December 13, 2013

The quiet campus one expects at the end of finals is even more pronounced today as the college prepares for the Celebration of Life to take place tomorrow in memory of Professor Charles Mullins. The tragic passing of Professor Mullins brought forth incredible sorrow, yet despite the shock and grief, his colleagues provided uninterrupted instruction and support for his students as they tried to understand the loss of their beloved instructor. I have heard beautiful, heartfelt, and funny stories of how Professor Mullins impacted lives at MJC. His reach went beyond teaching in the area of speech communication; he acted in several theater productions, supported the musical theatre program, and assisted with coaching the forensics team. He served on the Academic Senate for many years. His positive spirit, energy and teaching will be missed by the entire college community.

**Accreditation** – The semester reached the end before we received the draft team evaluation report. I remain hopeful that it will arrive soon and we can complete a fact check before the holiday closure.

Thank you for a very productive fall semester. Dr. James Todd provided a recap to the Board of Trustees on Wednesday evening that painted a vivid picture of all that had been accomplished. Your commitment to excellence and institutional effectiveness is making a positive difference for our students.

*I have come to believe that a great teacher is a great artist and that there are as few as there are any other great artists. Teaching might even be the greatest of the arts since the medium is the human mind and spirit.*

John Steinbeck

**JILL STEARNS**
President

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