Dear Colleagues:

You all heard what happened on Wednesday, February 2, 2011. We received the letter that reaffirmed our accreditation and lifted our probation status. This was accomplished by a combination of efforts both from individuals and organizations within the College: Academic Senate, ASSC, CSEA, FaBPAC, Governing Board, Local 39, SCFA, Shared Governance Council, and many individuals associated with these groups as well as others. Again, congratulations to us and thank you, one and all.

As Dr. Beno finished congratulating us on our achievement, I offered to help with the accreditation process as a consultant-evaluator on site visits to other institutions. The staff wasted no time in sending me my first assignment that will take place in March. The timing is impeccable as our own visit is in the fall. I look forward to learning more of what is being done in the field in order to bring things back to us, as well as sharing our experience and expertise with others. Dr. Jeffrey Lamb was also tapped to be an evaluator, and he will do so this spring.

The budget continues to capture our attention. The State of the State Address by the Governor has not improved or worsened the issue for us. We are moving deliberately to address the issues that will affect the budget and the College. In the next week we will schedule some open forums to receive input into the budget and into our ideas. We are considering both increases in revenue and decreases in costs. We look forward to your participation.

Have a good weekend and a good week!

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

Governing Board
- Denis Honeychurch, J.D., President
- A. Marie Young, Vice President
- James M. Claffey, Trustee
- Pam Keith, Trustee
- Phil McCaffrey, Trustee
- Sarah E. Chapman, Trustee
- Rosemary Thurston, Trustee
- John M. Glidden, Student Trustee
- Jowel C. Laguerre, Ph.D., Board Secretary
- Tom Henry, Special Trustee

Board of Trustees Meeting Report

Governing Board Meeting Report for February 16, 2011

The following items will be covered during the Board meeting to be held on February 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Back-Half of the Cafeteria.

- The Board will recognize the football team for its outstanding season
- The Board will be asked to approve the establishment of a Human Resources Manager
- The Board will receive the 2009-2010 Audit Report
- The Board will be briefed on the College application to become Registered North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) PV Entry Level Exam Provider
Mission Statement
Solano Community College prepares a diverse student population to participate successfully in today’s local and global communities. We accomplish our mission by providing:

- quality teaching
- innovative programs
- effective transfer preparation
- a broad curriculum
- services that are responsive to the needs of our students
- life-long learning
- economic and workforce development

Honoring the Crew of Space Shuttle Challenger

As a teacher in the eighties who followed with interest the process to select the first teacher candidate in space, and as 1988 Kansas-U.S. Department of Education Christa McAuliffe Fellow, I am keenly tuned to the Challenger issues. As such, I invited a few people to join me in a short ceremony to honor the memories of the astronauts we lost on January 28, 1986. We used as a backdrop the monument ASSC erected to honor Professor McAuliffe and the seven trees that are planted between the Theatre Building and the Student Center. Over 50 students, faculty, and staff were present for the event. The Horticulture Club provided a wreath that we placed at the bottom of the monument.

John Denver sang:

She was flying for me
She was flying for everyone
She was trying to see a brighter day for each and everyone

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyFcgYn4Lxw

Honoring the memories of S. Christa McAuliffe and the crew of the Space Shuttle Challenger
January 28, 2011

Dr. Laguerre honoring the memories of S. Christa McAuliffe and the crew of the Space Shuttle Challenger
January 28, 2011

Honoring the memories of S. Christa McAuliffe and the crew of the Space Shuttle Challenger
January 28, 2011
ALG Retreat

We held a half-day retreat on Friday, February 4 with the administrators and the confidential employees of the College. Dr. Lamb and Professor Schneider shared with them a new emphasis we are putting on Service Area Outcomes (SAO’s). We reviewed the faculty and staff survey results as well as the student survey results with Dr. Myers. Both will be presented to the Board in the near future. We then reviewed the progress being made by the different units on the Strategic Plan. Except for a few areas, we are making very good progress on the goals and objectives of the plan.

