Dear Colleagues:

**Jimmy Doolittle Vibrations**

There is a buzz going on in the community regarding Solano Community College’s partnership in the launch of the Jimmy Doolittle Education Center. Trustee Honeychurch and others of us who participated in the Stars and Stripes event Saturday evening definitely felt it. The College is viewed as a pivotal player in the most critical part of the project, acquisition of the land. With a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in place, the Doolittle Foundation will acquire the land-- to be shared with the College-- thus starting serious planning for the development of the project. The College, in the meantime, will acquire its portion of the land and start planning the expansion of its Aviation Program. This is a perfect match for two organizations that can mutually support each other. The news of this partnership is reverberating across the county and parts of the country among all who support the Jimmy Doolittle Center.

This project is a major endeavor for SCC as we provide critical leadership for the advancement and development of the economic and cultural wellbeing of the community. The Board is owed a lot of credit for approving this innovative initiative -- one that has the potential to benefit the College for years to come. It is this kind of imaginative thinking that will enable the College to be even more appreciated and supported in the community. The support of both Dean Máire Morinec and Professor Kevin Spoelstra is commendable also.

**Solano Community College Cosmetology Department Presents Foster Parent and Child Learning Day**

The SCC Cosmetology Department is working with Solano County and partnering with Aldea Foster Care. This “learning day” is the first time for the SCC Cosmetology Department to hold such an event and the students are very excited to give back to the community.

Currently there are 30 student volunteers signed up for this “learning day.” There will be hair “goodies” for the children and copious photo opportunities, with children’s ages ranging from two years to teens. The event will be a hands-on mini class for parents. Often when foster parents are not of the same ethnicity of their children, they are unfamiliar with different hair types and this event will provide them an opportunity to learn. A special session will be devoted to the managing of curly hair.
In the past, SCC Cosmetology has worked with the Matt Garcia Center, Silver Lock, Armijo, and other high schools in the area. The Foster Parent and Child Learning Day will take place on November 20, 2013, 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.

**Academic Senate**  
The Academic Senate heard a presentation on Middle College High School (MCHS) this past week. This time it was the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District that shared with the Senate its desire to start a MCHS in conjunction with the College. Using Rodriguez High School as a base, this new entity (MCHS) will debut in the fall of 2014 with sixty (60) students. The School District and the College have been working on the Middle School concept for over two years. A MOU with the College will be presented to the Board of Trustees shortly.

**Conference Call with Dr. Pam Fisher**  
I held a conference call with Dr. Pam Fisher to discuss a follow up to the Leadership Academy that took place last summer for our administrators. We will hold a half-day session with them in January 2014. We are also exploring with Dr. Fisher the establishment of a Leadership Training Institute that would include faculty, classified staff, and coordinators. This Institute will allow us to develop a cadre of leaders we can call on when we have need to replace individuals after sudden departures, e.g., resignations, deaths, etc. of people in important leadership offices. This Institute is slated for the first week of June 2014.

**Visit and Interaction with Business Communications Class**  
Professor Rhunette Alums asked me again to be the subject of her students’ writing project. The students’ assignment constituted of writing to me and presenting either an issue that needs to be solved or a compliment about the College. The goal of the assignment was to communicate in writing with a CEO and the student emails were just outstanding. The critical comments ranged from students who observed that they shopped for colleges and chose SCC because of the Non-Smoking Policy (yet they noticed smoking on campus) to a complaint about the lack of parking lot lighting for them; one student commented that he decided to stay in school because he heard me speaking at the tribute to the astronauts aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger last spring. There were also many positive comments about our faculty and staff. The overall impression is that students were happy to be here, and eager to continue their education at SCC. My visit to the class where I gave the students direct feedback to their writing assignments was a delight and a major highlight of my week.

**Adjunct Faculty Support Center Meeting**  
I met with adjunct faculty members Carlene Coury and David Pyle to discuss the Adjunct Support Center. We are working to renovate some space in the Graphics Department to accommodate both an increase in tutoring space, especially to support student athletes, and to house an Adjunct Support Center. We discussed the renovation, the needs of the Center, and ongoing staffing. This was a good step forward from the initial discussions last year. We are planning to visit a similar Center at Truckee Meadows Community College.
**SCC Volleyball Match is Tonight**
SCC’s Volleyball Team beat Napa last Friday night once again in three sets!
The team is 9-1 in conference and 15-3 overall.

Today’s big match is with Yuba College (“Dig for Cure” night). Show your support for SCC!

**Meeting with Phil Cello**
Another highlight of my week was a meeting with Phil Cello. Mr. Cello is “Mr. Tennis” in Solano County and a well-known tennis instructor who has built a reputation of sending top ranked players to colleges and universities around the United States. He has operated a Tennis Academy for many years. As he is looking at the years he has left to work, he has approached the College to create a joint foundation and to support the Tennis Academy. He has endeavored to raise private funds to help us start a men’s and a women’s tennis team. His “self-sufficiency” approach is the type of energetic approach I would like us to examine when it comes to all of our College sports. Within the next few weeks he will share his ideas with the Kinesiology Department, the Governing Board, the Shared Governance Council, the Academic Senate, and the President’s Cabinet.

