intention to expand our SCC’s health career programs, and Kaiser is eager to help the College in this endeavor.

**Meeting with Vacaville Chief of Police Richard Ward**
Vacaville Police Chief Ward and I finally met on Thursday and discussed upcoming opportunities that will emerge as we expand our Criminal Justice offerings and build appropriate facilities in Vallejo. Chief Ward is very interested in getting involved with our Criminal Justice Program and helping us to move the Program forward.

**Meeting with the Carpenters’ Union**
I met with Octavio Soto of the Carpenters’ Union to discuss ideas for involving the College in offering training in welding for the carpenters’ apprentices. The individuals who participate currently in this training come from Sonoma, Napa, Solano, and Sacramento. They currently travel to Pleasanton to participate in the training classes. Our interest is in building the apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs for the College. I will soon visit with a member of the CCC Chancellor’s Office on the topic.

**Basketball Camp Outreach**
This year’s SCC Basketball Camp took place recently and was attended by over 150 children and young adults from throughout the region. Some of the students were in their fifth year of attendance. Coaches Matt Borchert and John Nagle do a great job of helping young people develop. I was also impressed with the presence of so many past players who return annually to help out. I enjoyed meeting the players and I want to congratulate our SCC coaches for this community outreach effort.

**Farewell to Foundation President Dee Alarcón**
I met with SCC’s Foundation President Dee Alarcón to thank her for all the help she has given to us over the last three years. She reminded me that she originally promised to serve for three years and now it is time to step aside. The transition will be smooth as our current Vice President, Douglas C. Spletter, Attorney at Law, will take over. While the Foundation still has a long way to go, Executive Director Curt Johnston and Dee have worked to recruit new members and to more fully develop Solano Community College’s Educational Foundation. We are grateful for the time Dee spent with the Foundation and the leadership she provided to shape the organization’s goals.

**Discussions with Buck Kamphausen**
Recently, Curt Johnston introduced me to Buck Kamphausen, a business leader and philanthropist in Vallejo. We shared with him various College goals for Solano County and Winters and spent the majority of our time discussing the Auto Technology Program, a subject that Mr. Kamphausen knows
well. Mr. Kamphausen provided some insight into what other major auto technology programs are doing and encouraged the College to explore a site on Mare Island that could be used for both gas and diesel maintenance and repair. Since then, Trustee Young and I looked at the property and were impressed with its potential and historical significance. We will continue to explore the potential of the Mare Island site as well as other properties we are considering for the auto technology venture.

**Foster Youth Grant**
The College has been served very well by Kamber Sta. Maria, who has paid close and keen attention to our foster youth. She has championed our Foster Youth Program and has expanded it from a few students three years ago to over 100 students today. She has made outstanding efforts to open doors and find resources for these students. She has developed statewide partnerships, including partnerships with the CCC Chancellor’s Office. Recently, she has been invited to submit a $500,000 grant proposal to further serve our youth and those of two other institutions. Regardless of the outcome of the grant application, her efforts demonstrate the commitment she has for the population she serves and the power of one person to make change. Having served as an Adjunct Counselor for the past three years, Kamber recently earned a full-time faculty post at SCC.

**Aircon Energy**
Former CCC League staff and lobbyist, Bonnie Slosson, introduced VP Ligioso, Director Calloway, and me to Aircon Energy last week. The staff members who formed the company shared with us the product they are presenting to other community colleges as a way to take advantage of Prop 39 funding. This funding that was voted in last November provides incentives for higher education institutions to retrofit buildings for energy efficiency. The College will issue a request for proposals (RFP) to ascertain the interest of various companies that may want to work with us to improve energy usage efficiency.

**Vacaville Homestay Awards**
Over 100 Chinese high school students attended Summer Camp at the SCC Fairfield campus this summer. This program was part of the Vacaville Homestay Program wherein the students got to experience what college life might be like at our campus. At the conclusion of their summer camp, they held a final event to commemorate their stay in the area. Shemila Johnson and I had the opportunity to address them, as well as the families who took them in over the summer. I emphasized the citizenship diplomacy the families are involved in and how they had an opportunity to show international citizens what Americans are really like, a counterpoint to the negative image that the world often perceives. I reminded the students to remember what Americans are truly like, and when they become leaders in China to think of Americans as decent families and not politicians or diplomats. I invited them all to study in America, and to make Solano Community College their first stop in that journey.

**New Beginnings for SCC’s Library Faculty and Staff**
I met with the SCC Library faculty and staff last week to announce that Roger Clague, the new Chief Technology Officer, will serve as their supervisor. With this new oversight, there will be some minor adjustments in the staffing of the library to provide additional stability to the leadership and the work that must be accomplished. Special thanks to the Library faculty and staff who contributed many excellent ideas for change.

