



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: June 15, 2023

SUBJECT: President's Report for the June 26, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

IVC Celebrates 38th Commencement Ceremony



On May 25, IVC celebrated its 38th annual Commencement Ceremony in the upgraded Live Oak Terraces. More than 400 graduates and 2,000 guests were in attendance, accompanied by [the youngest graduate in IVC history, 11-year-old Tyco Elling](#). A total of **1,600** students received degrees and **1,401** students received certificates of achievement. IVC conferred **1,543** Associate of Arts degrees, **298** Associate of Arts for Transfer degrees, **747** Associate of Science degrees, and **407** Associate of Science for Transfer degrees. Of the graduates, **574** were cum laude (3.5–3.74 GPA); **666** students graduated magna cum laude (3.74–3.99 GPA); and **337** students graduated summa cum laude with a 4.0 GPA. Graduates of 2023 were accepted at each of the nine campuses of the University of California, and many are heading off to California State universities as well. This year, students will also transfer to USC, Chapman, Tufts, Boston College, Scripps, and Occidental College. The Commencement Ceremony's success gives credit to the tremendous amount of planning and collaboration of effort from many individuals across the campus. Video of the ceremony is available [here](#). View photos [here](#).

Inaugural College Corps Program Celebrates Successful Year of Service



The end-of-year College Corps Award Ceremony celebrated the accomplishments of the first cohort of students to complete the program. The College Corps fellows combined efforts resulted in 16,361 service hours over the past eight months. Fellows dedicated 5,806 hours to supporting K-12 education, 7,372 hours to combating food insecurity, and 3,182 hours towards climate action. President John Hernandez, Vice President for Student Services Martha McDonald, and Dean of Counseling Services Angel Hernandez spoke during the event offering congratulations and gratitude to the inaugural class. The College Corps program proved to be a transformative experience for these students, equipping them with valuable skills and positioning them as future leaders in their respective fields. View photos [here](#).

Honoring Transfer Students During Transfer Celebration



On May 10, the Transfer Center hosted a Transfer Celebration. Over 80 students and their families attended this festive event. President John Hernandez and Vice President for Student Services Martha McDonald provided remarks congratulating the students on their success. Counselor Lizette Bobadilla, winner of the Transfer Advocate of the Year award, and student alumni Brandon Hightower spoke at the event, sharing some inspirational words and insights. As an award for their hard work, transfer students received certificates and pins for their accomplishments during the celebration. View photos [here](#).

Celebrating Academic Excellence: Early College Graduates Honored at Annual Breakfast



On May 25, President John Hernandez congratulated the Early College Graduating Class of 2023. IVC recognized 24 Early College graduates from Beckman High School. While simultaneously graduating from high school, 24 students earned their Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) and California State University General Education (CSU-GE) Certificates of Achievement, and 21 students earned an associate degree in liberal studies and an associate degree in social and behavioral sciences. The Early College Graduating Class of

2023 joins a group of over 250 IVC alumni who have completed their degree requirements while in high school since IVC and Beckman High School joined together in 2007. View photos [here](#).

EOPS, CARE, CalWORKs, and Guardian Scholars Host Annual Recognition Ceremony



On May 12, EOPS, CARE, CalWORKs, and Guardian Scholars held their annual recognition ceremony. The recognition ceremony celebrates students who earned a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, received certificates or degrees, and are transferring to a four-year university. President John Hernandez and Vice President for Student Services Martha McDonald opened with remarks congratulating the 80 students and acknowledging the 39 guests. The programs served 583 students for the 2022–2023 academic year. Of those students served,

334 earned a 3.00-3.99 GPA, 17 earned a 4.0 GPA, 120 received associate degrees, 112 received general studies certificates, 36 received CSU GE certificates, 69 received vocational certificates, 72 received IGETC certificates, and 111 are transferring to four-year universities. View photos [here](#).

