Dear Colleagues:

As communicated to you last week, our college was shocked by the brutality some students used against another student. The incident attracted a lot of media attention. Our employees performed well under the circumstances. Shirley Lewis made sure that the victim was attended to as far as her safety on campus and in her classes. Matt Borchert and Erik Visser acted swiftly to expel the perpetrators from the basketball team. They held a meeting with the parents of the rest of the team to assure them that the team was solid. Shemila Johnson was instrumental in communicating with the media. As I was recovering from a minor surgery, Dr. Crawford called the parents on my behalf to assure them that the college was doing what it could for the student who was attacked and to ask if there was anything else we could do. It is regrettable that these two incidents (the first with the men’s basketball team) happened. Both had a negative effect on all the young people involved.

Here is an editorial I submitted to the papers at the end of the week.

“When College Students’ Behavior Goes Astray

Recently Solano College and local citizens were both shocked and saddened to learn of an off-campus physical assault on a young woman, allegedly committed by four members of Solano College’s women’s basketball team. Although the victim was not a member of the basketball team, she is an SCC student. The college’s basketball coach and the college community have reacted with a swift and immediate condemnation of the attack and have provided as much support as possible to the victim. The college remains committed to supporting her academic and personal accomplishments.

Obviously an act like this runs counter to the core purpose of education at SCC, namely the promise to mold each student into an individual of intellectual and moral excellence.

Unfortunately, a similar action occurred with a member of the men’s basketball team late last year. Again, the college acted swiftly, as did the coach, to provide support and to condemn the action. After many years free of such incidents, it is disheartening to see this kind of action being associated with members of our sports program. The public must know that all members of SCC are heartbroken over a promise unfulfilled and expectations not met.

As I reflect on the damage that such events bring to our very peaceful institution, I realize that we must redouble our efforts to educate for good citizenship, and to teach our students respect for the basic humanity of all others. The college is doing everything possible to ensure that our student who was assaulted will not be discouraged to continue to pursue her education, and thanks to several caring faculty and staff members, we are succeeding in our desire to help. My hope is that the young women who allegedly committed the violence will not only be brought to justice, but will learn a profound lesson. My hope is that they will be rehabilitated. At a minimum, the four members of the SCC women’s basketball team will have lost the opportunity to demonstrate their talents on the basketball
court, but let us hope that they have not lost their desire to continue their education and will not fail to learn important lessons they can share with others. I must admit that I completely understand that is not where their minds are at this time. It is a lesson as a community we must share with them.

Your community college will continue to educate and mold the character of our citizens. As we celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., let us help those young women and men who go astray. Let us rekindle our efforts to promote peace and non-violence in our workplace, our schools, our families, and in the world. SCC pledges once again to make stronger our promise to teach peace and non-violence through education.

Jowell C. Laguerre, Ph.D.
Superintendent-President
Solano Community College

GENERAL UPDATES

First Week of Spring Semester: The first week of spring semester went well by all accounts. Minor problems were addressed quickly. One new student corresponded with Trustee Young because he had difficulty registering for classes. She referred the student to me and in turn, Shemila Johnson is taking care of the student; I have asked her to investigate why he had difficulties. There were some issues with add codes. We will have this issue fixed before the next semester. VP Diane White organized volunteers to help students navigate their way through the first week of classes. Our gratitude goes to Diane and the volunteers.

Visit to Suisun Valley School: Suisun Valley School is a K-8 elementary school on Suisun Valley Road. Its relatively new principal, Jas Bains Wright, invited me to visit the school last Monday. What she shared with me was exciting. She came from a school in Woodland where UC Davis students were frequent visitors and volunteers. She would like to see students from Solano Community College do the same thing. Each grade level chooses a university or college to aspire to or to admire. The children in grades 4-5 chose Solano Community College as their school. She requested to know how the college could interact with these students at least. For the past three years our recruiter has paid a lot of attention to middle school. After vetting by the board, we will decide how to move forward.

Bay Region CTE Leadership Meeting at Chabot College: The Chancellor’s Office has allocated $6.3M for enhancing Career Technical Education (CTE) for 2014-15. The funds have been allocated per regional consortium. Solano Community College is in the Bay Area Region with a number of other colleges, including San Francisco, Peralta, Cabrillo, Mission-Valley, San Jose Evergreen, Foothill DeAnza, Napa, Marin, Santa Rosa and Contra Costa. A group of Deans, Vice Presidents of Instruction and Presidents/Chancellors gather quarterly to conduct the business of the region. The group voted to share the funds in the following manner:

- 60% of the funds will be distributed in an FTE formula.
- $3M will be distributed in specific projects to benefit the region as a whole. For example, we could apply to get help to support the enhancement of our capacity to overhaul our career programs.
- $1.3M will be distributed equally among the institutions. It amounts to approximately $40,000 per institution.

How our funds will be used will be presented to the college as a whole and for acceptance by the Governing Board.
Governor’s Budget Workshop: Seven of us from the college attended a workshop held by the Association of California Community College Administrators and the Association of Chief Business Officers last week. Several speakers from the Department of Finance, the Legislative Analyst, Sierra College President and Dan Troy from the Chancellor’s Office spoke. Everyone was very upbeat about the budget. However, the attendees were cautioned that the budget increases should not be taken as long-time guarantees. It is believed that we can see another budget like this again next year (2016-2017). However, beyond that there was plenty of skepticism. A follow-up speaker showed how over the past couple of decades the economy has gone up and down and stated his opinion that we may see another slowdown in the economy within the next few years. That would translate into budget cuts. Chancellor Brice Harris and the other speakers sounded the alarm that we ought to manage expectations. Everyone worries about what will happen when the funds from Prop 30 dry out. Furthermore, there are huge increases in STRS and PERS coming up in the next few years. They will eat up most of the increases and the COLA in the budget. So, it is a good and bad news budget. It is NOT doom and gloom because we could have had the same challenges and have a bad budget. We need to ensure we do not make long term commitments with a budget increase that may be temporary.

Meeting on Aeronautics Program: Leigh Sata, Maire Morinec, Rusty (Brooks) Mayes, Kevin Spoelstra (Aeronautics faculty) and I attended a meeting with representatives from the Jimmy Doolittle Museum. We discussed the bright future of the Aeronautics program and how it may expand. We also discussed the size of the building that would house the program as well as the current space and its limitations, including safety issues. With ICON Aircraft located next door to our program, the possibilities are excellent. Our plans are to beef up our program and continue to serve the many students seeking a spot in it. There are also possibilities for partnerships that will be vetted through the board.

Martin Luther King Day Celebration: On Sunday, the Martin Luther King Day celebration was held at the College in the theatre. Dr. McCord and her committee put together a very nice program. Thomas Trujillo from our staff received one of the Living the Dream awards. Dr. Reverend Gainey from the Vacaville Second Baptist Church received the other award. Dr. Gainey has been a strong force in Solano County mentoring and supporting families and especially guiding a lot of young people. He is the first African-American pastor of the church. He is retiring from the post a year from now, but a new minister will take over in the next few weeks. Congratulations to the awardees and to the MLK celebration committee.

Awarding Honorary Degrees: We took advantage of the winter break to honor CC and Amber Sabathia because they are not able to receive the award during the regular May commencement as he is either playing or traveling with the New York Yankees. We also took advantage of this time to recognize Mrs. Jean Sunny Johnson Wright. I am pleased to share something about the recipients:

Amber Sabathia: Amber Sabathia is the co-founder and Executive Director of the PitCCh In Foundation and oversees all aspects of the organization’s operations and charitable giving programs. The PitCCh In Foundation is dedicated to building self-esteem and enriching the lives of inner city youth.

At the same time she is following her passion and flair for fashion and created CCandy Clothing™. It is a unique line of clothing for children that combines the latest fashions and beloved sports teams. CCandy Clothing™ is produced in collaboration with Outerstuff and Major League Baseball.

Amber is married to her high school sweetheart, CC Sabathia, Cy Young Award-winning pitcher for the New York Yankees, and is mother of four children. She graduated from San Francisco State
University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies, and is presently expanding her education by pursuing a Certificate in Fundraising at the George H. Heyman, Jr., Center for Philanthropy and Fundraising at New York University.

