March 31, 2017

Yesterday I was proud to represent MJC at the inauguration of Dr. Ellen Junn as the eleventh president of CSU Stanislaus. The inauguration included events over the course of three days and celebrates the university history and future. I enjoyed this mid-term poignant reminder of how important our work in higher education is to our students and our communities. Thank you for your service to Modesto Junior College and the students we are honored to serve. Do not lose sight of the life changing role you play as an educator!

Accreditation 2017 The editing and realignment work on our ISER narrative continues. Over the last couple of weeks two drop-in review sessions were held. These sessions brought forth new examples that will be added to our body of evidence and assisted the writing team with edits. The latest draft of Standard I reflects alignment with the new *Guide to Evaluating and Improving Institutions*. Over the next few weeks Standards II – IV will undergo similar adjustment to align with the new guide.

Hispanic Education Conference On March 18, 2017, Modesto Junior College hosted the 33rd Annual Hispanic Education Conference. The event began at 8:00 am on a Saturday, yet more than 500 students packed the auditorium and filled the place with energy! Professor John Zamora served as emcee leading into an empowering keynote speech, 27 workshops, information booths that featured 15 MJC offices and 7 community agencies, and over 50 student volunteers. A very special thank you to Claudia Ramirez and all of the HEC committee members. The event was made possible with funding from the MJC Office of Student Equity, Campus Life & Student Learning, the Associated Students of MJC, and Stanislaus County Prop 63 funds.

Faculty Focus Feature MJC DE Coordinator, Dr. Mike Smedshammer, has an article featured in today’s *Faculty Focus*. No surprise, he is sharing tips for effective online methodologies. The article highlights ten tips for creating effective instructional videos.

CAL Competition The post-secondary division of the California Agriculture Teachers Association leads a student leadership committee where student events are organized. Annually the committee plans the spring student competitions and events designed to promote leadership and career development. At the recent statewide Spring Competition MJC students brought
home one fifth place, three fourth place, three third place, eight second place, and seven first place awards! Congratulations to our student competitors and future leaders!

**Hall of Fame** MJC men’s and women’s basketball coach and professor of health education, Mike Girardi was inducted into the Merced High Hall of Fame. Mike was recognized as a three-year varsity starter who played all five positions and won two Central California Conference championships. As a senior, Mike was honored as conference MVP and earned both all-state and all-America honors. Mike played college ball at Merced College for one year where they won the Central Valley Conference title and he was a first-team selection. Coach Girardi transferred to Rice University for his final three years of college. Congratulations Coach!

> Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine.
> Anthony J. D’Angelo

Warm regards,

Jill Stearns, Ph.D.
President

435 College Avenue - Modesto, CA 95350 - 209.575.6067