



IRVINE VALLEY COLLEGE

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

FROM: John C. Hernandez, Ph.D., President

DATE: February 15, 2023

SUBJECT: **President's Report for the February 27, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting**

IVC Honors Black History Month with Events and the Launch of a New Equity Program



Throughout February, IVC honored [Black History Month](#), a time dedicated to recognizing and celebrating African Americans and their central role in US history. Students, faculty, and staff celebrated with special events including a live recording of the iHeartRadio podcast "The BFF: Black, Fat, Femme" featuring Dr. Jonathan Higgins and Jordan Daniels. IVC's new Black Student Success Scholars program

hosted a Black Literature and Culture Book Launch and participated in the 43rd Black History Parade and Unity Festival in Anaheim. Black Student Success Scholars is a new program that aims to connect students of the African diaspora to experience Black Excellence in a safe and welcoming environment. The program brings an African-centered education lens to support services, academic counseling, academic and cultural workshops, culturally enriching field trips, transfer planning, and organizing tours of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The IVC website provided resources about Black History Month campus-wide events, classes related to Black history, and information on activities happening in the local area.

Free Community Tax Prep Returns to IVC



[Orange County \(OC\) United Way's Free Tax Prep](#) has returned to IVC for Spring 2023 to assist students and community members with tax preparation. The free service is for anyone with a household income of less than \$60,000 per year. Individuals can receive assistance at IVC by scheduling an appointment with an IRS-Certified volunteer through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. The service will continue through April 8. OC United Way's Free Tax Prep is a community-trusted program that has served Orange County taxpayers since 2005. In 2022, the service completed 14,002 tax returns and saved the community an estimated \$2,800,000 in tax prep fees.

IVC Welcomes New South Orange County Community College District (SOCCCD) Trustee Ryan Dack



On February 21, President Hernandez hosted a campus tour with new SOCCCD Trustee Ryan Dack. IVC's leadership team joined President Hernandez and Trustee Dack during the tour. Before touring the campus, the group met and discussed IVC's vision, mission, goals, and initiatives. Trustee Dack was officially sworn into the Board of Trustees on December 12, 2022. Trustee Dack has taught history in Irvine and Laguna Beach Unified School Districts since 2018. IVC looks forward to continuing to share the great work being done at the college and exploring new opportunities to meet the needs of our surrounding communities.

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:
Ryan Dack, Carolyn Inmon, Barbara J. Jay, Timothy Jemal, Marcia Milchiker, T.J. Prendergast III, Terri Rydell
Julianna M. Barnes, Ed.D., Chancellor • John C. Hernandez, Ph.D., President, Irvine Valley College

IVC Leadership Welcomes Community Partners to Campus



President Hernandez and the IVC leadership team recently welcomed community partners from IVC's service area to tour the campus and learn more about the college. Guests included Five Point Vice President of Community Affairs Eric Morgan, and Irvine Unified School District Superintendent Terry Walker. During the visits, President Hernandez and the leadership team offered a broad overview of the college including student educational goals, campus improvements, college programs, dual enrollment, and outreach efforts. IVC values the continued partnership with organizations in

the community and looks forward to building and collaborating within the local area to increase awareness of the educational opportunities available to students.

IVC Awarded "Best Transfer Rate" by Intelligent.com



[Intelligent.com](https://www.intelligent.com) has included IVC on its list of the Best Community Colleges in California. IVC was awarded Best Transfer Rate and ranks number two out of the [Top 40 Community Colleges](#), scoring 97.8. The research identifies top schools in the state based on a variety of factors including academic quality (such as retention rates defined as the rate of students who return after their first year), graduation rates, and student resources such as online resources, libraries, and other available student support services.

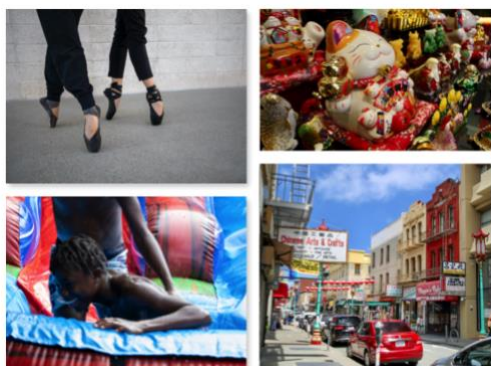
IVC Speech Team Returns to In-Person Competition and Wins 37 Awards



The Speech Team won a total of 37 awards during the fall semester. After two and a half years of giving speeches virtually, the IVC Speech Team finally returned to in-person competition last semester. The team won various awards from National Parliamentary Debate Association (team debate), International Public Debate Association (individual debate), and impromptu,

informative, and persuasive speaking. Read the full story [here](#).

IVC Student Publishes Photography in Arts and Academics Journal



IVC Honors Program student Sophia Steinart published four photographs in the December 1, 2022, edition of [Palouse Review](#). The publication is Washington State University Honors College's biannual arts and academics journal. Steinart is a freelance photographer based in Orange County specializing in sports, portrait, and travel photography. Submissions for the publication are from current and former honor students. Pieces selected for the journal are carefully crafted, evocative works that demonstrate the literary, artistic, and academic excellence of the broader honors community.

