

Inside Solano

STAYING COMMITTED AND CONNECTED

JANUARY 30, 2017

Ensuring All Students Feel Welcome on Campus



Colleagues- As the semester begins, many of you have asked, "How will we let students and the community know that everyone is welcome at SCC?" In December, the Academic Senate passed a [resolution](#) affirming "to implement best practices to identify for the community Solano Community College District

as a safe learning environment which serves equitably all its students regardless of gender identification, sexual orientation, nationality, immigration status, ethnicity and/or faith as a precondition to the free exchange of ideas and academic freedom." The resolution was presented to the Board of Trustees and the Board directed me to work with Michael Wyly, Senate President, to implement elements of the resolution as a first step to reassuring our students and the community feel welcome at SCC. Professor Wyly and I met with Lt. Travis and confirmed that our law enforcement shared our interest in keeping students safe, protecting their privacy, and adhering to FERPA, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

As a first step, we need to ensure that all faculty, staff, and student workers adhere to FERPA and do not share any information, including confirming or denying knowledge of a student, without the student's approval. Parents of dependent students are precluded from receiving information about their student without written approval. If you receive a request for information about an individual, please work with your immediate

supervisor to determine if responding is appropriate under FERPA. Students should be advised of our commitment to comply with the Privacy Act as it is outlined in the college catalog. At the beginning of each semester and term, documents will be sent to faculty and staff outlining FERPA requirements along with notification of important dates, resources, etc. We will include workshops on Flex Cal days in March on FERPA, keeping students safe, and strategies for ensuring a welcoming campus. We will also include a workshop on strategies for safely intervening if you witness harassment.

What can we do now? Acknowledging our students and each other on campus is one way to demonstrate our commitment to a safe and welcoming environment. You may recall Dr. Jeff Duncan-Andrade's suggestion that if students see us caring for each other, they will do the same. Let's reassure our students that they are safe here, that the college supports their commitment to education regardless of how they identify or are identified by others. My hope is that through professional development and other opportunities for dialogue, we will discuss further how best to ensure that our campuses are safe and welcoming to all.



Challenge Coins Given Out for Good Deeds

SCC, in partnership with the Sheriff's Office, has begun awarding "Challenge Coins" to students and staff members for actions that will improve campus life. SCC Service Area Manager, Lieutenant Brian Travis, is beginning this tradition at the college hoping to make life at the college better for all.



Challenge coins are typically used in the military and are a symbol of hard work and a job well done. They are physical proof of achievements in a soldier's life. Each one has a story behind it. What the soldier did and had gone through to earn it.

If the Campus Sheriff's Office personnel sees someone doing a good deed on any of the campuses, they will stop them and issue a Solano Community College coin.

Some of the actions that would be recognized include assisting a fellow student, a staff member, or a visitor, picking up litter and various acts of kindness that enhances the atmosphere at SCC.

"It's a way of thanking them for making our college a better community and promoting a safe, friendly environment," Lt. Brian Travis, SCC Service Area Manager said.



Stephen Hawkins with Lt. Travis

So far, two SCC students have received a challenge coin.

Student Stephen Hawkins saw an empty plastic soft drink bottle on the ground near Building 100. Without anyone asking, Stephen promptly picked the bottle off the ground

and placed it in a recycle bin nearby. His action not only helped save the environment but also will help keep our campus clean and safe for all to use. Thank you, Stephen, for caring about our campus!

Student Erica Totah saw that a person in a wheel chair was trying to access the door to Building 1400. Without hesitation she quickly went to the person's aid and opened the door for the person. Erica's action not only saved this person the unnecessary stress and anxiety but also showed the person Solano Community College students are very caring and will always come to the aid of someone in need.



Erica Totah with Lt. Travis

Thank you, Erica, for caring for those in need!

Partnership with Sheriff's Office Means Opportunities for Students



Solano College Criminal Justice students now have a great internship opportunity, thanks to a partnership

with the Solano County Sheriff's Office. Work experience is now available for a Community Service Officer (CSO) internship here on campus.

For those students who receive an internship as a CSO, job duties include: riding along with campus deputies, providing safety escorts to students, parking enforcement, taking cold police reports, crowd control during special and sporting events, campus security patrols, bike and foot patrols, patrol campus on specialized vehicles, specialized training classes, evidence recovery, crime scene investigations, office duty, school emergency situations, as other duties assigned.

For a list of all internships and volunteer opportunities available to SCC students, go to our [website](#).

A Fun Welcome Back For Students



CBS Radio & the US Army came out to welcome students back to SCC! 102.5 FM had a Wheel of Fortune game where you could win cool prizes. The US Army had a football throwing contest and pull-up & push-up challenges.

Family Dinner Event

The Family Dinner and Presentation Night event, which took place on January 25, celebrated the repeal of the MFG Law. There were a total of 42 students and their children/family in attendance.



CalWORKs Holds Two Successful Events

Welcome Back Event

The Spring 2017 Welcome Back event took place January 12, with 38 students attending. Total number of those who came out for the event was 51.



Calendar:

Feb. 1 Campus Clubs Recruiting Event

1400 building on Wednesday afternoon