Greetings! I did not want to dwell on budget issues in this campus update. It is the holiday season, you are all extremely busy serving students and you quite frankly do not need a negative message. I will provide another campus update in January after the Governor releases the revised state budget.

I would like to recognize the outstanding efforts of the many people who worked to develop the Student Success Plan. The Board approved the plan at the December 9 Board meeting. I am also very impressed with the work accomplished by the Educational Master Plan Task Force. The draft plan is well-prepared and as it is reviewed by various constituency groups, it will gain credibility and become the road map for integrated planning.

In an effort to reach out to our tech-savvy students, Cerritos College is now connected with Facebook, MySpace and Twitter. We can now tweet, not twit! In the spirit of the holidays, Marla Burns should be congratulated for her work on Project Love which provided gifts and hope for a happy holiday to needy Navajo children.

This has been a very successful fall semester. The Cerritos College Foundation has awarded 35 students with scholarships totaling over $17,500 which is only a portion of what will be awarded this academic year. Last year, over $166,000 was awarded to students to further their education. The Nursing Pinning Ceremony on December 4 was very moving and 50 students received their well-deserved rite of passage into the nursing profession.

The Student Activities department will honor over 300 students for their service to the College and community tonight at the ASCC Fall Awards Banquet. Our athletic teams also had a great fall season. Several conference championships were won and most teams qualified for postseason play. Special recognition goes to Doug Wells for his selection as California Track and Field Coach of the Year and Frank Mazzotta for his 200th win in college football.

Please remember to visit the Art Gallery to view the work of our very talented faculty and students. If you have holiday parties to attend, do not forget to visit the Cosmetology department for a cut and style or other services. Cerritos has so many other wonderful programs to acknowledge – this message could go on and on.

Enjoy the time off with your family and friends. Your efforts to serve our students during this difficult time, in the classroom and through student services, should be revered as a perpetual gift.

Sincerely,
Dr. Linda L. Lacy
President/Superintendent