



June 16, 2016

There is great energy and lots of activity on campus this summer. I've enjoyed watching and even participating in some of the lunchtime Pre-college Program activities in the quad. Our summer enrollment is fantastic with the FTES report today at 1,982. The online enrollment has proven to be especially strong this summer as was the enrollment during our May term. This is important as our fall 2015 numbers were below the target and prevented us from achieving the planned 2% growth that was the foundation of the budget. As we close out 2016 and move into 2017, there is no wiggle room in the college budget. The opportunity for new resources to support our institution remains in growth. Our deans are closely monitoring enrollment in fall course sections to ensure that we maximize service to students by adding sections where we have waitlists. The earlier enrollment dates instituted last year are providing increased flexibility to revise the schedule throughout the enrollment period leading to increased efficiency and opportunity for students.

NEH Grant – Professors Dr. Chad Redwing and Flora Carter, Director Jenni Abbott, and Dean Mike Sundquist travelled to Chicago for an international Humanities conference where they presented their work funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities grant centered on the culture of the Central Valley. MJC will host a conference in the fall where the grant will culminate with a gathering of interdisciplinary faculty from our partner institutions and beyond.

FTIC – The first four sections of the new College Skills 100 – Foundation for First Year College Success course are underway and the next five are scheduled to begin July 18. Having enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the design of this course at the April Coffee & Conversation sessions, I can't wait to talk to students about their experience. The planning, collaboration, and innovation framing this course is outstanding. My thanks to the many faculty who are engaged as developers and leaders of this new launch for first time students.

Removing Barriers – Funded by our federal Department of Education Title V Grant, there are major moves underway on both campuses. Student services is being transformed to offer complete service to students on East Campus and West Campus. The redesign includes relocating, co-locating, retraining, and even some temporary moves so that the spaces can be reconfigured to provide service to students in a simplified manner. More than 45 key employees are impacted by these moves and everyone is working together to make this move successful. My sincere thanks to IT, maintenance, movers, painters, electricians, custodians, and planners for being so positive in the midst of this big transition. The positive attitudes surrounding this effort are fantastic!

Evaluation – For me, summer includes reading faculty evaluations. The evaluations I am reading this year are tremendous. I appreciate the reflective, insightful, and humorous self-evaluations. I learn so much about what our students experience in your classrooms through the evaluation process and am wonderfully impressed and inspired.

I'm on vacation next week and looking forward to spending time with my new puppies. Opal and Olive are now old enough to cause a bit of trouble and are a lapful of joy!

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