September Mailbag!

September 17, 2019

Dear campus community,

As we enter our 5th full week of classes, I want to take a moment to thank all of you for the great work that is happening this semester. The grand opening of our El Centro was fabulous, the Education Master Plan is moving forward with wonderful campus committee engagement, the STEM CEL center is established in their expanded home (first floor of the library), and the Guided Pathway teams are primed to continue their excellent work as they move us closer to the initial stages of implementation. What makes all this work even greater is that it’s being done collectively as a campus through one singular lens—students first!

It’s been wonderful seeing and meeting so many people on our campus over the last five weeks. MPC is off to a superb start this semester and I thank you all for making this happen!

David Martin, Interim Superintendent/President
Save the date!

**MPC Special Board Meeting**
The MPC Board of Trustees will hold a special meeting this Wednesday, September 18th to discuss the Educational Master Plan (EMP) process scheduled for this fall. This will be a great opportunity for feedback, input, and dialogue regarding the EMP for both Board and community members.

---

**Banned Books Week at MPC:**
(Contributed by Henry Marchand)

Monday, September 23 – 26, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM! Keep an eye out for the raffle located in the Carolyn Page Garden and the annual opportunity to win copies of books that have appeared on the American Library Association's lists of Banned or Challenged Books. On Thursday, September 26th, students, faculty, staff, and community members will read brief passages from books that have been Banned or Challenged at libraries or in school systems across the United States. All events are open to the public and are organized annually during the American Library Association's Banned Books Week by the Creative Writing Program and Creative Writing Club of MPC.

---

**Guest Author Series**
(Contributed by Henry Marchand)
MPC Guest Author Series has invited Victoria Chang to campus on Thursday, October 3rd, at 6:00 PM in the Karas Room. Victoria Chang is the author of four collections of poetry (*Circle; Salvina Molesta; The Boss; and Barbie Chang*), a picture book for children (*Is Mommy?*), and a new poetry collection (*OBIT*) and middle-grade verse novel (*Love Love*), both to be published in early 2020. She is also the editor of the anthology, *Asian American Poetry: The Next Generation*. The series is supported by The MPC Creative Writing Program, English Department, and Humanities Division, as well as The MPC Foundation and The Arts Council for Monterey County.
The Series typically presents two Guest Authors each academic year, one in the Fall and one in the Spring semester.
Frankenstein
In 1818, Mary Shelley wrote the novel *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus* as part of a game to see who could write the scariest story. Over 200 years later, the journey of Victor Frankenstein and his Creature still captivates us. The MPC Theatre Department’s production of this timeless story will premiere on the Morgan Stock Stage on **October 10, 2019**. This version of Shelley’s classic focuses on the Creature and his discovery of humanity while Dr. Frankenstein struggles with the power and responsibility that comes with the creation of life. This suspenseful drama will have you questioning what makes us human and where the line for morality really stands. Performances will be held Thursday - Sunday, October 10 - 27. Tickets are on sale now at: [https://secure3.ticketguys.com/mpc/ListShowings?aid=118](https://secure3.ticketguys.com/mpc/ListShowings?aid=118).

Education Master Plan Update
The Monterey Peninsula College Education Master Plan (EMP) process is underway! Throughout the Fall Semester, the following campus groups will be involved in the process: Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness (PRIE), Academic Senate, Curriculum Advisory Committee (CAC), Administrative Services Advisory Group (ASAG), Academic Affairs Advisory Group (AAAG), Student Services Advisory Group (SSAG), and President’s Advisory Group (PAG). Please reach out to a committee representative to see how you can get involved in the EMP development. General participation opportunities for the campus and community include the following public forum dates and times:
1. Thursday, October 3rd at 5:30 PM – Education Center at Marina
2. Friday, November 1st at 12:00 PM – Lecture Forum 103
3. Monday, November 4th at 5:00 PM – Lecture Forum 103

Friday Campus Forums
The schedule for our Friday Campus Forums is listed below. Forums are from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM in Lecture Forum 103. Feedback or suggestions regarding a topic or guest speaker may be emailed to dmartin@mpc.edu.

