



# MJC Reflection

March 21, 2014

It is a beautiful and busy spring at MJC. This afternoon a lively group is focused on distance education planning as part of the comprehensive development process for our next Title V grant proposal. Others are completing the final stages of proposal review and revision of a Career Pathways regional collaborative grant that involves many of our local partner institutions. It is exciting to have funding opportunities that are a good fit for the needs at MJC and I look forward to having good news to share on the grant front.

**Student Success** – Last Friday, Academic Senate Presidents, Dr. James Todd and Professor John Leamy, joined the Chancellor, Vice Presidents, and Presidents at the state equity conference in Oakland. The event served as a formal reintroduction of college Student Equity Plans as part of the SSSP initiative. Brice Harris, Chancellor, California Community Colleges, Rob Bonta, Assembly member, 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, and Scott Lay, President/CEO, Community College League of California were among the many presenters and panelists. My biggest take away came from Manuel Pastor, Director, Center on Environmental and Regional Equity, University of Southern California who was the keynote speaker. Dr. Pastor emphasized the importance of spending time on the dialog, noting how critical it is for colleges to have a clear and shared picture of the equity issue they strive to resolve. This is where MJC will begin the Student Equity Plan development process.

**Honoring Professor Mullins** - On Sunday, March 16, 2014, the President's Award was presented posthumously to Professor Charles Mullins at the State Championship Forensic awards ceremony. This most prestigious award is a distinguished and fitting tribute honoring the excellence of Professor Mullins.

**Congratulations-**

*MJC Pirates Baseball* for an amazing season to date. Coach Bo Aiello, Asst. Zeb Brayton, and the Pirates return to the MJC field tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. against Consumnes River College.

*CAL Leadership Contestants* for outstanding results at the CAL (California Agriculture Leaders) statewide leadership competition. Professor Steve Amador and Director Don Borges can not only be exceptionally proud of the competition results, but also of the fine impression they made on university faculty attending the event.

*MJC Speech and Debate Team* had another exceptional showing at the California Community College State Championship Tournament. Dr. Jim Sahlman's son, Jon, distinguished himself as the biggest winner medaling in Parliamentary Team Debate and Duo Interpretation.

Professor Layla Spain on the arrival of beautiful baby girl Rebecca on March 6<sup>th</sup>!

*The difficulty lies not so much in developing new ideas  
as in escaping from old ones.*

John Maynard Keynes

**JILL STEARNS**  
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