



Letter from the Chancellor

To valued members of our community -

Community colleges are about the promise and opportunity for everyone to achieve their potential. I can speak from experience, because I'm one of the lucky ones who got a great start in higher education through a community college at a time when the economy was struggling. I started as an office assistant, continued my education, and years later had worked my way up to college president and now, Chancellor of this great district. I am also fortunate to have had an excellent role model and mentor in Charles Mitchell, who continues to inspire me.

In bad times and in good times, people turn to community colleges because they want a better life. Today, community colleges are in the spotlight, and for a good reason. Relevant training and education have always been the strengths of our system, and are more urgently needed now than at any time in recent history.

Our campuses are flooded with students and workers of all ages. Some are earning an associate's degree—or even a bachelor's degree. Others are learning or upgrading technical skills to enter or re-enter the workforce. Still others come to us to learn English and basic skills so they can prepare for employment and further study.

Community colleges are also about promise for our region. We're changing individual lives, and we're working in partnership with business, labor, manufacturing, education and civic organizations throughout our community so Seattle will continue to be strong and vibrant.

I firmly believe that Seattle is a better place because of the Seattle Community Colleges, and I look forward to working with you to keep us in the forefront.

The future holds many opportunities.

Jill A. Wakefield

Jill A. Wakefield, *Chancellor*
SEATTLE COMMUNITY COLLEGES



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