



# MJC Reflection

February 22, 2013

I celebrated Valentine's Day with my family at Disneyland last week. It was the first time in 29 years that we did not spend the holiday behind the floral design counter of our family business. There was relief, joy, and sadness in our celebration as the closure of the store on February 2<sup>nd</sup> marked the end of 53 years of service to the community. We all enjoyed the opportunity to be immersed in Disney magic and warm sunshine.

**Accreditation** – The action letter from the Commission arrived on February 12<sup>th</sup> and is available online with the team evaluation report. MJC remains accredited with the sanction of probation. We will have a Follow-up Report due October 15, 2013 and a site visit. While it is disappointing to continue on sanction, I am pleased by the progress the college has made in the few months since our October visit. The Accreditation Council has convened and is moving ahead with our follow-up report development. It is nice to note that there are now six fewer recommendations to address than were in place a year ago.

**Budget Restoration**– The restoration of 2% enrollment resulting from the governor's budget proposal has returned opportunity to the campus. I am pleased that we are able to hire a faculty position beginning fall 2013 and invite you to join me in welcoming Haleh Niazmand to a new position in art.

**Tidbits** - The office of student services is happy to announce that Peggy Fikse is the new director of student financial services. It is wonderful to an outstanding employee take on this new role at MJC.

There are new extended hours of operation for the MSR Convenience Store on the West Campus. Students and staff can access hot coffee and snacks as late as 8:00 pm Monday – Thursday thanks to the change of service hours in response to student request.

Today's quote is inspired by the *Great Conversation* led by Dr. Chad Redwing on Wednesday evening. The MJC Foundation sponsored series of conversations on selected reading has inspired thoughtful reflection and dialogue after only the first meeting. I'm looking forward to our next conversation.

*A single conversation across the table with a wise man is better than ten years mere study of books.*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow