



# MJC Reflection

August 9, 2012

This week was marked by a significant increase in prospective and returning students on campus. I was excited to answer the early morning questions from a student desiring to apply for admission when I arrived yesterday. He was disappointed that student services did not open until 7:00 am, but was willing to wait. Conversations with eager students are a wonderful affirmation of the significance of our work in education.

**Accreditation** – The responses to each of the recommendations from ACCJC are being reviewed and refined by a number of groups. Parallel to the writing and editing process, the planning required to meet the recommendations is being finalized. I am so pleased with the ongoing work and leadership exhibited across the major elements of recommendation implementation and development of the Follow-Up Report.

**Cherry Blossom Tree** – MJC was honored to be selected as the location for a cherry blossom tree gifted to Modesto by our Japanese Sister City. The year 2012 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the gift of cherry blossom trees from the people of Japan to the people of the United States. The beautiful ceremonial tree planting included ten visiting students from our Japanese Sister City. You can see the tree near the entrance to the Student Services building on East Campus.

**Campus Security** – Recent events have served to heighten security concerns across the US. At MJC, Director of Campus Security, Becky Crow, has planned a fall building exercise that will increase preparedness for an evacuation. This is just one aspect of a comprehensive approach to campus security. Last Saturday, the proactive approach of Campus Security Officer, Victor Campos, led to the peaceful recovery of a stolen laptop.

**Tidbits** – Dr. Bob Droual received high praise from a student in his experimental, hybrid design, physiology course. The student noted that the online and classroom requirements melded together seamlessly.

Many have commented on the MJC Reflection and I wish to thank and acknowledge Sherri Potts for the beautiful graphic design.

*Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.*

*Robert Louis Stevenson*