



# MJC Reflection

October 12, 2012

Last week I was part of a team of seven from MJC that attended the Strengthening Student Success Conference. The conference theme, *Embracing and Leading Change*, was woven throughout each of the keynote sessions and the breakout workshops on outcomes assessment, institutional effectiveness, integrated planning, and accreditation. The conference was a great opportunity to connect with community college colleagues and learn from their experiences. It also provided a glimpse of what lies ahead in the area of student learning outcomes assessment and national trends in accreditation. MJC has made substantial progress in embedding outcomes assessment into integrated planning.

**Accreditation** – The Follow-Up Report is complete and on the way to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and the visiting team members. The report is an accurate reflection of the tremendous work of the college and district to address the recommendations and fully meet the Standards. The volume of documentation provides substantial evidence of the process, dialogue, and results of the effort toward greater institutional effectiveness in support of student learning. Thank you to the many outstanding individuals that played a role in this process.

**Campus Safety** – MJC has made great strides in involving the entire campus community in campus safety. A student tip recently led to the apprehension of a bike thief! Students and employees are making a positive difference by reporting suspicious activity to our campus officers who respond quickly.

**Ag Open House** – The 60<sup>th</sup> Agriculture Open House was a huge success last evening. The event featured tours of the West Campus Ag facilities, animal exhibits, educational exhibits, product sampling, displays, and the opportunity to observe students in action. The program honored 34 faculty emeriti with plaques that will be displayed in the ACE Pavilion lobby.

**Tidbits** – Today's MJC Management Team meeting included a report out of challenges and great things happening in each area. The managers unanimously acknowledged the great work of their staff members who are doing more with less. I applaud your continued efforts in support of students despite the challenging budget.

*Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence.*

--Vince Lombardi