



## RICHARD J. DALEY COLLEGE

ONE OF THE CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO

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COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2006

FCCCC President's Address  
CCC Board of Trustee's Meeting  
Thursday, September 7, 2006

Chairman Tyree, members of the Board, Officers of the District, faculty, staff and all others present: Good morning!

Oh, I forgot to mention one person: *bienvenido de nuevo al* Chancellor Watson. After having spoken with him shortly after his return, I can confirm that he did, indeed, begin to learn Spanish and, that if he had stayed the full three months, would have returned even more fluent, both linguistically and culturally.

I also would like to wish you all a "Happy New Year." I don't know about you, but for me as an educator, the "New Year" begins when school starts. And, as with all "New Years," optimism runs high and new resolutions are made. With this in mind, I would like to share some of the numerous faculty-administration initiatives that are both new and on-going this fall.

First, language. Chancellor Watson's six-week stay in Salamanca, Spain, was (and continues to be) transformative. Keeping in step with the theme of globalization and recognizing the importance of second language acquisition, the Spanish Language Initiative kicked off last Friday. The goal is to send a group of 20 students and two faculty members to Spain next June for four to six weeks for an intensive Spanish language and culture immersion program. The challenge for the faculty is to set the guidelines for students and to find alternate funding sources. In subsequent years the Chancellor would like to include China, India and an Arabic-speaking country as part of the CCC's commitment to increase our students' competitiveness in a globalized economy.

At the same time the foreign language faculty is exploring adding a foreign language requirement for the Associate of Arts degree. To that end we will meet in two weeks to begin discussing student learning outcomes for our introductory Spanish program and explore revamping our Heritage Speakers' program, that is, creating a dynamic curriculum for our native Spanish speakers who have been raised in Spanish-speaking households but have never formally studied Spanish.

Second, discipline-specific curriculum development. As was done with Nursing and pre-credit Math last year, this academic year promises to be a busy one for Associate Vice Chancellor Aybar with the addition of English, Physics, Biology, one course in Chemistry and a couple of Math courses. All of this fits within the parameters of the Recalibration team which you have heard about this morning.

Other new initiatives include the launching of CurricUNET, the on-line course and program development tracking tool and TurnItIn, the anti-plagiarism software.

As for me, my goals continue to be the same as last September's: improve communication between the local faculty council with the district faculty council, visit each local faculty council meeting and to have at least one of you attend a Faculty Council meeting. This fall we have three meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 3:00 PM at Malcolm X College: September 20, October 18 and November 15. Please don't hesitate to contact me for details.

Have a great "new year."

Respectfully submitted,  
Todd Lakin, President, FCCCC