Meeting with Faculty on Center for Academic Success (CAS)

Executive Vice President Reyes and I met with the faculty spearheading the CAS. Suzanna Crawford and Diane White are the leaders, but several other participants were present, including Josh Scott, Annette Dambrosio, and Corrine Kirkbride. They made several recommendations which we accepted. They will move forward to fine tune the Center. The faculty’s dedication to this project is excellent.

Dinner with Students

The students enjoyed their dinner with the Board. I was proud of the student participation. Many of these students have distinguished themselves academically or personally. The recognition will be a life-long remembrance for them.

Conversation with Professor Bob DaPrato

Bob and I had a very good discussion in regard to students with mental health issues and our support for these students, as well as the faculty and staff members who serve them. We are looking at some training and publications to raise awareness of these students. This concept will be included in our Emergency Preparedness activities.

Meeting with USDA State Director

USDA Rural Development State Director, Dr. Glenda Humiston, held a meeting in Solano County to address farmers and small businesses on issues related to the economy, trends, grants, and other activities. Dr. Lewis, Mr. Eason and I attended the event. We received valuable information about both USDA and HUD that will be beneficial to us.

Visit to Aeronautics Program

I had the pleasure of touring the School of Aeronautics with a former C-5 pilot and a current Federal Express pilot, Roxanne and Greg Knight. They were pleased to see what the students are learning and supportive of the work we are doing. Instructor Michelle Duleck has worked hard to change the face of the program. The caliber of students has improved and the program, its activities, and their outreach to the community are contributing to a revitalization of the program.
Important Dates to Remember

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<td>February 16 – Regular Board Meeting</td>
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<td>March 2 – Board Study Session</td>
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Black History Month Presentation
On Tuesday, February 1, I shared my experience and feelings about education, growing up and attaining a role in society with the UMOJA students. They appreciated what I shared with them. I want to thank Dr. McCord for giving me the opportunity to interact with our students.

Academic Decathlon: Feeding Great High School Students
My fellow Rotarians and I fed over 300 faculty, staff, and students at Rodriguez High School. The students and the adults were very appreciative of our efforts on their behalf.

Grant Meeting
Following the ALG retreat, a group of us met to discuss how to approach the $2B in grants being offered through the Department of Labor. We are seeking partnerships for some areas to apply.

The U.S. Departments of Labor and Education are cooperating to invest two billion dollars in community colleges as part of President Obama’s focus on educating more students and retooling the skills of our workers. The College is discussing how we may take advantage of the funds and intends to submit a proposal to that effect. At this point it is too early to say what the focus will be, but the deans and others have discussed and brainstormed some possibilities. We will approach some of our sister institutions to participate in a consortium as well. Grants will range from $500K-$5M for an institution to $20M for a consortium of institutions.

Budget Issues
Vice President Ligioso met with the presidents of our different groups to share information about the budget and answer their questions. There is a need for us to involve our presidents and leaders in disseminating information about the state of the budget and our finances. This meeting helped them understand the issues better so they may be prepared to answer questions.

The Financial and Budget Planning Council (FaBPAC) recommended that we work to cut $6.3M from our budget. This will allow us to meet both the increased costs and expenditures. The Superintendent-President Cabinet discussed the approaches that will be taken for this formidable task. Some of the early ideas to be vetted through the College are:

- Provide access to students in real need of courses and by doing so, limit courses for students who have already completed their degree requirements
- Look at programs that are not meeting the goals of the three prongs of career technology, transfer, or basic skills
- Review class sizes where inconsistencies exist to maximize access for students
- Use technology for delivery of instruction to meet efficiency
- Review personnel in different areas
- Explore areas of additional revenue
- Reduce expenditures in discretionary areas

We will be hosting open forums to share information with the employees and to gather input and feedback for the decisions ahead. We have been treading water and doing what we can over the past two years. This is bringing a new dimension to our challenges.
Planning Meeting with Saturday College Partners

At the Kwanzaa Celebration in December, I challenged our community to pay closer attention to the academic and personal achievements of our children. As such, we are discussing seriously the potential for a Saturday School program that would help improve educational achievement of our youth, especially those in lower grades.

