



# MJC Reflection

November 4, 2016

Today has already brought tears of joy and sadness as the farewell to Amy Bethel has officially launched. It is definitely a bittersweet moment as we wish her a happy birthday and happy retirement. Amy began her 32 year career with MJC as a student worker and departs from the President's Office where she serves as the Executive Assistant. Amy worked in a variety of areas including Media Services, EOPS, MJC Foundation, and the Office of Instruction and has always been located on East Campus. Amy is leaving very big shoes to fill; she has tremendous institutional knowledge and an incredible heart for MJC. I hope you will stop by today to add your well wishes and enjoy a slice of celebratory cake.

**Search for Common Ground** On October 21, MJC hosted the regional conference that was the culminating event of the two-year grant funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The day started with an introductory poem by Professor Lillian Vallee leading into workshops lead by eminent scholars from University of California, California State University, and the National Steinbeck Center. It featured Luis Valdez as the keynote speaker and closed with the premier of *San Joaquin Blues*, written and directed by Professor Michael Lynch. This inspiring and successful grant project was co-chaired by Dr. Chad Redwing, Professor Bill Anelli, Professor Eva Mo, Professor Flora Carter, and Director of Grants and Resource Development, Jenni Abbott. The regional conference was exceptional; an opportunity for MJC to shine!

**New Sheriff Deputy** MJC Administration of Justice student, Taylor Hosmer, was recently sworn in to the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office. Hosmer will serve as a deputy and brings with him experience as an Explorer with Modesto Police Department.

**New Arrival** Vice President of Student Services, Dr. James Todd and his wife Justine, welcomed Liliya Margot Todd on Saturday, October 28. Weighing in at 7lbs. 11 oz., Dad says she is *wonderful* and he is appropriately euphoric and exhausted. Congratulations on your beautiful addition!

It is a very busy at MJC with special events on both East Campus and West Campus. If you aren't involved in one of the other gatherings, I encourage you to attend the presentation by Wes Moore at 10:30 today in PMAC, his story is powerful and moving.

*Don't forget to vote!*

**Jill Stearns, Ph.D.**  
President



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