IVC Career Center Partners with Irvine Unified School District (IUSD) for Workshop Project



Throughout late January and early February, the IVC Career Center partnered with IUSD to offer a “Get the Internship Workshop Series” to prepare students for applying to internship programs. The Career Center developed the collaboration with IUSD offering nine workshops in person and via zoom for three weeks. More than 160 students attended the workshops, and the topics included creating a resume, a cover letter, and interviewing. All IUSD students and their parents were welcome to participate in the workshops.

IVC College Corps Fellows Participate in Winter Symposium



The Orange County College Corps Consortium’s winter symposium was hosted by Vanguard University. IVC, Concordia Irvine, and Vanguard University attended the event consisting of keynote speakers covering the topic of storytelling, increasing social capital, and building your brand. College Corps Fellows had the opportunity to participate in service projects such as creating gift bags with school supplies and making blankets to be donated to Orange County United Way. Students also received books with sample resumes, cover letters, and thank-you notes to assist them in writing these documents for themselves.

Administration of Justice Department Cooperative Work Experience Program Returns to IVC



During the Fall 2022 semester, IVC Campus Police worked with the Administration of Justice program to bring back the Cooperative Work Experience (CWE) program. CWE is an internship program developed to further student careers and educational preparation in criminal justice. CWE internships provide students with a valuable opportunity for supervised work and/or volunteer experience which allows them to earn college credit

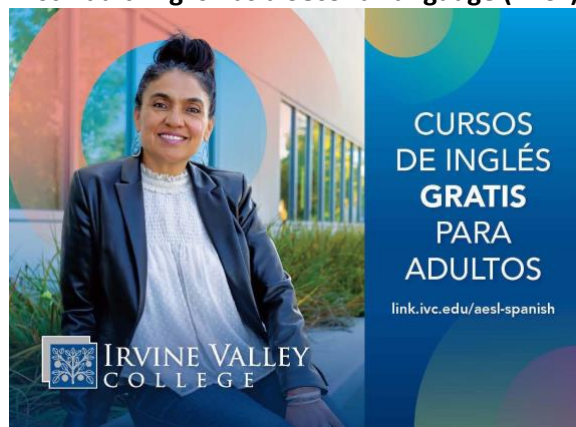
toward their major. The four students who completed the Fall 2022 CWE program are Nolan Heinemann, Nina Shandraw, Marissa Posada, and George Enriquez.

Fritzie Canas Named 2022 Career Launch Facilitator of the Year



IVC Counselor Fritzie Canas was named 2022 Career Launch Facilitator of the Year for her dedication to students and contributions to the [Career Launch program](#). Canas has been instrumental in leading IVC cohorts this past year and putting the college on the map as a leading contributor. Last year, IVC was recognized during the Career Launch Inaugural Impact Report as a leader in implementing the program. The program’s mission as a social enterprise is to help students create strategic social capital and access to the hidden job market, especially for students with few connections.

First Adult English as a Second Language (AESL) Marketing Campaign Launched



In December 2022, IVC Marketing and Creative Services (MCS) created an Adult ESL (AESL) marketing campaign with a mailer sent to Spanish-speaking homes in the IVC service area. The cover of the mailer features AESL student Elizabeth Ruiz De Gandara and contains information in Spanish about the AESL program, class modality, and transportation to IVC. The campaign includes a digital aspect that provides visibility on the mailer's impact. In addition to the 9,859 pieces mailed, the campaign included targeted advertising through Facebook, Instagram, and Google. The combination of physical and digital ads resulted in

more than 206,000 displays and 10,000 retargeted site visitors. This project's success is due to the team effort between MCS and AESL staff. Anecdotal evidence has shown that the program has seen an increase in this population of students.

IVC's Club Day Returns for the Spring Semester



On February 8, the Office of Student Life and [Inter-Club Council](#) hosted the second in-person [Club Day](#) at IVC since March 2020. More than 460 students attended, with 50 student organizations represented. Club Day allows IVC students to get involved on campus by joining a student organization, opening doors to new friendships, enhancing their academic life and leadership skills, and exploring potential career paths and interests. Attendees visited club booths, participated in activities, and enjoyed a meal from The

Habit Burger. [Learn more about IVC Clubs](#). Photos from the event are available [here](#).

The Year of the Rabbit is Celebrated at IVC's Lunar New Year Festival



On January 24, Equitable Learning Experience Valuing Achievement, Transfer and Empowering Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (ELEVATE AAPI) and the Office of Student Equity co-hosted a Lunar New Year Celebration. Lunar New Year, also known as Spring Festival or Chūnjié (in China), Tết (in Vietnam), Seollal (in Korea), or Losar (in Tibet), is one of the most commemorated festivals in Asia. The campus community celebrated the [Year of the Rabbit](#) while learning about the history, cultural traditions, art, and music of the Lunar New Year. Photos of the event are available [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Dance Master Class – John Pennington

March 2

Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert

March 6

Chorale Spring Sing

March 3

Preview Night

March 7

Symphony Orchestra with Laguna Hills High School

March 4

IVC Foundation Awards Dinner: Celebrating Excellence

March 10

Wind Symphony with Laguna Hills High School

March 5

College Fair

March 15

Respectfully Submitted,



John C. Hernandez, Ph.D.
President