



July 13, 2017

Last evening the Yosemite Community College District Board of Trustees warmly welcomed Chancellor Henry Yong. Chancellor Yong shared that he is living in one room while the contractors complete the preparation of his family's home and that he looks forward to his wife and children moving to join him later this month.

Accreditation 2017 The MJC and Columbia College Institutional Self Evaluation Reports were approved for submittal to ACCJC by the Board of Trustees last night. A special thank you to the Trustees for their review of the reports and participation in the Board Study Session where Dr. James Todd and Dr. Brian Sanders provided a detailed review of the reports, the development process, and the Quality Focus Essays. These institutional reports are comprehensive, accurate, and evidenced. I simply cannot adequately express my appreciation for the leadership and broad engagement that brought forth this final report. The Standard Tri-Chairs, Accreditation Council, Academic Senate, YFA, CSEA, writing team, ASMJC, and technical support all played critical roles in the process of self-evaluation.

Dr. Loretta Adrian, President of Coastline Community College, has been appointed as team chair for our External Evaluation Visit October 2-5, 2017 and a full team roster has been drafted to work under Dr. Adrian's leadership. I am reaching out to Dr. Adrian to set a date for a pre-visit to the campus and look forward to welcoming her to MJC!

Next steps at MJC include preparation of the team room and logistics for the visit, preparation of USB drives for ACCJC and the visiting team members, and open forums on campus where we will share what to expect during the team visit. The big project, our intuitional self-evaluation report, is complete and now we turn our focus to the details of the visit!

I want to acknowledge the exceptional work and leadership provided by Dr. James Todd and Dr. Nancy Sill as Accreditation Liaison Officer and Faculty Accreditation Chair. Each of these individuals stepped into their role in the midst of the self-evaluation process. They did an outstanding job of carrying forward the work designed and launched by their predecessors – no easy feat! Thank you for the tremendous passion, commitment to accuracy, and focus on evidence that you demonstrated throughout the revising, editing, and refining process!

Sputum Bowl Four MJC respiratory care students won the regional Sputum Bowl competition. (I should have included a warning about the content!) The prize included free lodging and entrance fees at the state level competition. The Sputum Bowl is based on the television game show *Jeopardy!* with difficult respiratory questions. Students compete in 8-minute rounds with the winning team moving forward until only two teams remain and compete for the championship. Respiratory Care faculty, Janet Fantazia and Dr. Bonnie Hunt, are proud of the professional performance of the MJC students who competed well and built their personal professional networks.

*The moments of happiness
we enjoy take us by surprise.
It is not that we seize them,
but that they seize us..*
Ashley Montagu

Warm regards,

Jill Stearns, Ph.D.

President



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