



IRVINE VALLEY COLLEGE

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TO: Julianna M. Barnes, EdD, Chancellor, and Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: John C. Hernandez, PhD, President

DATE: August 18, 2022

SUBJECT: **President's Report for the August 29, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting**

IVC Welcomes New Vice President for Instruction



IVC welcomed new Vice President for Instruction Rick Miranda with an outdoor gathering on July 19. Miranda joined IVC in early July. He previously served as vice president of academic affairs/assistant superintendent at Cerritos College, where his key responsibilities included leading, planning, supervising, coordinating, and evaluating all areas of instructional programs and services. Before his role as vice president of academic affairs, Miranda spent four years as the dean of academic affairs at Cerritos College. Prior to that, he served as a professor of biology for Taft College. He also taught at California State University, Bakersfield. Miranda looks forward to continuing the great work IVC is doing and exploring new opportunities to meet the needs of our surrounding communities.

Professional Development Week Kicks Off the Fall Semester



During the week of August 15, IVC held its [Fall 2022 Professional Development Week](#). The week kicked off with the President's opening session, which was held in a hybrid format. The assembly opened with a slideshow of photos from faculty and staff members highlighting how their summers were spent. Incoming Chancellor Dr. Julianna Barnes was introduced to the campus community through a structured dialogue. Fifty sessions were offered to IVC staff, faculty, and administrators, with a continued emphasis on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; mental health resources; and keeping faculty up to date on the latest technology resources designed to support them in a hybrid learning environment.

IVC Recognized for Reducing Transportation Barriers for Students



IVC joined the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) in celebrating the milestone of having all Orange County community colleges participate in the [OCTA College Pass program](#). IVC President John Hernandez and Vice President for Student Services Martha McDonald participated in OCTA's August 8 celebration. Since the College Pass program launched in 2017, OCTA has sought to reduce transportation barriers for community college students. ASIVC partnered with OCTA to allow full-time and part-time credit students beginning in Fall 2021 to access all OCTA fixed-route buses for transportation to school, work, or other destinations. OCTA's board of directors presented a Resolution of Appreciation to IVC for their participation in the program. The state's [Low Carbon Transit Operations Program](#) funds the first year of this three-year pilot program. During the second and third years, the program cost will be paid for by ASIVC.

Manager of Student Equity Programs Meets with Katie Porter



On August 4, IVC Manager of Student Equity Programs Erin Pollard participated in a legislative roundtable discussion on LGBTQ+ issues with Representative Katie Porter (CA-45) and representatives from area organizations. The listening session was held at Porter's Irvine office to allow for her and her staff to learn information and receive feedback firsthand from trusted stakeholders. In addition to IVC and representatives

from Porter's office, participants included individuals from Katrina Foley's office, the OC Equity Coalition, Shanti OC, the LGBTQ Center OC, Radiant Health Care, APAIT, and the UCI Law Transgender Name & Gender Change Clinic.

Honors Program Hosts Summer Events to Benefit Students



During July and August, the [Honors Program](#) offered a series of in-person and virtual workshops. Students reviewed strategies for writing transfer application essays and how to participate in research conferences and get published. Drop-in sessions with the Honors Program Director, Professor Emily Liu, were also held, providing students with some time to connect and ask questions about the program. The Honors Program provides a supportive learning community that nurtures academic, professional, and personal growth in highly motivated students from all backgrounds. Learn more about the program [here](#).

IVC Managers Selected for ACCCA Admin 101 Training



This July, four IVC Student Services administrators and managers were selected to join the Association for California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) [Admin 101 training](#) cohort for 2022. Those selected include Assistant Dean of Students Dr. Amrik Johal, Manager of Outreach and Community Engagement Frank Rivera, Dean of Counseling Dr. Angel Hernandez, and Manager of Student Equity Erin Pollard. The week-long professional development training series

included budgeting and funding in the California Community College system, the participatory governance process, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, effective management and leadership, and more. In addition to professional development, the attendees formed relationships with fellow administrators across the California Community College system, leading to new ideas and partnerships.