**Measure Q Editorial**
Last Sunday, I published an article in Vacaville’s Reporter addressing the rationale for SCC’s Measure Q. My piece ran alongside an article written by a critic of Measure Q funding. As I stated in my editorial (reproduced below), SCC continues to be proud of our Measure Q project and I am confident that we are making good on the voter’s confidence in us:

“How does SCC justify the voter approved Measure Q for $348M in bond funds, and what is the College doing with some of these funds to date?”

“The Measure Q investment the citizens of Solano County and Winters have made in the Solano Community College District (SCCD) is paying off already. Our proposition before voters was to improve our career programs, enhance transfer programs, to fund basic skills opportunities and to construct state-of-the-art mathematics, science, and biotechnology facilities. We are already making good on these intentions as shown below.

**Career Programs:** The College has put forward funding for the Automotive Technology Training program in Vallejo, a program that was on our discontinuance list. With our efforts underway to build a state-of-the-art Auto Tech program, students have already enrolled in the program even before classes started.

**Middle College Program:** High School students from the Vacaville Unified School District can now earn college credits and will soon be housed at the Vacaville Center. Fairfield is to follow the same direction in fall 2014 as we initiate that much needed project.

**Job Skills:** With biotechnology companies in the county expanding their production, there is a great need to build a biotech workforce. Our SCC Biotechnology program is currently beyond its capacity to
meet these workforce needs. Increased funding to develop our Biotechnology Training Center in Vacaville is a direct result of the passage of Measure Q.

**Transfer:** We have a high demand for transfer courses in many disciplines, and especially in the sciences. The construction of our state-of-the-art Mathematics and Science buildings in Fairfield will allow us to meet the growing demands for these, and other, transfer courses.

SCC has deliberately elected to not tie our hands with an exact list of Measure Q projects. Instead, we have taken the time to carefully research exactly how we will best spend your tax dollars, and have kept in mind the potential for projects that were “on the horizon,” but not finalized, as we worked to pass the Measure Q Bond. We did not know prior to the passage of the Bond, for example, that we might materialize a project such as an aircraft manufacturer in Vacaville, or that we were prepared to commit to the Jimmy Doolittle Education Center. We have followed an approach that allows for adding projects, while at the same time, fulfilling the letter and the spirit of the Bond’s declared projects and their funding.

The community has trusted the College to wisely manage the Bond funds and to put their tax dollars to the best use possible. Our estimated need prior to the Bond campaign was about $475M. As we polled likely voters, we found out that they would support up to $350M. That is how we ended up with $348M. We intend to seek matching funds to realize the majority of what we need over the next thirty (30) years.

With a thoughtful Governing Board and a prudent Administration, we will meet the needs and expectations of our College and our community in grand fashion!”

**Human Resources Expands Their SCC Web Presence**
Take a moment to look at “Human Resources” on our SCC Web site. There is a new link to the Equity and Inclusion Advisory Council (E.I.A.C.). Now you can locate your representatives online and send messages very conveniently to each of them.

**ACCJC Visiting Team**
The Solano Community College will host an ACCJC review team on November 4. Kathy Smith will be the Chair of the three-member team. All team members have visited the College on previous occasions. The Team room will be in Room 101 of the library. The team will review the Follow-Up Report that was submitted to the Commission on October 15. The Commission will review the Team’s report in January with a decision coming forth sometime in February.

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

....some background to Jimmy Doolittle:
I am providing a link to afford you the opportunity to read an article written to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Jimmy Doolittle Raid. The article highlights the humanitarian way in which simple Chinese people treated American soldiers and the high price they paid for it. Zhao
Xiao Bao was 19 when the Americans crash-landed. She and her husband protected the Americans. The conclusion of the article is as follows:

“The local Chinese knew about the deadly vengeance that the Japanese occupying army could and would inflict on them. Yet, to their credit they were willing to risk their lives to lend a helping hand to the American crewmen who had risked their lives to bomb Japan and crash-landed in their region. For helping the Americans who had bombed Japan to escape from being captured by the Japanese occupying army, the Chinese people suffered greatly, to the tune of 250,000 killed in this geographical region [Zhejiang Province] from the vengeance that the Japanese inflicted on them. These American crewmen never forgot the bravery and sacrifices of the Chinese people. Several of these Chinese helpers, including Zhao Xiao Bao, were invited to the 50th Anniversary of the Doolittle Reunion in 1992 in South Carolina as a token of appreciation for saving their lives. It is especially important to recall this historic great friendship between the American people and the Chinese people in light of the current antagonistic stand toward China of many American politicians and the mass media.”