Greetings «FIRST\_NAME»,

I hope you are doing well as we near the end of the semester and that you are looking forward to a restful break. Below are some items of interest as well as news regarding part-time faculty support!

## **Entering Grades**

Final grades must be submitted electronically using MiddleNet. Click <a href="here">here</a> for additional instructions regarding how to upload grades. As the close of the spring semester nears please remember that Final Grades must be entered through our online system by Thursday May 26, 2016 at 9:00am. The college will continue college wide prerequisite checking and graduation review, so it would be greatly appreciated if all grades could be entered at your earliest convenience.

To help you calculate grades, here is a link to the MCC grading system: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/adjunctjunction/gradesystem.aspx

## **OER**

Open Educational Resources (OER) is an online site that offers "free and openly licensed educational materials that can be used for teaching, learning, research, and other purposes"; as you can imagine, these resources offer exciting new possibilities for students and faculty members. MCC has been discussing how best to encourage the use of Open Educational Resources in place of traditional textbooks here at MCC to not only save students money but to enhance their learning experience.

To help jumpstart the process of making more relevant OER materials available, we need your help. Please complete the (really short) survey below to help us better understand how we can best support this work: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mccoersurvey">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mccoersurvey</a>

Note: the survey has been previously disseminated. If you have already responded, please disregard the request.

## **Workshop Opportunity**

Please click <u>here</u> for information about a 3-hour workshop that will show you how to design (or redesign) assignments to elicit stronger writing and critical thinking while incorporating high quality, business-focused, library resources. Please connect with Noreen McGinness Olson at <a href="maginnessn@Middlesex.mass.edu">mcginnessn@Middlesex.mass.edu</a> by May 20th (this Friday) to register!

## **New Adjunct Faculty Liaison!**

Throughout this year, I've worked to provide a voice for you in administrative meetings, as well as to support you and communicate with you regularly. In turn, you've all worked to support me and my efforts -- thank you! MCC is committed to ensuring that part-time faculty receive the support, communication and advocacy we need, and so the college will be embedding this work into a full-time position coming this fall! To this end, I'm happy to announce that Deb Botker has been appointed Assistant Dean of Social Sciences and **Part-Faculty Liaison**. Many of you know Deb and the work she's done for part-time faculty, and she is excited to begin working on new ways to support the part-time faculty community at MCC. She will be in touch prior to the fall semester, but feel free to contact either me or Deb (botkerd@middlesex.mass.edu) with any questions in the meantime.

I've really enjoyed working with you and serving you this past year. I have been consistently impressed with the dedication you all show to your students and MCC. Many adjuncts juggle so many conflicting priorities, yet you still manage to give so much to students. Thank you for all of your wonderful comments, feedback and support as I've worked to help part-time faculty members become more connected to the college. I really appreciate it!

Thank you so much – have a wonderful summer,

Kate Baker