

Jowel C. Laguerre, Ph.D.

A native of Haiti, Dr. Laguerre became Superintendent/President of Solano Community College District on July 1, 2009. Solano Community College serves over 10,000 students annually. The College offers transfer programs to four-year universities, a wide range of two-year degrees, numerous vocational certificates of achievement, and extensive life-long learning classes.

Dr. Laguerre holds a Ph.D., in Educational Leadership for college and university administration, a Master's of Science in Education in School Administration and a Master's of Arts in French Literature from the University of Kansas, and a Certificate in Mathematics and Physics Education from l'Université d'Etat d'Haiti: Ecole Normale Supérieure, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Prior to joining Solano Community College, Dr. Jowel Laguerre was the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) in Reno Nevada, which has an enrollment of over 13,000 credit students annually. Dr. Laguerre previously served as Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Services at Montgomery College (Maryland). He held academic and student services positions at Lake Superior College (Minnesota): Vice President of Student Services and Learning Support, as well as Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Director of Academic and Student Affairs.

Since 1978, Dr. Laguerre has taught English as a second language, French, Haitian-Creole, physics and mathematics. He has published, in cooperation with Bryant C. Freeman, a Haitian-English dictionary and he recently published with Dr. Cécile Accilien through McGraw Hill, a Haitian Phrasebook and is working on a Haitian-Creole textbook for those who want to learn Haitian-Creole.

He founded **TEACHERS OF TOMORROW** to recruit young people into the teaching profession in response to the shortage of minority teachers. He was Director of the **I HAVE A DREAM** program in Kansas City, Missouri, where he mentored fifty-nine African-American-young men and women to become college students.

At Solano Community College (SCC), Dr. Laguerre was instrumental in approving and supporting the UMOJA program which caters to African-American students. He led the College in a bond campaign to raise \$348M for new construction, facilities renovation, technology upgrades and a new Military Veterans Center. Dr. Laguerre is one of the founders of the Solano County Education Initiative (SCEI) which helps to coordinate activities among different organizations serving the young people of Solano County as well as the Vallejo Education and Business Alliance (VEBA). He partnered with Sonoma State University to offer bachelor's degrees at SCC.

He is a member of the Civic Leader and Advisor to the United States Air Force Secretary and the Chief of Staff. He has been a Rotarian for over ten years and was an honorary commander at Travis Air Force Base. He is the 1988 U.S. Department of Education Christa McAuliffe Fellow for the state of Kansas and was selected and recognized as Educator of the Year by the Montgomery County African-American Chamber of Commerce.