



September 30, 2016

As week five draws to a close, our FTES is within 50 of where we were at this point last fall. The challenge lies in the 150 fewer summer FTES that launched our 2016/17 academic year. The net result is 200 FTES needed to be on par with reaching our target as we did in 2015/16. A new report has been developed for College Council that will be used to provide a high level snapshot of our FTES progress at each meeting. You can access the [district enrollment report](#) on the College Council website minutes and agendas page and revisit the site often for ongoing updates. My thanks to Professor Ross McKenzie for envisioning a report that includes current and trend data for both MJC and Columbia College.

Baccalaureate Launch MJC is now accepting applications for our first cohort in the Respiratory Care Bachelor's Degree Program. The Modesto Bee featured the program on the front page of Wednesday's paper and the online [article](#) includes a quick video. That same afternoon, California Attorney General Kamala Harris visited Glacier Hall with Trustee Tom Hallinan and Chancellor Smith where they visited with respiratory care students and faculty members, Dr. Bonnie Hunt and Janet Fantazia.

Textbook Author Join me in extending special congratulations to Professor Gloria Coats on the publication of her textbook entitled *Safe Maternity and Pediatric Care Nursing*. The MJC nursing department is enthusiastically proud of your accomplishment!

State Initiatives There was a great deal of state level activity this week. The Strong Workforce Program was officially kicked off at the CCAOE Conference in Rancho Mirage where MJC had a strong team of representatives. This new initiative brings \$200 million into the California Community College system through district and regional allocations. MJC will soon begin an internal process for identifying allocations to programs to meet the big goals of more and better career technical education opportunities. It was also announced this week that there is a delay in the implementation of the common assessment. More information will be forthcoming as the statewide Common Assessment Initiative workgroup develops a revised timeline.

There were some extraordinary measures taken this week to assist students in crisis. Students, staff, and faculty provided helping hands to others in need. While I cannot share details, I am incredibly moved by the stories I hear about individuals going out of their way to help others. MJC demonstrates compassion with a heart of service that extends far beyond any job description and it makes a profound difference. Sometimes a life changing difference; and sometimes, a life saving difference. Thank you for investing in those you meet on campus even when it would be simple to walk away.

*A hero is somebody who voluntarily
walks into the unknown.*
Tom Hanks

Jill Stearns, Ph.D.

President



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