IVC Students Earn Laptops While Completing Their Courses



The Learn to Earn Program is in full swing for the fall semester. Students who need a laptop can obtain one from the IVC Library and earn their way to keeping it by completing their coursework during the semester. Currently enrolled students can check out a Windows 10 laptop or Chromebook. During the academic year, they must earn six credits to keep the Chromebook and 12 credits to keep the Windows 10 laptop. Both require the student to maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA. During the 2021–22 academic year, IVC checked out more than 400 laptops, and 321 students met the requirements

of the Learn to Earn program. As of August 1, 80 students from the 2021-22 academic year have taken ownership of a laptop or Chromebook device. Read more about the Learn to Earn Program [here](#).

IVC Professors Team Up with Symphony Orchestra of Asuncion, Paraguay



On August 8, the [Symphony Orchestra of Asuncion, led by IVC Symphony Orchestra Conductor Eleanor Núñez](#), performed IVC Music Professor Daniel Luzko's *First Symphony* at the Municipal Theater of Asuncion, Paraguay. The full composition premiered at IVC on May 14, 2021, in a performance by IVC's Symphony Orchestra conducted by Núñez. When the Asuncion symphony heard about the composition, they contacted Luzko to arrange its premiere in Paraguay. The *First Symphony* was inspired by techniques Luzko learned at the European-American Musical Alliance Summer workshop in Paris, France [during his sabbatical](#). The composition has three movements and explores contemporary techniques in current usage around the world, combined with personal touches of Luzko's style. A collection of Luzko's work can be found on [SoundCloud](#).

Laser Day Prepares New Students for Their First Semester of College



This year marked the eighth Annual [Laser Day](#) which returned to an in-person event after a three-year virtual hiatus. Over 550 students and parents connected with fellow incoming IVC students and met with faculty, staff, and current students before the start of the 2022-2023 school year. This year's Laser Day commenced with breakfast and a welcome message from IVC President John Hernandez which was followed by 20 different breakout sessions. Incoming

students and parents attended one-hour presentations from their choice of each of the academic schools. Following the educational presentations, IVC gave 10 sessions on student success, including topics such as balancing life and school, undecided majors, and transferring in two years. The orientation wrapped up with a campus tour and lunch.

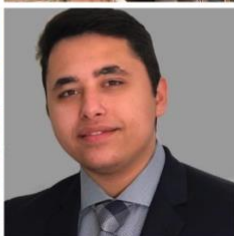
Guided Pathways Initiative Holds Summer Professional Development Activities



This summer, IVC's Guided Pathways initiative organized equity-based professional development activities for the campus community. The activities included two book clubs focused on equitable grading, *Grading for Equity*, and *UNgrading*. Starting with the history of grading practices in the U.S., these sessions facilitated a better understanding of where grading practices may be inequitable and the impact on students.

There were three workshops in addition to the book clubs. Counselors Robert Melendez and Tuan Nguyen presented on helping students complete their academic plans. [Al Solano](#), founder and higher education coach at the Continuous Learning Institute, showcased new lesson planning and unit-building methods. Research and Planning Analysts Marcela Reyes and Lauren Ilano demonstrated how to access and use data for decision-making in classroom practices, departments, and campus-wide initiatives.

Three IVC Students Participate in CitiBank Capstone to Career Program



IVC students Jaemin Kim, Alex Zhang, and Yaseen El-Helaly were selected to participate in a California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office partnership with the [Citi University Partnership in Innovation & Discovery \(CUPID\) program](#). As part of the Capstone to Career initiative, the three students presented their capstone project results to Citi Ventures senior leaders. Hundreds of students from across California competed for selection into the CUPID program. Ten students were selected from seven colleges: Irvine Valley College, College of the Canyons, Foothill Community College, Fullerton College, Cypress College, Folsom Lake College, and De Anza College. IVC had the highest number of selected participants of the seven colleges. Following the program, past students have received internship offers from Ernst and Young, Morgan Stanley, J.P.

Morgan Investment Banking, venture capital firms, and more.

Three IVC Students Participate in Chapman University Research Fellowship



IVC students Agatha Klima, Damien Weinger, and Madison Beltran received a research fellowship award from Chapman University. Its Schmid College of Science and Technology conducted its eighth [Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship in Earth and Environmental Sciences \(SURFEES\)](#). The [National Science Foundation-Research Experiences](#) fund the program for undergraduates, which provides hundreds of students from partnering community colleges including Citrus College, Irvine Valley College, Saddleback College, Santa Ana College, and Santiago Canyon College with an 8-week intensive research experience with Chapman science faculty, students, and researchers. SURFEES fellows receive a \$4,800 fellowship, on-campus housing, professional development workshops, and more.

