



**Jill Stearns**  
President

[mjc.edu](http://mjc.edu)

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Greetings!

The final day of week one has arrived and I'm getting my bearings. I am able to drive to and from both campuses without using navigation and have even tried an alternate route suggested by Carolyn and Barbie. I did manage to get quite lost looking for a restaurant on 9<sup>th</sup> Street on Tuesday, but that was just part of the adventure and certainly won't be the only time I will take a less than direct route!

The weekly memo that Dr. Mary Retterer began will continue, but I need your help. Please email suggestions for a name for the weekly update to the campus community. The update is moving to the end of the week, so Monday names won't be a good fit. The individual who submits the selected title will be lauded with recognition, thanks, and a cup of coffee!

#### **In the news:**

**Dr. David Baggett**, professor of agriculture, was selected as a member of the 2012 class of the E. Kika de la Garza Fellowship Program. The 27 fellows, from HSIs across the nation, were selected based on the compatibility of their interests with USDA mission areas, as well as the value their experiences will add to their institutions' educational capacities. More information is available at: <http://www.hsi.usda.gov/HSIs/fellowship.htm>

**Phi Theta Kappa**, honor society at MJC, received special commendation during the Nevada/California Regional Convention for fulfilling all requirements to be named a **Two Star Chapter**. Dr. Jim Beggs, English faculty, serves as the advisor of the chapter that was also recognized at the Society's recent Annual Convention and is recognized on the Society website: [www.ptk.org](http://www.ptk.org)

**Student Mental Health Program**, MJC and Columbia College were awarded grants from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to increase the colleges' capacities to respond to the growing need of students with mental health concerns. Congratulations to Dr. Antoinette Herrera, Director of MJC Health Services and Jenni Abbott, Director of Planning and Grant Development. The grant will support development of a peer-to-peer training program for students and staff and the establishment of a college behavioral intervention team to address critical health and safety needs on campus.

**Budget**, the state legislature has enacted the 2012-13 Budget Act which will be presented to the Board of Governors next week. A summary is available at: [http://www.mjc.edu/general/president/budget\\_final\\_1213.pdf](http://www.mjc.edu/general/president/budget_final_1213.pdf)



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**Accreditation**, the action letter from the Commission was received this morning and has been added to the Accreditation section of the MJC website. The letter outlines the recommendations to be addressed in the Follow-Up Report due October 15, 2012, and confirms a subsequent visit by Commission representatives. [Quick link to letter](#)

My thanks for a great first week. I appreciate the warm welcome from those who stopped by the office or greeted me on campus. I'm thrilled with the talented team that is in place and look forward to meeting you soon! I'm not the quote expert that Dr. Mary is, but when I saw this it caused me to think about the implications in education.

*Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish on its ability to climb a tree,  
it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.* *Albert Einstein*

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