From: <u>Joshua Scott</u>

To: ACADEMIC-SENATE; DIVDEANS; Christina Rodriguez; Amanda Morrison
Cc: Kellie Butler; David Williams; Lisa Neeley; Christina Taliaferro; Isabel Anderson

Subject: January FLEX session--Academic Senate and administrators

Date: Wednesday, December 18, 2024 4:39:47 PM

Attachments: higher-education-guidance- Promoting a Safe and Secure Campus for All.pdf

image003.png

Colleagues,

As you may remember, our original plan for the August 9th 11-1pm joint meeting of Academic Deans and Senators was to focus on Guided Pathways and to consider next steps. However, Dr. Butler suggested we pivot to a focus on "Promoting a Safe and Secure Campus Community for All Students" (see below email for more). I and the Senate exec believe this is an excellent idea, and we are grateful for Dr. Butler's leadership at this time. Our tentative agenda will be as follows:

- 1. Learn up-to-date information regarding anticipated federal action and policies regarding our mixed-status families. We also can get an update as to local guidance from the chancellor's office and ASCCC.
- 2. Q&A with Christina Rodriguez. If you have questions related to basic needs or students in mixed status families, please send them to Christina (Christina.Rodriguez@solano.edu)
- 3. Student Equity and Success update—Com St. Germaine will share some of what SESC has been up to and their priorities going forward
- 4. Open discussion over lunch. We will develop some guiding questions for groups, focusing on how we can support our students, especially our students who may be most impacted by changes in policies and procedures at a federal level.
- 5. David will share proposed Board Policy language and we can provide feedback. See attached for more on this.
- 6. Plan next steps for Spring '25 and beyond.

If you know of other faculty or staff who should be invited, please feel free to forward the Outlook Invite (from Christina Taliaferro). However, since we are planning lunch, we ask that all attendees reply to the invite so we have a headcount.

Finally, we are planning to discuss Guided Pathways during our Senate meeting on January 27th. We are hoping for a large turnout from administration so we can work in common cause.

Yours, Josh

From: Kellie Butler < Kellie.Butler@solano.edu > Sent: Monday, December 16, 2024 12:32 PM

Subject: Supporting our Students

Dear Solano Community College Family,

I am writing to address concerns about the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, and

staff in light of recent statements from the incoming presidential administration regarding immigration policies. As a community college, we are rooted in the values of access and inclusion, and I want to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to supporting **all** members of our college community.

We understand that these uncertain times may bring anxiety and fear, particularly for our students and employees from mixed-status families, and those concerned about future immigration policies. Please know we stand united as a college community, committed to providing a safe, welcoming and supportive environment for everyone.

The state of California's leadership champions the rights of all residents, regardless of their immigration status. Recently, California Attorney General Rob Bonta shared guidance to assist California colleges and universities responding to immigration issues, in a December 2024 document, "Protecting Access to Higher Education for Immigrant Students". This guidance underscores the legal protections in place in California for students from mixed status families, including:

- Privacy Protections: FERPA and the California Education Code provides protection of the confidentiality of student educational records, and colleges are not required to release information about students' immigration status to federal authorities without a judicial warrant, subpoena, or court order.
- Sanctuary Jurisdiction: Senate bill 54, known as the California Values Act, and Assembly bill 21, prohibit colleges and other state and local agencies from using resources to assist immigration enforcement activities. Accordingly, under SB 54, California state law prohibits campus police and security departments from assisting immigration enforcement officers. SCC's Department of Public Safety (DPS) is committed to keeping our campus safe for all and will direct any immigration enforcement requests to the Superintendent-President.

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- Notifications and Points of Contact for Immigration Enforcement Activities: In an effort to
 maintain a safe campus environment, students, faculty, and staff, including DPS, must notify
 the office of the Superintendent-President as soon as possible, if they are advised that an
 officer engaged in immigration enforcement is expected to enter, will enter, or has entered
 the campus to execute an immigration order.
- Access to Education: All students, regardless of immigration status, have the right to access public education in California.
 - Access to Financial Aid: Under the protection of SB 54 and AB 21, students from mixedstatus families can file the California Dream Act application (CADAA) to be considered for all California student aid programs (e.g. fee waivers, Solano Promise, Cal Grant, etc.) with assurances of privacy protections available under California law.

As a college, we will continue to uphold these protections and advocate for the rights of our

students. Furthermore, we remain committed to providing resources through <u>SCC's Undocumented Student Resources</u>. This includes access to counseling services, legal assistance referrals, and workshops on immigration rights and resources.

To our students, faculty, and staff: please know that this college is committed to your success and well-being. Together, we will continue to foster an environment of inclusion and respect, where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

If you have any concerns, questions or encounter any requests for student information, please direct inquiries and requests to the <u>Superintendent-President's office</u>.

We will continue to stand together as one community. Thank you for your resilience, strength, and contributions to our campus. Together, we will face these challenges with courage and compassion.

In Community,

Kellie



Kellie Sims Butler, Ph.D. (she/her)
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