

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of Dr. Walt Tribley.

I've been at MPC for several months now. I've been a faculty member and administrator in community colleges for 25 years. I'm not from California and I'm still learning how the state higher education system operates and how MPC must successfully navigate within it. And though I'm also learning about ACCJC I have been a peer evaluator with the Higher Learning Commission and trust that some of my observations and thoughts will transfer here.

The fiscal problems and accreditation recommendations MPC faces are not new. An accreditation reviewer can easily see that the genesis of these issues began several years ago. What is most important is that these challenges should be recognized, accepted, and owned by all of us, whether we've been at MPC for 30 years or 3 hours. When we agree to be employees of this college we should know that we've agreed to work on behalf of the college and its students, and to collaboratively participate and contribute to advancing the college. Every one of us, from the President and administration, to the faculty, and the staff, is responsible for ensuring MPC is a quality choice for our constituents.

It is easy to acquiesce to the status quo and the processes and structures that have existed for years, even during difficult times. It is far more difficult to create a vision for the future and construct an integrated plan that purposely moves the college in a new direction. In my considered judgment Dr. Tribley has, with the MPC community, constructed such a pathway. Every month you bear witness to an updated accreditation report which shows continued progress toward meeting ACCJC's recommendations and to realizing an MPC that will look and operate differently in five years. It is important to note that this work is not just an accreditation response but work that will position MPC to become a college where continuous improvement is embedded in its day to day operations and strategic planning.

The progress and steps taken by the good people of this college has been rightly influenced by Dr. Tribley's leadership. His words and actions evidence a clear commitment to the academic goals and education of our students, and to the well-being and success of all of MPC's employees.

To members of MPC's Board of Trustees I encourage you to continue Dr. Tribley's contract and to embrace his leadership and his vision for the future of MPC. Over my 25 years working in community colleges, Dr. Tribley is one of the best presidents I have had the honor to work with. He remains a true academic, someone who places a moral charge to serve for the benefit of others above all other values. At this time in its history, Monterey Peninsula College is fortunate to have Dr. Tribley as its President

Dr. Paul Long

Interim Dean of Instruction

Monterey Peninsula College

31 May 2017