August 7, 2014

The activity on campus has shifted from summer projects to start of fall term activities. Student volume has picked up in Student Services, textbooks are appearing on the bookstore shelves, new classroom technology is being installed, and labs are being updated with the latest software. Institute Day preparations are being finalized and the excitement of a new school year is emerging!

**Campus Maps**
Beautiful, colorful, and easy to read campus maps have replaced the weathered ones mounted across East Campus. The new maps, created by Monika Shortner, are oriented to the kiosk locations for quick and easy direction finding. The upgraded maps are already assisting campus visitors and new students.

**MJC Pirates Bookstore**
The bookstore has an inviting new look. Upgraded flooring, paint, and fixtures have brought a warm transformation to the space that was once a vast white room. Bookstore staff have worked around painters and other craftsmen since spring, but the result is worth the wait and worth the short term inconvenience. The YCCD facilities team has done a great job remaking the bookstore into a space that makes you want to stay awhile.

**Great Valley Museum**
Next week the GVM will officially move to the Science Community Center! The unfortunate news is that the museum exhibits are not complete delaying the opening. I will continue to provide updates as the project approaches completion.

**Partner Services**
MJC is now home to a Stanislaus County Social Services Case Worker. The case worker will be available to serve all students and assist with information and referrals to other services in the county. Judy Tuss and Mary Everhart developed a great partnership between CalWORKS and Stanislaus County Social Services that resulted in this enhanced service for students.

**Notable**
Professor Leslie Collins was selected as the community college representative for the California Open Educational Resources Council public speaking textbook review. Congratulations and happy reviewing! Vice President of Instruction Susan Kincade was selected for Leadership Modesto. Dr. George Boodrookas has an article in the recent edition of *Progress Magazine*.

*If you're serious, you really understand that it's important that you laugh as much as possible and admit that you're the funniest person you ever met. You have to laugh. Admit that you're funny. Otherwise, you die in solemnity.*