A group of us are meeting to respond to a challenge that was issued at Kwanzaa to elevate the educational achievements of young people in the county and Winters. The group has brainstormed different agencies in the county with which to partner. We are still in need of more throughout the county and Winters. Please let us know of civic or leadership organizations you believe could be good partners.

Discussion with Constance Beutel on Sustainability-Benicia

Dean Jerry Kea and I had a very productive discussion with Dr. Beutel, who chairs the Benicia Commission on Sustainability. We have a follow-up meeting scheduled to connect the College with what the city is doing. We look forward to a great partnership with Benicia.

Teleconference with Gina Banks from Senator Feinstein’s Office

Executive Director Peter Bostic and I spoke over the phone with Gina Banks from Senator Feinstein’s office. We discussed several College activities and where the Senator’s office can support the College. It was a good interaction and we are following up with several ideas.

City of Suisun ATOD Program

I participated in the city’s program to diminish or eliminate young people’s exposure to alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD). This was an event organized to involve the community in solving some of its problems. The participation from all sectors of the community was very good.

Meeting with Automotive Advisory Committee

The Superintendent of the County Office of Education held an advisory committee meeting that included the automotive industry. I heard from the industry how badly needed an automotive program is. Students from Solano County either have to pay a lot of money to get educated at a proprietary school, or travel to Chabot College or Cosumnes River College to learn the trade. They are interested in participating in our efforts to start teaching our automotive curriculum again.

Meeting with Trade Union Leaders

Trustee Young, Executive Vice President Reyes, Executive Director Bostic, and I attended the luncheon for the Solano EDC. The EDC released its third annual economic indicator report. There was a heavy emphasis on the need to increase the educational attainment of Solanoans. David Hosley, whose father was an administrator at SCC, spoke about how the College has positively affected his whole family, and praised our work.
Solano Sports

**Solano Women’s Basketball** kicked off the week with a showdown of the two undefeated and state-ranked women’s basketball programs in the Bay Valley Conference. Laney was 8-0 in conference play coming into the showdown and Solano was 8-0. Solano prevailed with an 82-77 home win to remain undefeated in the BVC. Solano is now 13-9 overall and has one of the highest power ratings in the state (rating that considers strength of schedule and record).

Against Napa Valley College on Friday night (February 4), in Napa, Solano won 79-48 to go 9-0 in BVC play and now with two games to go.

**Solano Men’s Basketball** had a hard-fought loss on Wednesday night at home against the College of Alameda 68-67. The Falcons missed a shot to win with three seconds left and fell to 4-15 overall and 3-5 in BVC play.

Then against arch-rival Napa Valley College, Solano lost 64-39 at Napa in a tough physical game.

**Solano softball** opened the week of January 31 with two impressive wins. The first, a 6-0 victory at home against Diablo Valley College, highlighted the strong pitching Solano has this year. The second game, a 9-3 victory against #11 ranked College of San Mateo at San Mateo, gave an indication of what kind of hitting the Falcons possess this year. Coach Terri Pearson-Bloom’s squad entered the pre-season as the #12 ranked NorCal team.

Then on Saturday, February 5, the Falcons took on #3 ranked Cosumnes River College in Sacramento. Solano lost 2-1 on a two-out seventh inning error.

**Solano Baseball** opened its season with a Thursday (February 3) home game against Diablo Valley College. The Falcons came up short 1-3 despite strong pitching.

The team then played to a 10-inning tie, 5-5, against American River College on Friday. The game was suspended due to darkness and will be resumed Feb 22nd at American River College.

Then on Saturday, against Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, they lost 3-2 in a very close game.

