



## what's next? food for thought by mayor john giles

1/21/2015 – Last week I had lunch with Dr. Shouan Pan, President of Mesa Community College. We went to Ike's Love and Sandwiches on his side of town, just off Grove by Fiesta Mall. I met Dr. Pan years ago when I chaired the Commission on Excellence in Education Community Advisory Group at the college. He has been president of MCC for almost 7 years and he had a few exciting things to report about MCC's upcoming year.

On January 7, MCC received a ten-year Carnegie Community Engagement Campus classification. There are only three such campuses in Arizona and 361 in the nation. The classification recognizes students actively engaging in the community through service and the advancement of teaching civic engagement.

In March, MCC will go through a peer review accreditation process where the school will be assessed in areas such as instruction, finances and facilities. The public is invited to participate in the evaluation process by logging in at <http://www.mesacc.edu/about/accreditation/public-comment>. They want to know what they are doing well and what they can do better.

Soon after that, MCC will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a community birthday party, rose garden tea, golf tournament and more. To find out more about the events and to see a great slide show depicting MCC's first 50 years go to <http://www.mesacc.edu/50>.

We talked about these events while indulging in some of the best sandwiches around. Ike's Love and Sandwiches is from Northern California and they are famous for their "dirty sauce" which is on practically every sandwich. The Mesa location has a few Mesa exclusives including the Thunderbird I ordered with pastrami and gouda. It was Dr. Pan's first trip to Ike's and he tried the Papa Sam wild salmon burger and it was a hit. Be sure to bring your appetite because the sandwiches are big and hard to put down!

With their Bay Area roots, I hope to see Ike's as a concessionaire at Hohokam Stadium, the new home of Oakland A's Spring Training!



[about mayor john giles](#)

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### what is nextmesa?

I'm an old Mesa guy. I love reminiscing about the small city I grew up in. We live in a different Mesa now. It's changed and I'm okay with that. The Mesa our children will inherit will even be different from this one. It will be the one we plan and create now. I want us to continue to improve. [read more >](#)