



MJC Reflection

August 24, 2012

My first five day week at MJC flew by! It was great to welcome faculty back to campus on Thursday and to have the opportunity to participate in Institute Day and Outcomes Assessment Day. The snacks and meals provided by the MJC Food Services team were outstanding!

Accreditation – Two major events were held this week to assist in meeting the recommendations from ACCJC. A Strategic Planning Workshop was facilitated by past interim president, Dr. Mary Retterer, and our own planner extraordinaire, Jenni Abbott on Thursday afternoon and all day Friday was devoted to the inaugural MJC Outcomes Assessment Day. These events were well attended and participants were engaged in the activities. The Assessment Taskforce, led by Dr. James Todd, did an exceptional job of leading a large group through a valuable evaluation process.

Institute Day – The Allied Health, Family, and Consumer Science division provided a morning focused on wellness as a kick off to fall 2012. Outstanding videos, featuring the faculty, highlighted the variety of programs offered within the division. Beautiful baskets were presented to winning ticket holders as an added treat for participants.

Purdy Awards – Institute Day included the honoring of Purdy Award recipients. This peer selected award includes a \$1,500 donation from the MJC Foundation in support of the college program of the recipient's choice. Barbara Adams, Curriculum Chair and professor of speech communication, was the faculty Purdy Award winner and Associate Dean of Special Funded Programs, Francisco Banuelos, was honored as the administrative Purdy Award recipient.

Tidbits – Special thanks and congratulations were sent to professor of physics, Ken Meidl, professor of astronomy, William Luebke, and the MJC Astronomy Club for a job well done from the Summit Ranger District in the Stanislaus National Forest. The Star Parties participants appreciated the number of telescopes made available and noted that each person manning the telescopes was a pleasure!

Any intelligent fool can make things bigger and more complex... It takes a touch of genius - and a lot of courage to move in the opposite direction.

Albert Einstein