Dear Colleagues:

Happy Mother’s Day to all mothers: not just those of biological children, but all who have nurtured others to success. Blessings for all you do! SCC mothers are the best!

The student recognition programs are at their peak this week and next. Friday we will celebrate the graduation of our Hispanic students. We started this event last year and it was a success. It is worth recognizing the hardships our Hispanic students overcome to graduate from high school and then enter college. The event will take place in the back half of the Cafeteria. Please join us to celebrate the success of our Hispanic students. At the same time and day we will graduate another fantastic class of Fire Cadets at the Vacaville Center. Congratulations to Chief McKenzie for another successful class. The weekend will be capped off with the celebration of the graduation of African-American and UMOJA students. This must-see event will take place on Sunday, May 17th in the Theatre starting at 3 p.m. The event will feature a presentation of scholarships to our outstanding students.

These events will help us put things into perspective and recognize that Solano Community College is a ship heading in the right direction and carrying with it outstanding students. Here are some additional events to celebrate our success:

- Tutor Appreciation Day – May 14th at 12 pm
- Child Development and Family Studies ECE Celebration - May 16th at 2 pm
- African American Graduate Celebration May 17th at 3:30 pm
- BBQ in honor of classified employees – May 18th at 11:30 am
- Celebration Breakfast in honor of faculty, staff and administrators – May 19th at 9 am
- Nursing Pinning Ceremony – May 20th at 11 am
- CalWORKs End of the Year Celebration – May 20th
- Graduation: festivities begin at 9 a.m. – May 21st

**Puente Showing Students the Way:** This report from Isabel Anderson points out how a program like Puente is so essential to student success.

“Our celebration was so amazing, honoring our current class of students who have completed their first year at Solano, and our graduating class, including 12 young women who were presented with Puente Stoles to wear when they walk the stage in two weeks. Among our graduates, we have students transferring to Sac State, UC Davis, UC Berkeley, UCLA, and CSU
Channel Islands, to study Business Administration, Nursing, Law, Communications, Teaching, and Marine Biology, to name a few.

As Dr Laguerre said in his speech at the event, our students and our program have been instrumental in helping SCC achieve the goal of becoming a Hispanic Serving Institute – the majority of our current class came to SCC and Puente because they knew someone who had benefitted from the program in the past!

We are grateful to Dr Laguerre for attending the celebration and supporting our Puente students year after year!

Best,
Isabel”

An alumna shared how instrumental Abla Christiansen was in her success. Abla was her pillar when things were not working out. Studies have shown that students succeed best when they have someone at the institution who can serve as an anchor for them. Isabel and Abla are that for the Puente students.

**Mischelle Loeza Shines:** An EOPS participant and student worker in the office of the Superintendent-President, Mischelle has been an outstanding employee and student. Her maturity shows at every turn as she completes some of the most difficult tasks we assign to her. She is extremely competent, self-directed, innovative and resourceful. The following announcement from Neil Glines is no surprise to those of us who have been fortunate to be around Mischelle.

“Please join me in congratulating Solano’s own Mischelle Loeza on her decision to attend UC Berkeley in the fall. She has been awarded a Kruttschnitt Aspire Scholarship from the California Alumni Association and has indicated her intention to register there. Mischelle is a true Solano success story and we should celebrate her achievement.

Neil Glines
Dean, School of Liberal Arts”

**If you were present in building 600 last week, you may have had a chance to check out the Gamers’ Club Smash Tournament. The following information was shared by Geff Freire (to Mark Berrett) about the success of the event:**

Hey Mark, I just saw your post on the Academics Page for Gamers' Club, do let Dr. Laguerre know that the Smash Tournament was a success, and that the college was advertised a bit as we had combatants from the NorCal Regional Smash Groups, they were from Modesto, San Pablo, and even Antioch! The Colleges who attended were CSU Sacramento, UC Davis, Napa Valley College with a surprise challenger of Skyline Community College! Oddly, enough Diablo Valley didn't appear.

**The final victors of the Smash Tournament:**
Smash 4 Singles: City of Fairfield
Smash 4 Doubles: City of Fairfield and Solano College
Melee Singles: UC Davis
Melee Doubles: City of Modesto + UC Davis

Lastly, Gamers' Club's Academics Division, which makes Gamers' Club a STEM Club, will be returning in August as well as Gamers' Club as a whole!

-Geff

Anatomical Demonstrations at SCC: Why these faculty are the best!

"From: Zhanjing Yu
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2015 8:46 AM
To: Jowel Laguerre; Leslie Minor
Cc: Yashica Crawford
Subject: FW: Anat. cleanup and Demo on Ap. 25, '15

Here is a report from one of the most dedicated groups of faculty on campus – the Anatomy Faculty. This group is an exemplary group in every way. There is no coincidence that the Anatomy classes are always filled quickly and have the longest waiting-list (check out the email sent by Pel-Lin yesterday). These faculty deserve a lot of credit and maybe some publicity as well.
Thanks,
John

From: Patricia Itaya
Sent: Wednesday, May 06, 2015 7:49 PM
To: Zhanjing Yu
Cc: Cristina Young; Margherita Molnar; James Word
Subject: Anat. cleanup and Demo on Ap. 25, '15

Dean Yu, I was informed that you would like a report of our activity related to the Anatomical Demo which was held in the Anatomy lab on Sat., April 25, 2015. I condensed the report a bit and incorporated suggestions from Cristina for the final product. We are hoping that you will share this report with Dr. LaGuerre as well as with VP Leslie Minor at least to emphasize the importance of embedded tutors and peer tutors in conducting the activities related to teaching Bio 4, Bio 99, and our related Outreach activities, such as the Anatomical Demos.

