

## **Chancellor Board Remarks – December 3, 2009**

**First I would like to extend my condolences to the family of Michael Scott, President of the Chicago Board of Education, who passed away November 16<sup>th</sup>. He was a friend to the City Colleges and a personal friend of mine for more than 30 years. He will be missed.**

**Again, it has been a very busy month. I have re-connected now with all of the college faculty and staff, having visited each of the colleges this semester.**

**We've posted the Chancellor's position on the CCC website which incorporates the comments gleaned from the three public forums held by the Board.**

**On November 10<sup>th</sup> I had the pleasure of celebrating with five (5) Daley College students who were awarded \$1,000.00 each as winners of their collaborative diversity research project. The contest was sponsored by Chicago United. As you know, Trustee Castillo is executive director, however this was a juried contest and Trustee Castillo's bias was not tested. You will hear from their faculty mentors in a few minutes.**

**VC Henderson, AVC Richardson, and I met with Pamela Tate, President of CAEL, to discuss strategies for providing certification for learning outcomes desirable for employers. I have invited Pam Tate to our next Officers of the District meeting to review some of these strategies with the College Presidents.**

**Through an invitation by VC Metcalfe, VC Henderson and I met with the Dean of Applied Sciences from IIT. As a result of that meeting, we are scheduling a meeting with the president, provost and appropriate**

**administrators from IIT along with our college presidents to develop articulation strategies.**

**I attended a meeting of the Presidents' Council on November 13<sup>th</sup> with several other CCC presidents, where we listened to very pessimistic projections surrounding FY 2011 funding, with preliminary projections of a 24% reduction from this year's allocation. Several of the members of the Presidents' Council returned to Chicago yesterday to join CCC college presidents for a meeting with the Metropolitan Workforce Board of Chicago where we discussed "Federal Initiatives Impacting Colleges and Workforce Preparation." One of the topics discussed was a grant opportunity wherein CCC will take the lead with a consortium of 13 -18 community colleges within 10 states seeking funding to train students for Health Information Technology programs, responding to President Obama's Health Information Exchange initiative.**

**Finally, through the leadership of VC Ken Gotsch, we are launching this district's Business Continuity Plan, which will integrate our existing components, including the CCC Alert System, the Emergency Response Manual, and the Disaster Recovery Plan. The development of this overall plan will take approximately 12 months to complete. Failure to have such a plan could lead to unnecessary injury, financial disaster, interruptions of academic classes, and delays in completing mission critical activities. We will keep you updated on our progress.**

**As the holiday season approaches, on behalf of the Officers of the District, I joyfully wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanza, and Happy Hanukkah.**

**Thank you.**