April 30, 2012

Colleagues,

I want to thank all who attended the "Brainstorming Forum" on April 25th. There are many good ideas that were put forward. We have posted the list that was developed on our "Road to Recovery" website and the Executive Council will be taking these up in the coming weeks.

I encourage you to look it over and to keep the ideas flowing—if you have thought of something else, please email it to Vikki Carr.

As you are aware, this was my first forum since I was appointed Superintendent/President and it was a great way to start. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have sent congratulations. As I mentioned in the newspaper article, I have felt both a bit overwhelmed and at the same time very excited about the opportunities ahead.

In my years here at IVC, I have seen us grow as a family. Sure, we experience difficult challenges at times but our mutual connections remain strong. That was shown at the campus forum as we worked together to come up with ideas—some may work, others may not. But a journey has begun.

I am not naive and I realize that mistakes have been made in the past. We are living with some of those fiscal errors. I also fully realize that the ultimate solutions are structural and will not be solved alone by the ideas generated at the campus forum. However, the same kind of campus involvement shown at the forum will be crucial as we move forward.

The real work lies ahead. There is no doubt that it will be an intense and challenging time. Over the next 12 months, there will be many difficult choices to make as we reconfigure this college to the fiscal realities that face us.

We will not always agree on solutions. But that's okay too. Our campus community can handle that.

That's what family is all about.

I am proud to be leading this college and count on your support.

Victor