



April 1, 2016

I hope you are enjoying some humor on this day of fun and jest! As one with a lifelong reputation for being easily tricked, I try to be on my guard each April Fools' Day, but always succumb to someone's clever deception. It was fun to peruse the witty social media posts this morning – hats off to those who let their creative side rule the day!

Celebrated Alumni – While perusing the ConnectEd newsletter from the University of the Pacific, I read about our own Dr. Theresa Stovall. The alumni brief not only included her service as an English professor at MJC and passion for diverse learners, it also provided a glimpse on the personal side. Dr. Stovall is writing a creative non-fiction novel inspired by her life and is a world class knitter!

Celebrate Stanislaus – On Wednesday, March 30, Modesto Junior College was among the thirty-two employers in Stanislaus County recognized for increasing the workforce by 10 or more employees in 2015. It was a fun celebration of economic development by the Stanislaus Business Alliance. It was very encouraging to have our educational partners, Stanislaus County Office of Education and California State University Stanislaus, also among the growing entities in our community.

SCORECARD – The newest release of MJC's SCORECARD is now available at mjc.edu. This annual report includes an updated student demographic profile and our 2014-15 momentum point measures, outcomes, and metrics. Congratulations! MJC achieved increases in all but two measures. It is fantastic to see improvement across the SCORECARD for our most recent six-year cohort.

I was incredibly moved by the opening night performance of *Elephant Man*. The production is exceptional – challenging, rich, and moving. Every aspect showcases the outstanding quality of our theater programs and there are still tickets available for this weekends' performances.

Earth laughs in flowers.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

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