

Hello and thank you to our Board of Trustees, Chancellor Yong and the District Office for the opportunity to address you all today. I am joining you for the first time as the Academic Senate President at MJC during a period of dynamic transition and exciting possibilities. We have not yet had our first senate meeting since I started in this new role, so while I don't have much to report in the way of senate actions I will go over some of the work we are continuing to focus on. I would also like to indulge myself a bit and reflect on the changes that have occurred over the last year and half and to look ahead at some of the possibilities that these changes have created.

The last 16 months we have faced a global pandemic and its impact on our community and education have been immense. In order to meet the needs of our students and the community we serve we had to adapt in ways that would have likely seemed impossible if it hadn't been forced by circumstance. We are immensely proud of the resilience and hard work shown by faculty, staff, administrative partners, and students as we grappled with uncertainty in many parts of our lives. We moved online, learned new technologies, worked collaboratively, and learned to communicate in new ways. At the same time that many of us were physically disconnected from campus we were also more connected than ever with live zoom lectures, virtual office hours, and virtual meetings. I was surprised by the ways I became more connected to my students and colleagues. I've never had so many students visit office hours as they do now that they're online and students who never would've spoken up in class are thoughtfully and actively participating on virtual discussion boards. Our virtual senate meetings have been better attended by faculty and have had more community involvement than I ever remember them having. Moving to virtual spaces created access for a lot of people who were previously unable to participate in person and I hope that we can maintain that access whenever possible in the future.

This fall, as we celebrate MJC's centennial, we are honoring the past while looking to the future and considering what it means to be a community-focused institution of higher education. It's an exciting time and MJC's Academic Senate will have plenty to keep us busy. We are going to continue our work on [S19-A](#): Creation of a Teaching and Learning Center at MJC. With all of the changes in instruction modalities and the investments being made in hyflex and other instruction technology, investing in professional development to make sure that we make good, pedagogically sound, and equitable use of the technology is essential.

In keeping with [several resolutions](#) passed by the Academic Senate of California Community Colleges (ASCCC), we are looking forward to revitalizing the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee in support of the important work that needs to be done to make sure that everyone in our community knows that they belong and can succeed at MJC. The Teaching and Learning center and the professional development it will provide will be instrumental in realizing this goal.

We are continuing the wonderful work supporting the education of the incarcerated started under Chad Redwing's leadership in [F19-A](#). The pilot program was completed in the spring and we hope to continue growing this program to serve the REACT facility and the juvenile detention center right off campus this coming year.

Our work on Guided Pathways is progressing as well. The current phase being rolled out are the Schools and we can now build community and support around them since the campus will be more open. Our work on Guided Pathways has also led to us developing more contextualized learning, which gives our students valuable, real-world connections to the content and skills they're learning in class. It has also encouraged us to further develop more equitable, streamlined curricular processes related to Credit for Prior Learning in accordance with [board policy 4235](#).

These are just a few things that we will be working on as we head into the next academic year. The MJC Academic Senate looks forward to working collaboratively with the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor and District Office

to ensure the continuing quality of education at MJC, to develop dynamic and flexible approaches for our return to campus, and to deepen our roots in the community we serve, all while maintaining the primacy of our students as we work toward realizing our visions of MJC.

That concludes my report. Thank you.