

2/8/08

Dear Colleagues,

\* Great News - thanks to all of your collective efforts, we have increased both FTEs and headcount numbers for the Spring semester!!!!!!!

Our third week numbers (those that the commissioner's office count as official) are up 97 FTEs and up 227 heads from this time last spring. Additionally, our institutional headcount inclusive of all programs, credit and non-credit is currently at 23,382. I want to thank you all for making this happen - it is because of you! Now, please join with me in working to keep these students here throughout the semester. I know our collective focus on student success is making a difference.

\* In other updates, the legislative session is midpoint with an atmosphere that is filled with energy- both positive and otherwise. We will need to keep sharing the critical message of why SLCC is an important player, and why our priorities are worthy of support. Thanks to the many staff who attended UHESA day at the capital on Thursday. For those of you who were not able to, please check out VP Bishop's legislative link off of the college website to see who your personal legislators are and email them with your thoughts. Where appropriate, do also encourage your students to voice their opinions to the legislature.

\* Congrats to our Thayne Center for once again being named to the national President's Honor role for our work in community and service learning and to our Men's and Women's basketball teams for their strong play to date in the season!

\* As we continue to work on growing enrollment, we must look at creating new ways of access to our courses and broadening ways of scheduling them for greater access. Thanks goes to the cross-college enrollment management team for their on-going work with all divisions of the college and the executive cabinet. One term we are closely reviewing is our upcoming summer term. As we look to adding cohorts of new students in several of our programs with waiting lists, such as dental hygiene, we will be returning to the college being operational on a five day week throughout the summer to accommodate expansion of program offerings. This will also allow for further scheduling options for other courses/programs and hopefully result in greater enrollments for the academic year. I have asked each vice president to work within their division to flex the time of employees who may wish to continue on a 10 hour/day, 4 day work week as long as each office provides quality service and coverage while our students are here. If this is something you wish to discuss with your respective vp/supervisor please know they will try to be equitable and fair to all.

\* On a final note, our beloved Yvonne Beasley has chosen to begin her retirement next week to address several on-going health issues. She promises she will be back for a farewell luncheon once she has regained full health and so we will have this as soon as she gives us the okay. Until that time, please drop her a line to wish her well - after 19 years of dedicated service to SLCC, I know she has many friends and well-wishers. We will miss her tremendously in the president's office, but want what is best for her and her health.

I do believe the weather may provide a respite from the snowy days of the last two weeks for the upcoming week-end. However you find relaxation and enjoyment- do take a minute for yourselves over the next few days. Thank you again, for all you have contributed to the success of this semester and our students.

Most Sincerely,

*President Bioteau*