



February 5, 2018

Over the last few days, I have been in multiple meetings where the collaborative, cross sector work of MJC faculty has been shared. At the Central Valley Higher Education Consortium Board of Directors and at Stanislaus Futures Leadership Team meetings the work of math faculty on establishing multiple measures for placement and K-16 articulation was highlighted as making an immediate impact on local students. The collaborative work of English faculty in establishing multiple measures and acceleration models was also noted in the meetings. There are multiple efforts focused on convening of K-12, community college, CSU, and UC representatives for working sessions to address barriers for Stanislaus County students. Thank you for your engagement and solution development that is making positive progress in the communities we serve!

Accreditation After what felt like a very long wait, MJC received very positive news from ACCJC. The Commission acted to reaffirm accreditation for 18 months and require a Follow-Up Report due no later than March 1, 2019, followed by a visit from a peer review team. The [external evaluation report](#) and [ACCJC action letter](#) are available on the Modesto Junior College accreditation [webpage](#). These documents set forth the next steps in our accreditation cycle and provide recommendations for compliance with the Standards and for improvement. The Follow-Up Report must demonstrate compliance with the noted Standards in the college and district compliance recommendations (3). A campus visit will be scheduled to affirm the Follow-Up Report. The recommendations for improvement (6) and quality focus essay action items will be addressed in the Midterm Report due by October 15, 2021, and the next comprehensive review will occur in fall 2024. Work is underway to fully address the compliance recommendations and reflect the Standards in our institutional policies and practices.

Thank you to the many, many individuals who contributed to the institutional self evaluation report development process. My sincerest appreciation to the Accreditation Council, Standard Tri-Chairs, Faculty Co-Chair(s), Accreditation Specialist, Researchers, Technical Supporters, Evidence Providers, Writing Team, Revision Readers, and Photo Contributors whose work resulted in a high-quality, accurate document that provided a snapshot of our college for evaluation. You are outstanding!

Guided Pathways Next weekend another group of MJC representatives will travel south to attend the third and final California Guided Pathways Institute in year one. Each institute has

featured thought provoking examples, data, and student experiences that led us into challenging discussions. Mark your calendar now for the *Paving the Path* session on Thursday, February 22 beginning at 4:00 P.M. In this session we will begin the work to group academic programs into metamajors, those big overarching categories of related fields of study. Next Thursday, February 8, MJC Guided Pathways Lead and VPI, Dr. Jennifer Hamilton-Zellet will launch an asynchronous *Paving the Path* which will afford you the opportunity to engage, explore, and provide input from the time and place of your choosing!

Pirate Basketball Congratulations to head coach, Professor Mike Girardi, on recent rankings. The men's basketball team cracked the top 20 in the State and top 10 in Northern California!

Speech and Debate Victory In the first spring semester competition, Coaches Ryan Guy and Taure Shimp assisted the team in bringing home 36 individual awards. Congratulations to the MJC Speech and Debate Team on a first place sweepstakes win at Chabot College's Keeling Invitational. Details on the results of this event and future competitions are located at www.mjeforensics.org

A smile is a curve that sets everything straight.

Phyllis Diller

Warm regards,

Jill Stearns, Ph.D.

President



435 College Avenue - Modesto, CA 95350 - 209.575.6067