**CC Sabathia:** CC Sabathia is a six-time Major League Baseball All-Star and was honored with the American League Cy Young Award, given annually to the best pitcher in baseball. In 2013, Sabathia reached a significant milestone, as he earned his 200th career win. In 2012, Sabathia was 15-6 for the Yankees with a 3.38 ERA, threw 200 innings or more for the sixth consecutive season, and has one of the most durable arms in baseball. He went 19-8 for the Yankees in 2011 and has won 83 total games for them in 4 seasons, including 21 in 2010.

Off the field, Amber and CC Sabathia are committed to giving back and have done so over the years in affiliation with the teams for whom he has played. Both Amber and CC wanted to do more and so they co-founded the PitCCh In Foundation in 2008 with the mission to enrich the lives of inner city youth. PitCCh In Foundation has been behind numerous programs in the New York Tri-State area and in the Sabathias’ home town of Vallejo, CA, including the distribution of over 20,000 back-to-school backpacks filled with school supplies for low income children, commitment to the Boys and Girls Club of America where CC is a member of their Alumni Hall of Fame, and most recently, has provided assistance to families and the communities hit the hardest by Hurricane Sandy.

**Jean Sunny Johnson Wright:** Jean Sunny Johnson was born on April 7, 1926 in Fargo, North Dakota. From a young age she loved school and was fascinated with the idea of “going to college.” When Jean was 11 her parents came to California looking for work during the Depression. Her father was offered a job in a grocery store in Vallejo, so that is where they settled. Later, her father and uncle became postmen delivering mail in Vallejo until they retired.

At Vallejo High, Jean originally enrolled in a college prep course of study. But her father thought that wasn’t practical for a girl, so she switched to business. She graduated in 1943 and worked as a secretary in an insurance agency and on Mare Island. In 1946, she married Alfred Paul Wright, a 1942 graduate of Vallejo High, who attended one semester at the University of California, Davis before volunteering for the Army Air Corps in World War II. After the War, he and his parents bought a small farm in the San Joaquin Valley near Livingston in Merced County and that is where Jean and Al lived most of their 46 years of marriage until they sold the ranch in 1992 and moved to Turlock. Al died later that year.

More than anything else, Jean and Al Wright wanted for their children—daughter Sunne and son Don—the opportunity to go to college. After the children were in middle school grades, Jean began to supplement the modest farm income by working outside the home as a secretary for the local justice court and then at Livingston Elementary School District, retiring in 1986 after 25 years with the district. She made huge sacrifices for her family and did an amazing job of saving money to help her kids through college. With hard work, she got her wish: Sunne graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara and University of California, Berkeley; Don graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and California State University Stanislaus—the first college graduates in the family. Solano Community College is rewriting her life’s story by awarding an honorary degree to Jean Sunny Johnson Wright in recognition of the tangible contribution she has made to the betterment of her family and the community around her through her belief in the importance of education.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

**From AACC**

“December 19, 2014
Dear AACC Member:

Earlier today, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) released its long awaited draft college ratings framework. The department intends to publish the ratings system by the start of the 2015–16 academic year. Yesterday, I received a personal briefing on the framework from Under Secretary Ted Mitchell, and AACC will be submitting comments on your behalf early next year.

AACC does not support a federal postsecondary institutions rating system. We do not think that this is an appropriate role for the federal government and, more importantly, we believe that most people choose to attend their local community college because it is precisely that: higher education that is accessible, affordable, and relevant.

ED’s draft framework is explicitly targeted at different audiences with different perspectives: colleges and universities; students and their families; policymakers and the public; and accreditors and state education authorities. The department has emphasized that it is not ranking colleges, and is considering applying three rating levels in its selected areas: high-performing, low-performing, and those in the middle.

The draft framework presents metrics that ED is exploring or considering; no final set of criteria has been proposed. Most observers, including AACC, had expected the department’s plans to be more fully developed. In fact, ED is not even certain that it will place institutions into more discrete categories than predominantly 2- or 4-year degree-granting.

