

October 9, 2007

Menko Johnson
San Jose State University
Academic Technology
One Washington Square
San Jose, CA 95092-0026

Dear Menko,

On behalf of the administration and faculty visitors from Santa Barbara City College, I would like to thank you for meeting with us last week and providing such an extensive tour of San Jose State's Academic Success Center and Incubator Classroom. You were very generous with your time and provided us with wonderful ideas to take back to our campus.

We were impressed with the process that you followed to gather the information from students that you used to design the Center. It clearly resulted in a user friendly environment. We were impressed with the bright "hip" design of the space, the movable furniture and especially the emphasis on collaboration spaces. The concept of booths for four with a monitor in place of the juke box is brilliant. We would have loved to see students in action in the meeting room. I hope they value working in such a professional environment. We were naturally impressed with Incubator Classroom; we can learn from the way you allow for experimentation before making a widespread investment in technology that may not be well used.

We most appreciated hearing your perspective on pedagogy and technology. You are at the same time articulate and passionate about excellence of instruction. Your colleagues at San Jose State are very fortunate to have you in your leadership and educational support position.

If for any reason you come to Santa Barbara, please contact me so that at least we can take you to lunch in our Culinary Program's Gourmet Dining Room. I should also give you a heads up that several of my colleagues will be in San Jose for another conference next week and they may be contacting you for a visit.

Sincerely,



Marilynn Spaventa
Dean, Educational Programs