The 2 attached photos show the 'Willing Workers' taking a break from cleaning of the anatomy lab prior to the demos and then of the faculty and tutors/dissectors who participated in the actual demonstrations on Sat., Ap. 25.
Thank you, in advance, for sharing this report, or if you prefer, I can send it to the folks mentioned above.
Respectfully submitted by
Patsy Itaya, Ph.D."
Annual Anatomical Demonstrations at Solano College, 2015:

On Saturday, April 25, 2015, Biology faculty (School of Sciences) at Solano College sponsored the Annual Anatomical Demonstrations at Solano College, a much anticipated event among students at some of our regional high schools. This spring, Anatomical Demonstrations were supervised by 4 Biology faculty members (Professors Margherita Molnar, Cristina Young, James Word, and Patsy Itaya- all Anatomy FT instructors), and the demonstrations were conducted by 12 of our current dissectors (students enrolled in Bio 99) and embedded/peer tutors of the Solano College Tutoring Center.

At the recent Anatomical Demonstration (Ap. 25), 125 students of Anat./Phys. (A&P) or other Biology courses from regional high schools participated along with their instructors:

(1) Vacaville High School, Tom Kutz, instructor of A&P
(2) Will C. Wood High School, Michelle Hawkins, instructor of A&P and Biology
(3) Rodriguez High School, Garnett Rogers, instructor of A&P and Biology
(4) Armijo High School, Rich McKinney and Jeffrey Lane, instructors of Biology and A&P
(5) Fairfield High School, Jacqueline Alldritt, instructor of A&P and Biology.

It is noteworthy that this event was organized more than 20 years ago by Biology emeritus professors, John Nogue and Patrick Mallory, and has been hosted by Biology faculty at Solano College each year since its inception. During the most recent 10 years of hosting this event, the number of high school students participating has ranged from 100-200 each year. Each year near the end of spring semester, the anatomical demonstrations represent a labor-intensive commitment for the involved Biology instructors: (1) organization of the event with the participating instructors of regional high school A&P courses; (2) cleaning the Anatomy lab and setting up stations with anatomical models, bones, microscopes, and anatomical specimens to be used in the actual demonstrations on the Friday prior to the demonstration; (3) commitment of faculty and demonstrators (dissectors/embedded and peer tutors) on Sat., April 25 from 7am until 3pm for presentations to the participating students; (4) preparing the Anatomy lab for anatomy classes; and (5) sharing a pizza lunch with our demonstrators (dissectors and tutors), who make it possible to conduct these demonstrations to each high school group. During the actual demonstrations, participating guests rotate through 6 timed stations which take the guests on a "Magical Mystery Tour" of the body, using our dissected cadavers, models, bones, and microscopic slides. We are proud of the quality of education demonstrated by our dissectors and tutors of Anatomy; it allows for the guests to observe the product of our Bio 4 and Bio 99 courses: capable, personable demonstrators, who have as much fun as our guests!

There are four primary objectives of the Anatomical Demonstrations:
(1) supporting our colleagues who teach at our regional high school Biology programs; (2) offering to our guests clinical enrichment and a review of the major anatomical organ systems in human cadavers, since few undergraduate Anatomy courses have this resource; (3) offering our student dissectors (Bio 99) and embedded Anatomy tutors the chance to polish their presentation skills as well as reviewing anatomy; and (4) making a pitch to the visiting students (juniors and seniors in high school) for them to consider attending Solano College. Prior to group
demonstrations, each high school was introduced to highlights of Solano College as well as the 3 tracks of the Biology program (James Word, presenter.)

The Anatomy faculty participants wish to thank our dean, John Yu, for interest in the activity and the AAA (Am. Assn. of Anatomists) for supplying funds to purchase supplies for instructors at a related workshop last spring, 2014 (AAA Educational Outreach Grant, 2014, PI). The high school A&P instructors were happy for the supplies for their classroom provided by the AAA grant:

8 preserved pig kidneys in a storage container, dissection supplies, anatomical posters of the 3 systems, microscopic sections of kidney, ovary, and testis, lens paper, and flash drives uploaded with presentations, slide descriptions to accompany the microscopic slides, and relevant websites.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Anatomy Faculty participating in the event on April 25, 2015:

Margherita Molnar, Ph.D., Cristina Young, M.D., James Word, Ph.D., & Patricia W. Itaya, Ph.D.

Logo for Workshop was prepared by Iralyn Eleazar, a former embedded tutor/dissector in our Anatomy course.