**Solano Football** had good news this week when four players signed national letters of intents to get athletic scholarships to four-year universities. Vanden graduate Terrence Alston, a sophomore defensive back will play at Division I Utah State University next fall. Benicia High grad’s Boy Humphrey (quarterback) and Davonn Brumfield (receiver) will play at Midwestern State, a Division II college. Napa High graduate Daniel Burgess, a sophomore linebacker, signed with Division I New Mexico State University.
**Letter of Appreciation**

Leslie Rota shares email from student. One correction; classes she took from Jeanne Lorenz were in Printmaking – not Printshop. The classes are held in the print shop, which may be what caused the confusion.

“To my Professors of years gone by, as well as my Counselor:
Kate Delos
Marc Pandone
Jeanne Lorenz
Theresa Brunner McDonald
Nick Cittadino

I just wanted to take the time out to thank all of you for the contributions you made in my life.

When I started Solano Community College in 1994, with an intention to achieve my Art Studio degree, I took a Color Theory class with Kate. The concepts I learned in that class I carry with me to this day. I have used them for several years now to teach art to private students as well as Home School classes at the studio where I work.

I never finished my degree, but chose instead to be married and have children. Finding myself in 2008 with 3 young girls, newly single, newly unemployed, and with a desperate need to become a good provider for my children, I came back to Solano with a new purpose: to finish my General Ed classes and go into Design, using my strong Art background to broaden the base of my knowledge and experience.

My counselor, Nick, is responsible for where I am right now in my life. I had the mere intention of transferring to Sacramento State. He opened up the world to me by recommending the University of California, Davis. I laughed, unable to grasp the concept that University was within my reach and that Davis was the school for me. Nick informed me that Davis had one of the best Design programs in the country and that I had the grades to do it, if I just focused on getting the rest of my transferables out of the way. And, for your information, he is RIGHT... I am passionately in love with my school, UC Davis!

I rounded out the last 3 semesters at Solano by taking a Design class with Marc, two classes of Printshop with Jeanne, and an Art Appreciation class with Theresa. The passion with which these instructors taught the courses was inspiring. I must say, it was really a lot of hard work in Marc’s class, and I am so thankful. By pushing me harder than any other art teacher I had ever had, I rediscovered my gifts and had the foundations, now, for design concepts. In fact, because of my portfolio work that I saved of assignments completed in both Kate and Marc’s classes, I was recently able to waive two of my courses at Davis - 8 units worth! I am humbled and thankful.

By taking Printshop with Jeanne, I was amazed at the technology Solano had to work with and discovered a new love. Printing was like the perfect marriage of old school art with graphic-style finishing. It was a missing link in my art training and the facilities are, bar none, some of the best I have seen around and when the remodel is made to this department, I can only be jealous that I am no longer there at Solano! Jeanne wrote me an amazing letter of recommendation with which I have been able to successfully apply for scholarships, and I treasure the connection we made while I was a student there.
Letter of Appreciation (Continued)

Theresa's passion for Art History led me to pursue a minor in Art History at Davis. I never realized how I loved History, when it was in relation to what I am which is an artist. History is like putting together a giant puzzle, and when you get all the missing pieces, a huge picture appears...it makes your work as an artist "make sense" and have relevance. It gives depth and meaning and life to your world.

So, here I am in my second Quarter at UC Davis, where I have recently found myself on the College of Letters and Science Dean's Honors' List. I will be studying this summer in London with UCD and will be a mentor in Design 001, fall 2011, under the amazing leadership of Dr. James Housefield (one of 20 mentors, chosen from 200 students in this past Fall Quarter class). I have had the rare opportunity to meet and ask questions of two of my heroes: Wayne Thiebaud, father of West Coast Pop Art and Sumner Stone, font creator and designer for Adobe Illustrator when it was first pioneered.

I am a phoenix, rising from the ashes of a horrible past and feel as if there is nothing I cannot do. All of this, with thanks to you...