Office of Student Equity Hosts IVC Cares Meal Distribution Event



On August 10, the college provided a grab-and-go meal distribution event in the Student Services Center Quad, with close to 300 meals distributed to students. Each student received a meal pack, essential resources such as grocery items, backpacks containing hygiene kits, and information on IVC's Basic Needs Program. IVC has hosted several meal distributions to support students, address non-academic barriers, and provide a safe, welcoming environment for students as they navigate challenges. The IVC Cares meal distributions have been integral to cultivating community and bringing the college together in service to our student body. Over 25 faculty, staff, and administrators volunteered to make this event a success. Photos available [here](#).

IVC Students Showcase Research Conducted with CSUF Faculty



On August 11, IVC students Luiz Landa Agundez, Melissa Herrera, Nikolas Reyes, and Crystal Enciso presented their research at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF). President John Hernandez, Vice President for Student Services Martha McDonald, Dean of Counseling Services Angel Hernandez, and Counselor Judith Benavidez were among the many guests attending the research symposium. The students participated in Project RAISE, an [8-week summer program](#) where they partnered with CSUF faculty in a dynamic, collaborative research environment. Agundez and Herrera both presented research on chemistry and biochemistry. Reyes and Enciso presented on computer science and biology, respectively. The [Undergraduate Research Experience](#) provides students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics an opportunity to conduct paid research at CSUF. Read about Project RAISE [here](#).

IVC Alum Co-Authors Report for DC Think Tank



IVC political science alumnus [Zach Durkee](#) co-authored a [report](#) for the [Center for New American Security](#) (CNAS) on the need to revitalize the US-Philippine alliance to address strategic competition in the Indo-Pacific. Durkee is a project consultant with [APCO Worldwide](#) and focuses on national security issues in Asia. The CNAS Indo-Pacific Security Program addresses opportunities and challenges for the United States in the region, with a growing focus on issues that originate in the Indo-Pacific but have global implications. CNAS is an independent, bi-partisan Washington, DC-based think tank co-founded by former Undersecretary for Defense Policy Michèle A. Flournoy and Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Kurt Campbell.

IVC Professor and Alum Team at Summer Writing Workshops



This summer, as she has done since 1998, IVC Professor of English Lisa Alvarez co-directed the writers workshops and assisted the poetry director at the [Community of Writers](#) in Olympic Valley. Alvarez was particularly proud to welcome IVC alum and CSUF rising senior Ashley Hardie as a paid intern. It was Hardie's second summer working at the conference. For 52 years, writers and poets from across the country have gathered to focus on their craft at week-long summer writing conferences. This year marked the return to an in-person conference after two years online. This year's staff included newly named US Poet Laureate Ada Limón and other notables, including Robert Hass, Sharon Olds, and Amy Tan.

IVC English Professors Published in Online Literary Arts Quarterly



English instructors Nathan Cayan and Jax Pham recently published in [Citric Acid](#), an online Orange County literary arts quarterly. Pham published [two poems](#): *Mouth Partially Open, Awaiting (Ars Poetica)* and *Unctuousness, Until*. Pham is working on two poetry manuscripts and currently teaches critical thinking, literature, and composition. Cayan published an [original artwork](#) titled "Meanwhile Everything is Fine." Cayan has written about the Asian diaspora and evolving AAPI identities, and is currently participating in DC Comics' Milestone Initiative talent development program.

The IVC Foundation Hosts the First Retiree Reunion



On August 3, the IVC Foundation held a Retiree Reunion, the first event of its kind. Approximately 40 classified staff, faculty, administrators, and managers gathered in the B Quad at IVC. The evening proved to be quite heartwarming with an exchange of information, smiles, hugs, and much more. While most of the time was spent welcoming the retirees home, Bill Hewitt and Dr. Stephen Rochford, retirees and members of the IVC Foundation Board of Governors, and Elissa Oransky, executive director of the IVC Foundation, all shared some brief remarks. President

John Hernandez provided a short overview of the direction of the college, including facilities updates, recent accomplishments, and future priorities. As the event closed, many attendees asked that another event be held next year. Photos available [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Instruction Begins

August 22

Welcome Week

August 22 – 26

Welcome Booths

August 22 and 25

Sweeny Todd and The Elephant Man Auditions

August 30 – 31

9/11 Remembrance Day

September 8

Club Day

September 14

Respectfully Submitted,

John C. Hernandez, PhD
President