The draft ratings include a variety of possible metrics. Some of these metrics include:

- Student-focused metrics, such as the percentage of students who are Pell recipients, first-generation college goers, and low-income students.
- Cost of education, such as average net price and net price by quintile.
- Completion rates, including the existing IPEDS graduation rate and information on other than full-time, first-time cohorts, including part-time and transfer students that will be available beginning in 2017, and transfer rates.
- Labor market success, such as short-term “substantial employment” rates and long-term Median Earnings.

AACC is particularly pleased that the department has recognized the importance of transfers-out and workforce outcomes as part of the ratings framework. The need for this information has been repeatedly emphasized by AACC, most recently in David Baime’s testimony on the ratings system at a hearing of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance. Public comments on the proposal are due by Tuesday, February 17, 2015, either online or by e-mail to collegefeedback@ed.gov. AACC will provide more detailed information to member colleges to enable them to comment on the ratings system well in advance of the February deadline.

... Sincerely,

Walter G. Bumphus
President and CEO
From Community College League of California (CCLC): There is a long list of impending bills shared by the CCLC. We will send it to you under separate cover. The legislative season is upon us and your communication with your state legislators is important. If we can help give you access to any legislator, please let us know.

**SHARED GOVERNANCE COUNCIL**  
January 21, 2015  
2 pm – 4 pm  
Administration Building  
360 Campus Lane, 1st Floor, Board Room

**AGENDA**

Voting Members

**Faculty**
- Michael Wyly, Academic Senate President
- James DeKloe, SCFA

**Local 39**
- Jeff Lehfeldt
- Richard Crapuchettes

**Advisory**
- Dr. Leslie
- Yulian
- Peter

Minority Coalition
- Kevin Anderson
- Karen McCord

Students
- Ariyana Smith
- Erika Gonzalez

CSEA
- George Olgin (President)
- TBD

ALG
- Shirley Lewis
- Christie Speck

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<td>1. Call to Order</td>
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<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>(a) Approval of Agenda</td>
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<td>(b) Approval of Minutes</td>
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<td>December 10, 2014</td>
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<td>(c) PUBLIC COMMENTS</td>
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<td>2. Superintendent-President’s Report</td>
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<td>J. Laguerre</td>
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<td>3. Measure Q – Ideas for Library</td>
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<td>4. Human Resources Update</td>
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<td>5. Budget Update</td>
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<td>8. Adjournment</td>
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Jowel C. Laguerre, Ph.D.
Superintendent-President

“In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
**Martin Luther King Day Celebration:** On Monday, the Martin Luther King Day celebration was held at the college in the theatre. Dr. McCord and her committee put together a very nice program. Thomas Trujillo from our staff received one of the Living the Dream awards. Dr. Reverend Leroy Gainey and his wife Cheryl Gainey from the Vacaville First Baptist Church received the other awards. Mrs. and Dr. Gainey have been a strong force in Solano County mentoring and supporting families and especially guiding a lot of young people. Dr. Gainey was the first African-American pastor of the church. He is retiring from the post a year from now, but a new minister will take over in the next few weeks. Congratulations to the awardees and to the MLK celebration committee.

In addition to the awards, Honorable Judge Trina Thompson delivered the keynote address. You may remember Honorable Thompson presided over the swearing ceremony for President Young. She gave a very excellent speech. She encouraged everyone to be active in her/his community and to make sure to speak up for what is right. One of her statements and exhortation is to not “keep silent when you should not.” She asked us to avoid political disengagement. One point she shared is her listening to young people after they had watched the movie “Selma” saying whether or not they would march on that bridge knowing the danger that awaited the marchers. She asked us to appreciate those who have beaten the odds to make it possible for us to be where we are. President Young introduced the keynote speaker and as always did a fantastic job.

The ceremony featured young people as well: Kailon Loud Johnson, Shemila’s son, recited the “I Have a Dream” speech in its entirety to the delight of the crowd. Randy Erickson’s daughter also delighted the crowd with her comments about what she has done to help causes in Africa and other parts of the world by making and selling jewelry and cosmetic products. Dr. Karen McCord, Dr. Richa Slade and Ms. Diane Crosley-Mayers presided over a beautiful ceremony. Dr. Leslie Minor, Vice President for Academic Affairs provided the welcome remarks. One of the highlights of the event was a group holding banners celebrating all lives. All lives matter became the theme of the event.

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