My sincere appreciation for the gift of a new life,

Nadja D. Fitchhorn"

SCC Inclusion as a Local College for CSU Impaction

Marcie McDaniels shares email from Emiliano Dias, Director of Admissions & Outreach at Sacramento State.

"Thank you for your email Ms McDaniels and congratulations on your new role. Last year we submitted our proposal for campus level impaction to the CSU Chancellors Office and Sac State was approved. In our proposal, we designated Solano Community College (this includes the Vacaville campus) as part of our “local area for admission.” Under campus-wide impaction, applicants from within the local area for admissions will not be required to meet supplemental criteria. In other words, as is already and has long been the case, local applicants will only need to meet current minimum CSU admissions criteria.

Emiliano Diaz”

Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA)

Executive Vice President Reyes, Executive Director Peter Bostic, and I participated in the APAPA general meeting in Sacramento. It was a good opportunity to meet several prominent Asian-American leaders and share with them updates on Solano Community College. This is a statewide agency that is very progressive in the support of Asian-Americans.
Tour of Vacaville Center with Regina and C.C. Yin

The Yins, two great supporters of the College, brought to the Vacaville Center a Chinese television crew to interact with us on January 17. This was an approach the Chinese television station is doing to share with their audience the activities and involvement of Chinese-Americans as part of their New Year celebration. I shared with the potential viewers the benefits of studying at Solano Community College.

Career Education Fair

If you are part of a career education program please read the following:

On Sunday, May 1st from 10am-3pm, the Vocational Education committee and Tech Prep will host a fair to promote the College's career education programs and celebrate “65 Years of Building Careers.” The main topics/information for the fair are as follows:

1. The event will target high school students with their parents, and the community at large (unemployed workers retraining, etc.)
2. The event will be heavily promoted (radio, newspaper, canvassing of high schools, Facebook) and we are hoping for a large turnout.
3. We envision something “big” with participating SCC programs taking an active role, for example:
   - The Fire Academy will bring fire trucks and give demonstrations (such as the use of fire extinguishers and fire hoses)
   - The Criminal Justice department will have police cars and K9 units on display.
   - The Cosmetology department will donate free manicures as prizes and have an open house.
   - The Drafting department will have hands on demonstrations for community members.
   - The Photography department will give demos, short seminars, and have special photo displays highlighting people in the workplace.
4. We will be asking ASSC to host or co-host a BBQ for visitors.
5. There will be free drawings--suggested prizes include bookstore gift certificates, $100 tuition reimbursements, and prizes donated by local businesses, or from advisory committees.
6. We hope to get participation from local industry (to provide prizes and support) and will welcome successful graduates (to talk to prospective students about their experiences at the College).

We hope all career education programs (i.e., any program that receives VTEA money) will participate. Ideally participating programs will have some kind of demonstration highlighting the specific program, though it may simply be scheduled presentations to educate the public about different programs (for example, a tour of the horticulture facility at 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., or a surveying demonstration by the county surveyor in front of Building 1400 at noon) and a general open house.

The first step is to find out what programs will be involved. From there we can iron out the specifics. Each department can take care of their own areas of expertise but we will organize the overall event (promotion, working with facilities for needed equipment/space, creating maps and informational material for visitors, organizing a schedule of events, etc.)

A reservation form will arrive in a few days and to get the best prices on advertising we will need to know who wants to participate by Feb 16. For questions contact Debra Berrett – Occupational Education Coordinator at extension 7139.

Thank you!
Career Education Fair Committee
Speech and Debate Team

Your Solano Speech and Debate Team had a great weekend (2/5/2011) racking up 6 first place finishes in individual competition. These wins led Solano to take second place overall at the tournament, beating teams from Santa Rosa, CSU Chico, De Anza, and DVC. Chabot College beat your Speaking Falcons by only five sweepstakes points with a team and half times as large. In team debate we competed in an invitation only round robin debate tournament where Solano finished second place, beating teams from Santa Rosa, De Anza, Chabot, DVC, and Columbia Colleges. We are extremely proud of the student’s hard work and dedication.

