February 7, 2014

This morning, like the rest of the week, has passed by far too quickly. I only have time for a short note before I head to CSU Stanislaus for a regional conversation on Common Core with our K-12 and university partners.

**Accreditation** – The Commission has confirmed that official notice will be provided today; however, it is not available at the time of this writing and will be shared via college-wide email upon receipt.

**MAERB Site Visit** – Congratulations to Shirley Buzbee and Amy Duffy who hosted a comprehensive national program accreditation visit this week for Medical Assisting. Dean Patrick Bettencourt reported that the site visit concluded with numerous positive remarks. There was high praise for the quality of Glacier Hall facilities and the excellent faculty and staff. The evaluators stated that the satisfaction and high praise from the students was most notable. Of course, they also suggested areas for improvement which is where the true value of peer accreditation processes resides. Congratulations to the entire Allied Health team on a positive site visit!

**Serving Students** – The textbook rental program available through the MJC Pirate’s Bookstore has made hundreds of textbooks more affordable for students. Since being implemented in fall 2011, students saved a total of $540,917. This is a half million dollars that our students have been able to put toward other educational expenses. It is wonderful to have this innovative and cost saving option for students at MJC.

*The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not winning but taking part; the essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting well.*

Pierre de Coubertin

*I always thought, it would be neat to make the Olympic team.*

Michael Phelps

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