This logo was used for workshop bookmarks and covers of folders for the AAA-sponsored workshop, Urinary and Reproductive Systems Workshop, Ap. 5, 2014.

Iralyn has moved on from her experiences gained at Solano College in the Anatomy, Physiology, and Biotech. labs to her current job at Genentech in Vacaville.

**Visiting Facilities at the Prison:** Professors Kristy Juliani, Terri Yumae, Dr. Yashica Crawford and I visited the State Prison last week to look at the classrooms promised us to teach classes during the day. We were very satisfied with the space. In addition to the classrooms, there is a huge space to provide academic and/or student support to those who are taking classes with SCC. This is a huge opportunity and breakthrough. We are asking members of the SCC Faculty Alliance to step forward and help us schedule classes at the facility and to help us recruit faculty to teach. My challenge to Dr. Minor and the academic deans is to have those four classrooms
occupied throughout the day and to maximize our opportunities at the Prison. We have a budget to meet and must figure out the way we will individually and collectively contribute to meeting our enrollment target of 8500 FTES.

**Aviation Program Update:** Kelly Penwell and Leslie Minor gave me an update on the implementation of the accelerated program that will enroll significant numbers of Chinese students. The plans are moving forward and key contacts have been established.

**Suisun Valley Review Release:** A huge number of faculty, staff and administrators attended the release of the SVR. The quality of the submissions and the leadership of the students were amazing to see. This event is a special one for us and one that again shows the depth of our institution. Congratulations to Professor Wyly and the team of SVR for their thirty-second publication.

**EOPS Graduation:** The event started with Associate Dean Darcangelo recognizing Ms. Cynthia Simon for her 32 years of service to the program. You read earlier of the honor bestowed on Ms. Loeza by UC Berkeley. She started with EOPS. This program needs not look far to find its keynote speakers; it draws them from alumni of the program.

**Human Services Graduation:** Professors Flatland, Boltz and the dynamic Dr. Cabrera held a graduation ceremony for the Human Services students. The students were there with their mentors, the people in social services agencies where they did their internships. They are people who join the profession for the love of helping others. A shout-out to Saki, Mary Ann, Sabine and the rest of the crew for a job well done.

**KUIC Coffee Break Broadcast:** Laura Scott won a prize to have KUIC broadcast its famous breakfast at the College this past week. We gathered a small crew and shouted our hearts out as I broadcast a message about SCC and what we can offer. Congratulations, Laura! Thank you for helping SCC shine.

**Softball and Baseball Seasons End:** Pearson-Bloom women and Stover men ended their seasons last weekend. What a year it was for both teams. Coach Pearson-Bloom won her 400th game in her career as coach. Both she and Coach Stover have consistently had winning teams in softball and baseball. I want to thank them both for a great season and for being excellent ambassadors for SCC.

**Soccer Banquet:** I attended on Saturday my sixth soccer banquet as SP at SCC. I want to congratulate Coach Cardinal for another successful season. The team accomplished an academic feat when it was recognized at the state level for an average GPA of 3.10 among the players. Leadership was recognized among these players both on and off the field. I want to also recognize Coach Cardinal for his devotion to the team and to making SCC the best women’s soccer team. Five years ago we had an All American player and had others in prior years, including Kisha Simon (Cynthia Simon’s daughter). Past players have received scholarships to four-year institutions, and are also filling a lot of coaching vacancies in the area.
The Gamers: We have a Gamers’ Club on the Fairfield Campus. Club aficionado Jeffrey always keeps me apprised of their activities. He and advisor Mark Berrett hosted a state tournament on Friday in the Boardroom. It was a perfect setting as all flat screen monitors were filled with scores, brackets and whatnot. There were teams from community colleges as well as universities. Just as our athletes can become professionals in their sports, so can the gamers earn lucrative careers in the computer industry. Student Life Director Rischa Slade has supported these students in their local tournaments that take place either late in the day or on weekends.

Super Saturday! This coming Saturday, May 16, will be filled with excitement as we expect hundreds of new and current students to flock to the Fairfield Campus to test, receive orientation and register for classes. Among them, we are expecting nine Rotary Success Scholars. We are inviting everyone to take part and be around to provide needed support for our students. This is one of many activities we are conducting to help improve our enrollment. For more information, please contact Shemila Johnson.

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

1. “It is never easy being a mother. If it were easy, fathers would do it.”-Anonymous
2. “Mom, thanks for always being slightly less disappointed in me than Dad is.”-SomeECards
3. “Mothers are all slightly insane.”-J.D. Salinger
4. “Happy Mother’s Day to the one person who believes I can do anything despite all evidence to the contrary.”-SomeECards
5. “Dear Mother-in-Law: I don’t need you to teach me how to handle my children. I live with one of yours, and he needs a lot of improvement!”-SomeECards
6. “My mother’s menu consisted of two choices: Take it or leave it.”-Buddy Hackett
7. “No language can express the power and beauty and heroism of a mother’s love.”–Edwin H. Chapin
8. “Mothers of teens know why some animals eat their young.”-Anonymous