**“Aspire” Grant**
The African-American Male Scholars Program received a $25,000 grant from AT&T. Titled “Aspire,” the grant is intended to serve students who have already earned college credits and to further propel them
to achieve academic success. No doubt the African-American Male Scholars will continue to expand their admirable outreach efforts.

**SCC's Current Enrollment Profile**

SCC did not make its FTES target this past year, despite recruiting and marketing efforts. We were funded for 8,541.35 FTES and we have achieved only 7,003 FTES during the 2012-2013 academic year. Excluding summer school, SCC was short 1,538.35 FTES. Although not completed, summer looks to have generated just under 700 FTES.

What does this really mean?

- SCC receives approximately $4,000 per FTES.
- A loss of 1,500 FTES would equate to a loss of approximately 6 million dollars.
- A loss of 800 FTES would equate to a loss of approximately 3.2 million dollars.

If this trend is sustained and we are re-benched to a lower FTES target, the impact would be severe. However, we are not alone. This enrollment trend is currently being observed across the State. The California Community College system as a whole lost approximately 400,000 students last year. Overall, college enrollment **fell 2 percent** in 2012-13, the first significant decline since the 1990s, but nearly all of that drop hit for-profit and community colleges. Factors are many and include the fact that many adults have returned to work as the economy begins to recover. SCC’s timely and thoughtful response to this new enrollment profile will be central to the health of our future enrollment.

**Good News For SCC**

Take a look at the long list of new hires, “welcome back” hires, and those who are embarking on new job opportunities below. What a joy to hire so many!

**New and returning colleagues include:**

- Diane White                   Interim Vice President, Academic Affairs
- Roger Clague                  Chief Technology Officer
- John Freeman                  Dean, School of Liberal Arts
- John Yu                       Dean, School of Mathematics and Science
- Maurice McKinnon              Interim Dean, School of Health Sciences
- Leigh Sata                    Executive Bonds Manager
- Barbara Brock                 Deputy Sector Navigator, Health
- Kamber Sta. Maria             FT Counselor
- Isabel Anderson               FT English (adjunct to tenure track)
- Lauren Taylor-Hill            FT Anthropology
- Paul Hidy                     FT Automotive Technology
- Michelle Smith                FT Biology
- M. Christina Young            FT Biology/Physiology
- Rachel Smith                  FT Graphic Arts & Design
- Barbara Villatoro             FT Mathematics
- Erin Craig                    FT Nursing
- Julia Kiss                    FT Nursing Skills Lab
Joel Powell                         FT Political Science
Eric Bullis                              FT Theater Arts (Acting/Directing)
Darsen Long                       FT Theater Technician
Valerie Otsu                       FT Nursing
Diana Reed                         Adjunct History
Pete Zavala                         Information Analyst
Janet Schwartz                  Administrative Assistant III, School of Health Sciences
Timothy Athey                     Aeronautics Lab Technician
Lisa Abbott                         Scheduling Specialist
Irene Camins                     Science Lab Technician – Vallejo
Claudia Campos                  Student Services I – Matriculation
Susan Beavers                      Student Services Customer Service Representative
Marisol Delgado                  Student Services Customer Service Representative
Julie Williams                   Student Services Customer Service Representative
Darcia Tipton                      Theater Technician
Darryl Allen                         Custodian
Vernon Cunningham       Custodian

Solano Community College colleagues who are changing assignments:

Máire Morinec                  Moved from Dean of CTEB to Dean of CTEB and Vacaville Center
Barbara Paváo                   Moved from FT Faculty to Interim Dean of Counseling
Sal Codina                      Moved from FT Faculty to Interim Dean, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Chuck Eason                     Moved from SBDC Director to Small Business Sector Navigator
Deidra Moss                     Moved from Accounting Specialist I to Accounting Specialist II, Fiscal Services
Leslie Almonte                  Moved from Student Services Specialist to Scheduling Specialist
Shirley Lewis                   Moved from Dean of Vacaville Center to Chief Student Services Officer
Peter Cammish                  Moved from Director to Dean of Research, Planning and Effectiveness
Kimo Calilan                     Moved from Manager to Director of Technology Services and Support
Judith Burtenshaw             Moved from Administrative Assistant III Student Development to Administrative Assistant III Student Services

**REQUIRED FLEX CAL IS THIS FRIDAY, AUGUST 9**

Please join me for breakfast to kick off our Fall 2013 semester!

Jowel C. Laguerre, Ph.D.
Superintendent-President

*The best teachers teach from the heart, not from the book.* ~ Author Unknown