



STAYING COMMITTED AND CONNECTED

August 12, 2019

Fall 2019: President's Message

*"The days are long, but the years are short."
Gretchen Rubin*

Welcome to Fall 2019! Here we are starting another school year after a much too brief summer. Some of us traveled, worked on home improvement projects, or attended to projects on campus. Others stayed around and helped us complete another successful summer session of classes and programs. Wherever you were or whatever you did, I hope you are feeling refreshed and rejuvenated in some way. Our students and our colleagues expect the best from us.



Over the summer, faculty and staff were busy moving into new buildings, planning Welcome Day, redesigning computer classrooms in Building 500, moving into the brand new Science building, hosting Summer Bridge and Cyber Camp, and preparing the campus for the start of the semester. Many thanks to those of you who spent the summer working on special projects and those who went above and beyond to get the campus ready for fall. These efforts lead to a positive student experience and a college we can be proud of.

This semester we have more changes that will positively impact the SCC experience and our reputation in the community. You will soon see an updated and revised Solano College webpage. We have secured James Thomas Media to coordinate social media, marketing, and promotional efforts. This company is locally owned by alumnus Tom Gachis, who produced the videos you may have seen at the opening of Convocation on Friday. Alexandria "Alex" Castaneda has joined us as our full time outreach specialist. She too is an alum, having completed her degrees in Biology and Chemistry and transferring to UC Davis before working for Genentech. We are pleased to welcome these two successful alumni back to SCC. The following also joined our family recently. Let's welcome them to SCC.

Welcome New Employees



Teena Atalig
Assistant Controller



Alex Castaneda
Outreach Specialist



Sylvia Dorsey-Robinson
Consultant, Student Services



Vance Deatherage
ASL Instructor



Kristina Ferree
Biology Instructor



Oscar Gonzalez
Grounds Maintenance Technician



Alma Molinari
Police Services Technician



Lisa Neeley
Interim Dean, Applied



Alyssa Prise
Admissions & Records Analyst



Rachel Purdie
History Instructor

We also have some interim positions that have been filled. They are: Dr. Damany Fisher, Director for Inmate Education and Reentry Services will be on a leave of absence through October and Chor Thao will serve as the interim director during his absence. Chor and the staff are located in the S.O.A.R. (Students Overcoming Adversity and Recidivism) Office at the Vallejo Center.

Gema Leon has been selected as the interim Director of the ASTC (Academic Support and Tutoring Center). This is a new position that will work in conjunction with faculty member Maria Isip-Bautista who has a 50% assignment in the ASTC. Gema has been working in the ASTC and previously worked in the Reading/Writing Lab.

Lisa Neeley will be our Interim Dean of Applied Technology and Business this fall. Many of you know Lisa from her work last year with Student Life. She also brings a wealth of higher education experience, including serving as the Dean of Students at the MetFilm School in London, England. In an effort to better manage the workload of the deans, Dean Maire Morinec will now be able to focus on the Vacaville Center and Travis Air Force Base, while Lisa will manage the other career technical education programs. This fall, we will post and recruit a full-time CTE Dean position to start in January.

Sylvia Dorsey-Robinson has joined us as a consultant for student services. Sylvia was Vice President for Student Services at West Hills College Lemoore for ten years and brings a wealth of knowledge and incredible energy and creativity. She will be on campus three days each week until we reopen the VPSS position.

All interim positions will be posted for recruitment in the fall semester with completion of the hiring process in spring. Please welcome our interim colleagues.

Sadly, one of our cherished colleagues passed away suddenly in July. Laura Convento, Business Operations Coordinator for Finance & Administration, worked at SCC for six years. Those of you who interacted with her know that she had a helping spirit and a reassuring demeanor. We will sorely miss her. Our college is better because of people like Laura.

It often seems that we don't have enough time for the important things that fulfill us and give us joy; even when the days are long, we seem to run out of time. As the semester begins, I hope you will find time to reflect on the important work you are doing to change our community through our students. As you walk through campus, continue to acknowledge one another, welcome students and let them know we are happy they chose SCC. My hope is that we continue finding meaning in the important work we do and know that while the days may seem long, our time to accomplish all that we need to do is short.

First Biotech Class Recognized



On April 22, more than 40 professionals and students attended the ISPE- Solano Community Advisory Panel at Solano Community College. This event was held in honor of the first graduating class from the Solano Community College Bachelor of Science Program in Biomanufacturing, which occurred in May 2019, and focused on industry trends and areas of focus for future career opportunities as well as advice on career establishment and growth.

[Read article here.](#)

Summer Projects



Top Photos:

(L) Several portables were removed as Early College High School classes moved into Bldg 300.

(R) The computer rooms 502 and 504 were upgraded and expanded.

Bottom Photos:

(L) Completed the restroom building near the Farmer's Market stand located behind the Horticulture building.

(R) Parking Lot 6 driveway underwent a re-striping.



Ribbon-Cutting for Science Building & Veterans Resource Center



All are welcome to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Science Building and Veterans Resource Center on August 21 at 5:00 pm.

Alumnus Graduates Valedictorian at UCLA



SCC alumnus Vincent Blake recently wrote Lisa Giambastiani who teaches English and Film, the following:

"I graduated from UCLA last June (as valedictorian! Yay!) and have been working at NBCUniversal's post-production department, but I really miss being in school and learning from compassionate, intelligent professors such as yourself. In fact, I still take classes at local community colleges in the evenings because I hope to prepare myself for continuing on to graduate school to study comparative literature.

I also recently wrote an article for the International Baccalaureate (IB) alumni network blog, and I of course thought of you and the other community college professors who have been so influential and inspiring throughout my undergraduate years: <https://blogs.ibo.org/blog/2019/04/18/the-road-less-traveled/>"

Congratulations, Vincent!

Academic Success & Tutoring Center Hours

The following are the locations and hours the ASTC will be open this semester.

| Location | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|---------|----------|
| Fairfield (Inside Library) | 9am-6pm | 9am-6pm | 9am-6pm | 9am-6pm | 9am-2pm | CLOSED |
| Vacaville (Rm. 138) | 9am-6pm | 9am-6pm | 9am-6pm | 9am-6pm | 9am-2pm | CLOSED |
| Vallejo (Rm. 124) | 9am-2pm | 9am-2pm | 9am-2pm | 9am-2pm | CLOSED | 9am-2pm |
| ASTC STEM Center (Rm. 434) | 9am-5pm | 9am-5pm | 9am-5pm | 9am-5pm | | |

NetTutor Now Available to Students

In addition to the tutoring services provided in the ASTC, Solano Community College is excited to announce and offer NetTutor as a free online tutoring service to our online students beginning this fall semester. NetTutor is available, 24/7, 365 days a year to assist students with their tutoring needs. Students will be able to interact with live tutors online, drop off a paper for review and feedback, or ask a question.

NetTutor offers audio and video captioning during live sessions to fit different student learning needs and is available for students to access at a later date through his or her personal NetTutor Locker. All NetTutor features are available on mobile platforms, which include iOS, Android, and Windows 8 or 10. Students that use the "Ask a Tutor a Question" feature will also utilize WorldWideWhiteboard, which offers a variety of tools for editing on a web-based white board. Video resources for students have been provided at https://solano.instructure.com/courses/1198940/pages/nettutor?module_item_id=14192191 as well as in the Student Online Learning Orientation Module of all Fall 2019 online course shells.



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