

Modesto Junior College

Academic Senate

February 10, 2022

Resolution S22-D:  
In Tribute & Honor of  
Professor Rebecca Reyes, MFA

Proposed by: Erin Dark-Herold, Yvonne De La Cruz Sanchez, Cynthia Duclo, Ariana Gonzalez, Annaliese Hausler-Akpovi, Shirley Miranda Brenes, Theresa Rojas, and the Literature and Language Arts Division at Modesto Junior College

Whereas, Rebecca Reyes was a dedicated member of the Modesto Junior College Civic Engagement Project for many years, provided service as a member of the Literature and Language Arts Tutoring Advisory Committee and the Assessment Committee, served as a judge for the college's Celebration of the Humanities writing contest, was a member of MJC LGBTQ+ Advocates, served as chair of the Literature and Language Arts Adjunct Mentor and Support Committee, was a member of and mentor to students in the Comunidad Network, was a Literature and Language Arts representative for the Curriculum Committee, and worked on the 2021 English Department Program Review; and

Whereas, Rebecca Reyes served on numerous committees and as volunteer on projects in our community-including providing mentorship for teens and young adults through the SheBecame network as part of their 2021 LeadHership campaign, serving as a member of and judge for Aspire Public School's Right of Passage Experience projects, and acting as an active committee member of the Mother Lode Mineral Society-sharing her endless creativity, continuous encouragement, and uplifting spirit with all she encountered; and

Whereas, Rebecca Reyes' fortitude and perseverance was an inspiration to many as she was able to envision and achieve a transformational life dream, starting as a technician in the Literature and Language Arts Division office, obtaining her Master's in Fine Arts in Creative Non-Fiction, displaying her commitment to MJC through hard work and dedication to complete professional development trainings and attend conferences, which enabled her to reach her goal of becoming a full-time faculty member; and

Whereas, Rebecca Reyes continued to strive to provide equity for all her students by fully integrating OER/ZTC materials and incorporating more innovative and accessible resources into her courses; by doing so, she created courses fitting her pedagogical style to enhance learning, break

down cost barriers to success, and create an equitable educational environment for her students; as a result, she had been selected by the ZTC/OER team to be honored as the first “OER Hero,” a newly established recognition for faculty committed to OER work on campus; and

Whereas,

Rebecca Reyes inspired many who came into her life to use their writing as expression and healing, supported and persistently encouraged numerous students at MJC to obtain their goals, realize their potential, and gain the confidence needed to pursue their academic and professional success, especially those with an interest in writing;

Therefore,

Be it resolved that the Academic Senate of Modesto Junior College is grateful to Professor Rebecca Reyes for her unwavering dedication to serving students, creating community centered spaces, and supporting faculty at Modesto Junior College; thus, the people of this institution mourn her loss as a loyal friend, colleague, and faculty leader whose caring and lively spirit will be greatly missed.

First Reading: February 17, 2022

Final Reading: Rules were suspended to approve in a single reading.

Disposition: Carried