As I mentioned earlier, recent ACCJC actions on CCSF in particular and on all community colleges in general have put all of us under tremendous pressure both financially and emotionally in recent years.

You have now received the first report on the Second Strategic Plan implementation progress. I think you will agree that it is quite remarkable, that the governance system is working at College of Marin, and that things that we say we will do are actually getting done. I should say from personal experience that it is excellent work but it is also extremely stressful and at some level takes a toll on all of us.

There is someone whom I would like to call out this evening, Marshall Northcott, Director of IT. Marshall was key in the implementation of many aspects of the Strategic Plan. While he worked particularly on Objectives 2 and 9 related to the Technology Plan and Instructional Technology, in fact his responsibilities were interlaced throughout. Wherever, IT support was required, whether it was Objective 1 on Enrollment Management which is connected to the MyCOM Portal registration procedures or with Objective 3 on Distance Education and Moodle or, or Objective 5 and 7 related to student access and success – he was there. In the meeting of the specific ACCJC recommendations – again his responsibilities went beyond just the Technology Plan.

While on a day to day basis, we all had our disagreements and frustrations, in fact, Marshall was under tremendous pressure to implement and report on the Strategic Plan. I sincerely hope that in recent months he was able to put all of this aside and spend time with his family and spend time for himself. All of us mourn his untimely passing and miss his leadership and extend our heartfelt condolences to his family.

--Sara McKinnon, President of the Academic Senate