Visiting Biotech Program

Visiting our classrooms and labs is always a treat. While visiting the Biotechnology lab on January 28, I remained impressed with the program faculty; Jim Dekloe and Dr. Ed Re. I was also impressed with the caliber of the students, their diverse backgrounds and interests.

Meeting with ASSC Executive Committee

I held my first meeting with the ASSC Executive Committee. We discussed the budget, and the previous ASSC funding of the construction of a monument to honor Christa McAuliffe. We will hold a discussion this coming month with ASSC in regard to the budget.

A Note of Gratitude and Commendation

By Dean Máire Morinec

“Dear Barbara, Pei-Lin, and Jim,
I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff. I have received this year’s Perkins certification numbers. If you will recall, last year, our numbers were low—3523 Unduplicated CTE Economically Disadvantaged Students. After researching like schools and having attended several workshops on CTE and Perkins, it was my belief that our numbers should be much higher and I came to you with the problem. Not only did you and your departments take on the task of researching whether or not we were capturing the correct data but you did it while working on many other important projects for the college. The survey was implemented, additional data was retrieved from Banner and courses were looked at for correct SAM coding in an effort to capture all of the necessary data. I am extremely happy to report that you were successful!! Our CTE Unduplicated Economically Disadvantaged students’ numbers that were reported in the MIS has increased 43.6% to 6214. This will result in additional funding available to SCC at a time our college truly needs it. Thank you again for all of your hard work. You did it!!!! Please share this with everyone who worked on this project.

Maire A Morinec MS, RN
Dean
Health Occupations, Public Safety, Child and Family Studies”

A Response from Jim Ennis:

“Thank you for the feedback and compliments. As you know, management’s role is task staff with a job and then give them what they need to do the job. The staff do all the real work!

Seweryn Makosa and Evette Nichols should be given full responsibility for making this happen on the IT side (with JR playing a smaller part).”

Accreditation Standard IVB Subcommittee

Trustee Young treated our committee to lunch on January 28. We reviewed the work we have done and are quite pleased with our progress. We look forward to sharing our draft with the Board in the near future.
Dr. Martin Luther King Activities in Vallejo

I participated in the MLK event at Hogan High School along with Trustees Young and Thurston. One of the speakers, Reverend Danté Quick, gave a very passionate plea for the community to attend to the issues that affect Vallejo. Pastor Quick and I will be in contact to coordinate our efforts to serve the entire community.

Commander-in-Chief Social for Excellence Award

I represented the College at a couple of events that could make Travis AFB the choice for the best Air Force Base in the world. Travis is one of two finalist (the other is in Germany). The site we have at the base was noted as an important ingredient in the success of the airmen/airwomen and their dependents. We certainly wish Travis AFB the best in winning the Commander-in-Chief Trophy.

Sexual Harassment Training Held

Our administration participated in the required sexual harassment training for administrators. Laura Schulkind from Liebert Cassidy Whitmore conducted the training for us.

Meeting with The Leaven Children in East Tabor

A group of Leaven children off of Travis Boulevard collected funds to send to Haiti after the earthquake last year. This year the group at East Tabor collected funds to support an orphanage in Haiti. They gave me a plastic bucket filled with dollars and coins to send to Haiti. I had an opportunity to address the children and thank them for the orphans who will benefit from their generosity.

Open House at Congressman Garamendi’s Office

Congressman Garamendi held an open house for his new office in downtown Fairfield. Green Program Coordinator Paul Fair, Peter Bostic, and I attended the event. It was good to interact with the Congressman and his staff, and also to connect with different individuals and businesses from the county.

Retirement Party for Dr. Ella Tolliver

Trustees Young and Thurston and many other faculty, staff, and friends attended a very nice retirement party for Dr. Tolliver. The Counseling Department outdid itself by ensuring that Dr. Tolliver’s outstanding work with the College was recognized. Thank you to all who made this possible. A big thank you to the Facilities Department for the support of the program.