

July 19, 2012

The Summer Sonata is this evening and the air is tinged with excitement. I have seen a photo of the tables beautifully draped in hot pink at the Gallo Center waiting for the guests to arrive. With the leadership of George Boodrookas, the MJC Foundation staff and board of directors have planned an evening of fine food, wine, and entertainment that will provide scholarships to students and support program development projects. I am so pleased by the number of volunteers that are involved in planning and execution of the event!

Facilities: The library renovation project is scheduled to go out to bid this month and the construction crew will break ground on the primary data center on the West Campus. The new data center will provide both storage, security, and redundancy of our electronic resources; completion is scheduled for December 2013. I had a sneak peek at the new Science Community Center and was awed by the facility. The attention to detail in the planning of this building has led to an amazing design that will support student, faculty, and community interaction across the science disciplines.

Performing Arts: East Campus was home to the *Off the Beat* hip hop dance performance the evenings of July 17 – 19. Audience members remarked on the great performances and encouraged others to attend the lively event.

County Fair: MJC volunteers staffing the booth at the Stanislaus County Fair report that there has been lots of interest expressed by high school students and parents. This year the booth features a video by Wes Page highlighting Measure E projects.

Accreditation: The accreditation point persons have been working quickly to draft responses to the recommendations from ACCJC. Debi Bolter, Accreditation Co-Chair, is revising drafts into comprehensive responses and Heather Townsend is maintaining all of the documents on the portal. Lots of time and energy is focused on the recommendations with a target date of mid-August to begin the process of review.

Sometimes when you innovate, you make mistakes. It is best to admit them quickly, and get on with improving your other innovations. Steve Jobs

Chains of habit are too light to be felt until they are too heavy to be broken. Warren Buffett

