Dear Colleagues:

**A New Shared Governance Model for Solano Community College:**
After some months of deliberations and recommendations from those who served on the Committee on Committees, both the Shared Governance Council and FaBPAC voted to merge both bodies into one body named the Shared Governance Council. While procedures are still being worked out, it is recommended that membership will include:

VOTING MEMBERS:
- **Faculty:** Academic Senate President and SCFA President
- **Minority Coalition:** Two representatives as determined by the Coalition
- **CSEA:** CSEA President and one other representative
- **Local 39:** Two representatives
- **Students:** Two representatives (recommended that one is the ASSC President)
- **ALG:** Two representatives (recommended that one is a representative from Student Services)

ADVISORY (non-voting) MEMBERS:
- Vice President of Academic Affairs, Council Chair (In the event of a tie vote, the Council Chair will vote)
- Vice President of Finance and Administration
- Dean of Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness

Total voting membership: 12
Total membership: 15

The aim of the new SGC is to make our decision making more coherent and effective. Additionally, the SGC reemphasizes the need for constituents to hold their SGC representatives accountable, respecting the aims and goals of Solano Community College.

**Banner Consortium Progress:**
Kimo Calilan’s hard work to involve Solano Community College in a Banner Consortium is paying off. As you may recall, in October 2011, based on dialogue with the CISOA (Chief Information Systems Officer Association), the Sierra College Chief Technology Officer (CTO) appealed to the California Community College Banner colleges to create a Consortium that would be tasked to address the rising costs of maintaining a Banner (ERP) system, as well as to expand our limited resources. Since that time, ten California Community Colleges headed by Sierra and including Feather River, Gavilan, Imperial Valley, Santa Barbara, Sequoias,
Siskiyous, Solano, Taft, and Cuesta formed the California Community College Consortium Information Systems (4CIS). With the assistance of ellucian™ (formally SunGard), 4CIS has drafted a plan to reduce costs (currently costs are approximately $5.3 million in yearly fees), as well as to ease some of the workload on the understaffed Information Systems (IS) departments.

The Consortium aims to consolidate technology from all partnering colleges into one centralized Banner ERP system. A centralizing system will allow for ongoing cost reductions and include more effective uses of hardware and software purchases, and will free up staff time to examine and implement more innovative solutions and enhancements rather than to work primarily on upgrades, fixes, and routine backend maintenance. With this new structure in place the impact of regulatory changes, MIS reporting requirements, and software/hardware upgrades can be expedited. A similar consortium is currently used by Banner School districts in Colorado and has proven to be very successful.

To date, the Consortium proposal has been presented to and approved by the SCC Banner Operations Team (BOT), Shared Governance Council, and the Superintendent-President’s Cabinet. On February 20, the Governing Board formally approved SCC’s continued involvement with the 4CIS.

Currently, the Consortium is looking to get full commitment from those wishing to continue to be involved with 4CIS by the CISOA conference March 10 –12. In the meantime, Kathy Williams, Account Executive for ellucian™, and Willie Duncan, President of Sierra College, have begun the lobbying groundwork needed in Sacramento to firmly secure this project and to seek funding support for the startup. A special thank you to Kimo and his staff is in order for assisting our College to centralize systems that will allow for ongoing cost reductions and more effective utilization of hardware and software.

**Basic Skills Instruction (BSI) Report:**

A progress report has been forwarded to me by Melissa Reeve who coordinates The Basic Skills Committee. One area that the BSI Committee has concentrated on this semester is that of sponsoring professional development opportunities for faculty and instructional staff within and outside the Basic Skills disciplines (Developmental English, Reading, ESL, and Math). Professional development activities include a Conference on College Composition and Communication, a CA Learning Communities Consortium Curriculum Retreat, an OnCourse National Conference, and more.

Additionally, a major initiative developed by the Basic Skills Committee and launched this year, is the inaugural pilot of the First-Year Experience Learning Community. The first FYE cohort of First-Year Experience Learning Community saw 39 students began their studies in fall 2013; plans are in the making to enlarge the cohort to 50 students in fall 2013 and 75-100 students in fall 2014 respectively. In the pilot, all 39 students were placed in English 348G (open-access developmental English) and Math 330 (beginning Algebra). Additional support for these students has included an embedded tutor in the math course, a designated counselor, and priority registration this spring for the next sequential courses, Math 104 and English 001. Preliminary results suggest that students in the FYE cohort not only passed their fall courses at higher rates than non-FYE students (8% higher in math; as much as 20% higher in English), but have also
persisted in the Basic Skills math and English course sequences this spring at much higher rates than we typically see (among students who passed their fall courses, persistence was 42% higher in Math, and 25% higher in English) though the small size of this cohort may present somewhat distorted results.

