Good Evening,

Madame Chair Dr. Even, Members of the Board, Colleagues and Guests.

I am Scott Collins, and tonight I am speaking on behalf of PCCEA and the full-time faculty.

We want to begin by offering our appreciation to Suzanne Miles for her efforts over the last 13 months to move Pima College in a new direction and for the several times during that period where she took actions to help the College that conflicted with her own self-interest. We particularly appreciate her realization that continuing as Interim Chancellor would be detrimental to the College and her willingness to step down voluntarily and gracefully.

We would like to recognize the rapidity with which a new Interim Chancellor was named. Identifying and successfully recruiting a quality Interim Chancellor in less than a month is a significant accomplishment. We want to thank you for the significant role the employee leadership had in this incredibly compressed selection process. We hope that Dr. Harris appreciates that she has the unanimous support of the employee organizations. These are healthy and productive achievements.

This is certainly a time of transition and next week we will learn the exact path that the College will need to follow to regain our sterling reputation. Regardless of the sanction imposed by the HLC, the College has a lot of work to do. We will all need to contribute in different ways maybe unusual ways. It is the position of the PCCEA Executive Board that the most significant contribution that the Board of Governors can make in this effort is to establish a staggered schedule of resignations that permits a seamless transition from one Board to the next as smoothly as we switched Chancellors. This would be a monumental step forward, a healthy, predictable transition based upon a sincere desire to benefit the College.

Nobody questions your dedication to Pima College. It is exactly this dedication that we are relying upon. We ask that you recognize that a graceful and planned exodus eliminates much of the turbulence surrounding the College, helps to facilitate the change in leadership called for by the HLC, avoids the drama associated with recall elections, and allows for replacements to be selected in an orderly fashion. We urge you to take ego out of the calculation and focus on what is best for the College. Thank You.