- September 20, 2019 – Guided Pathways
- October 4, 2019 – Education Master Plan
- October 18, 2019 – Guest Speaker
- November 1, 2019 – College Town Hall
HSI Week at MPC
MPC has an exciting line-up of events this week to kick-off the grand opening of our Ready, Set, Transfer El Centro located in the General Classroom Building (GC). The week’s line-up of exciting activities includes:

- Wednesday, Sept. 18th, 4:00 PM in GC – HSI Film Series & Panel
- Thursday, Sept. 19th, 4:00 PM in GC – Loteria Bingo Night

Hot News!

College Forum - Budget
If you were unable to attend the campus-wide budget forum held on September 6th, don’t worry! You may still send any budget questions to dmartin@mpc.edu! Please click on the link provided below to watch a recording of the presentation. (Login required)

https://sites.google.com/a/mpc.edu/mympc2/home/campus-announcements/collegeforum-budgetpresentationsep62019

ECE Outdoor Classroom Grand Opening
On Wednesday, September 4th, MPC held a Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting celebration for the Outdoor Classroom Project at the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Lab School. This was a wonderful community gathering celebrating the nature-based classroom now available to our young friends at the ECE Lab School—a project made possible through fundraising by the MPC Foundation and Measure I bond funds. Stop by the CDC building and check out the new outdoor digs!

El Centro is Open!
Discussions are underway regarding the development of a “Welcome Center.” With the El Centro now open for business, the General Classroom Building is being examined for expanded occupancy related to student support programs and services. Our wonderful and growing student service programs, including, but not limited to, Umoja, LGBTQIA+, and International Students, are looking to partner with El Centro to develop this “Welcome Center” concept. More details to come!
New Trustee for Seaside and Sand City
On August 29, 2019, the Monterey Peninsula Community College District Board of Trustees provisionally appointed Ms. Rosalyn Green as the Area 1 trustee representing Seaside and Sand City! Ms. Green is a lifelong resident of the Monterey Peninsula. She’s currently employed as a community organizer with Building Healthy Communities. She also serves as the Parent Advisory Council Chair with the Village Project, Inc. Welcome Trustee Green! We are thrilled to have her join the pack!

Campus Kudos

The MPC fall athletic season is underway! Our Lobos are competing in football, soccer, volleyball, and cross country. Congratulations to our football team for starting the season off right with a big win (51-34) over College of the Redwoods on September 7th. A big shout-out to our volleyball team for beating Merced College 3 – 2 on September 11th, and to our soccer team for defeating Yuba College 2-1 on September 10th! Keep up the great work, Lobos! For game schedules, please use the following link: https://www.mpc.edu/student-life/athletics/athletics-calendar
Important Updates

**AB 302 (Berman) Community Colleges Overnight Parking**
This bill would have required community college campuses with parking facilities to grant overnight access to those facilities. *This bill was placed in the inactive file on September 5th and is no longer being considered.*

**AB 612 (Weber) CalFresh: Restaurant Meals Program**
This bill would create a statewide memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Chancellor’s Office and the Department of Social Services to streamline the process for a college to accept Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards on campus. This bill would allow a student to utilize their CalFresh benefits for meals on campus. *This bill is currently in suspension and is being reviewed for amendments.*

---

**English and Study Skills Center (ESSC) and Reading Center (RC) MYTHS DEBUNKED**
Some students believe that the ESSC and RC...

- charge students for ENGL 400 and
- are only for students enrolled in English courses.

The TRUTH is...

- that ENGL 400 means **free tutoring** for MPC students and
- that the centers help **all students**, in **all classes**, with communication skills.

Come visit the ESSC/RC, located on the bottom floor of the library, and receive free help with papers, reading strategies, and study skills. The centers are open Monday-Thursday 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM & Friday 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM Online tutoring is also available. Check us out at [www.mpc.edu/essc](http://www.mpc.edu/essc) or call (831) 646-4177.

---

*Do you have news to share in the Monthly Mailbag? Send the details to dmartin@mpc.edu.*