Over $100,000 in Basic Skills grant money is available to fund faculty projects for the 2013-2014 academic year. The application deadline is Monday, March 4. If you missed the email announcements and would like more information, the application form, etc., please contact Melissa Reeve. Take advantage of the opportunities provided by the BSI Committee!

**Academic Success Center (ASC) Sponsors a Drop-In Lab:**

ASC is sponsoring a pilot program for a drop-in lab designed by members of the English department’s lab working group headed up by Josh Scott, BSI coordinator for English.

The drop-in English lab (Room 130), which will be open to all SCC students, will serve as a resource to help students to work on writing assignments for any course at SCC, not just English courses. Students will be able to sign up for 20 minute drop in sessions up to two weeks in advance, (limited to six sessions per semester and two sessions for any one assignment). The goal of the lab to provide a place where students can drop in for help and guidance as they develop various written assignments.

The drop-In lab pilot program will begin on March 4 in Room 130, MWF 11-2. Encourage your students to seek drop-in lab assistance for writing.

**SLOs Progress:**

Gene Thomas, SLO Coordinator, has sent a reminder that all Schools have in place faculty coordinators to assist you in developing, revising, and refining your SLOs. These coordinators are: Ferdinanda Florence and Michael Wyly (Liberal Arts); Christine Ducoing (Science); Joe Conrad (Mathematics); Kevin Anderson (CTE/Business); Curtiss Brown (Human Performance); Glenn Burgess (Nursing).

SLO assessments for all even-numbered courses (e.g., French 02) should be in the database by now, but are not (let’s get them done). Odd-numbered courses (e.g., History 17) are to be assessed this semester and completed by May.

We need to continue to make special efforts to get adjunct faculty (who are paid for their work) involved in completing SLO assessments.

The database now has an "instructor" field so Dean Cammish can produce a report that will show who has completed their SLOs. Please contact your School Coordinators, your School Dean, or Gene Thomas to assist you to complete this important SLO work.
Code of Ethics Update:
As I reported previously, Kevin Anderson and Debbie Luttrell-Williams were charged with combining the two drafts of the Code of Ethics that faculty and staff have created to date. This week we are airing this third draft (below) and collecting any and all suggestions for revision prior to the March 6 Board meeting. The deadline for all commentary is Friday, March 1, noon.

Solano Community College

- Code of Ethics Draft

Solano Community College’s mission is to educate a culturally and academically diverse student population drawn from our local communities and beyond. The College accomplishes this three-fold mission through its dedicated teaching, innovative programs, broad curricula, and services that are responsive to the complex needs of all students. To accomplish this, we are committed to sustaining a positive, healthy and respectful environment. The Code of Ethics serves to articulate values, characteristics, and expectations that everyone is expected to embody and promote. Each employee of Solano Community College shall:

- Always act with honesty.
- Obey the law and comply with the Federal, State and Local regulations, policies and procedures, inclusive of those of Solano Community College and Governing Board of Trustees.
- Treat each other with uncompromising integrity, dignity, respect and fairness. Refrain from inappropriate language (no profanity) and unprofessional behavior. Work with fellow employees in a spirit of respect and civility, in spite of differences of opinion.
- Respect privacy and protect the personal information of Solano’s employees and its students. Refrain from disclosing information acquired in the course of one’s work, whether directly or indirectly, unless bound by law.
- Communicate openly and honestly.
- Avoid conflicts of interest. Resist the urge and/or pressure to use our Solano Community College position to benefit ourselves or any other individual(s) apart from the welfare of the Solano Community College District.
- Maintain a safe and secure work environment.
- Be informed about issues affecting the College and our responsibility to all citizens of the District.
- Use technology resources and social networks appropriately and professionally only.
- Endeavor to provide the most effective community college services of which we are capable in a spirit of collegiality and teamwork.

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

In Honor of Black History Month:
Surround yourself with only people who are going to lift you higher (Oprah Winfrey)