



MJC Reflection

December 12, 2014

MJC students faced an unexpected challenge at their East Campus finals today - the instructional buildings are without heat due to the failure of the central boiler. The good news is that the repair is expected to be complete tomorrow and we will be warm again on Monday; although, that brings little comfort for those that had only cold showers available in the PE buildings. Fall 2014 comes to an end with a big storm and new appreciation for the usual comfort of warm instructional spaces!

Fall Athletics - Congratulations to the MJC men's soccer team who finished as co-champions with Santa Rosa Junior College, women's golf who earned the BIG 8 Conference Champions title, and women's soccer who also are BIG 8 Champions. The women's Pirates Soccer Team finished #10 in the nation. The MJC Football program received special commendation from the Northern California Football Conference for their efforts in enhancing the image of community college football. An official observer noted, "The players played a tough, competitive game, with good sportsmanship, and the players showed respect for each other and the game of football." Well done MJC!

National Endowment for the Humanities Award – Professors Chad Redwing and Demetri Keriotis are co-project directors of a Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic Serving Institutions grant that will provide professional development opportunities for dozens of MJC faculty across divisions. Professors Eva Mo, Bill Anelli, and Flora Carter collaborated on the development of the proposal that includes funding for interdisciplinary curricular development. Most importantly, the subject of the grant is the Central Valley itself and the diverse cultural heritages in our community. The grant team believes that when faculty craft classes which reflect the cultural traditions of our own geography that our students "see themselves" in their classes and are more engaged and successful.

Honored Adjunct Faculty- Michael Whittier was honored by National Association of Geoscience Teachers with the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Quarterly Award. Instructor Whittier was nominated for the award by MJC Professor Garry Hayes who stated, "Mike is an engaging and effective instructor". Instructor Whittier is popular with students, participates in division meetings, and volunteers in our field studies programs. You can read [more here](#), see page 8.

Ring in the Holidays – The annual MJC Foundation Holiday Gathering was a tremendous Tuesday evening event. Guests were treated to amazing classical guitar music by Professor Dr. David Chapman and holiday favorites performed by the MJC Choir under the direction of Professor Dr. Cherrie Llewellyn. The guests in attendance included YCCD Trustees and alumni from 1942, 1951, and 1953 who enjoyed the chance to visit with faculty, staff, and retirees. It was lots of fun to hear stories from the women's dorm that was on McHenry Avenue in the early 50's.

I like to compare the holiday season with the way a child listens to a favorite story. The pleasure is in the familiar way the story begins, the anticipation of familiar turns it

takes, the familiar moments of suspense, and the familiar climax and ending.

Fred Rogers

JILL STEARNS

President



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