IVC and Western University of Health Sciences Sign Agreement for Pre-Pharmacy Pathway



Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IVC to create a pre-pharmacy pathway for students to become pharmacists. The transfer admission guarantee agreement will provide IVC students with a guaranteed seat in the College of Pharmacy's Doctor of Pharmacy

program upon completion of the prerequisites while maintaining a 3.0 or higher GPA. Read the full story [here](#).

EOPS/CARE Program Hosts Mother's Day Luncheon



On May 5, EOPS/CARE held their annual CARE Mother's Day Luncheon at Strawberry Farms Restaurant. The luncheon provides an opportunity to recognize and appreciate parenting students enrolled in the EOPS/CARE program. These students often face unique challenges as they balance their academic pursuits with the responsibilities of being the primary caregivers of their households. The event celebrates the accomplishments and resilience of parenting students. A total of 10 CARE students attended, enjoyed a meal together, received fresh orchids and gift cards to help with the cost of transportation.

Charter 100 Hosts Meet the Scholars Luncheon



On May 31, Charter 100 held their annual Charter 100 Meet the Scholars Luncheon, where members were able to meet the newest IVC scholars. For the first time in Charter 100 history, 10 contemporary scholars were awarded scholarships. For several decades now, Charter 100 members have supported IVC students facing unique financial obstacles through various scholarships. By providing these scholarships, members aim to alleviate these struggles and to let students know they believe in their ability to succeed. All scholars are active students in EOPS/CARE/NextUp/CalWORKs/Guardian Scholars programs.

The City of Irvine Gives Special Recognition to Interactive Media Arts Students



On May 23, Trustee Carolyn Inmon, Vice President for Instruction Rick Miranda, and Director of Economic and Workforce Development Martha Payán-Hernández were in attendance

when the City of Irvine awarded the Interactive Media Arts (IMA) Program and students that participated in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) GameSiG Showcase with a special commendation for being selected as finalists in the national competition. The city commended the IMA students and program for being the only community college competing among four-year colleges and graduate students, demonstrating IVC's commitment to empowering its diverse student population with the latest knowledge, skills, experience, and partnerships to support their journey on the path to leadership, creativity, and innovation. The IMA program, developed by Dr. Patricia Beckmann, received noteworthy acknowledgment for bringing honor to the City of Irvine for its outstanding industry-level production in game development representing a significant academic and professional achievement. The commendation can be viewed [here](#).

Summer Construction Projects: New Library Patio, Lighting Upgrades, and Paint Enhancements



This summer kicked off multiple construction projects, which included the new [library patio](#), lighting upgrades, and several painting projects. The new library patio is a large area with outdoor seating, a shade structure, and coffee service. Also included in the library renovations are interior restroom remodels. IVC crews are working on retrofitting existing lighting with LED

fixtures and upgrading parking lot lighting. The Life Science Building, Liberal Arts, and Business Sciences and Technology Innovation Center are a few of the building exteriors scheduled for painting this summer.

IVC Selected for AAC&U Institute on Open Educational Resources (OER) for a Second Year



The American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) has selected the IVC OER Workgroup for a second consecutive year to participate in the 2023–2024 Institute on Open Educational Resources (IOER), a year-long online engagement opportunity for institutions aspiring to launch, expand, and accelerate campus adoption of free and affordable instructional materials. IVC’s participation in the IOER will be funded by a generous grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. During 2022–2023, the Institute guided IVC’s OER efforts to start an OER community of practice using the California statewide ZTC Phase 1 grant funding. The launching of the community of practice was well received by many schools and disciplines. In 2023–2024, the IVC OER workgroup will focus on the next step in the IVC OER program development by using the California statewide Phase 3 grant funding for faculty OER course conversion. The ongoing support of President John Hernandez, Vice President for Instruction Rick Miranda, Academic Senate President Dan de Roulet, Academic Senate Vice President for Equity Rebecca Beck was instrumental in IVC’s involvement in the IOER, promoting the adoption of OER and other affordable learning materials solutions.

The Semi-Annual Adult ESL Mini-Conference Fosters Engagement and Collaboration



In Spring 2023, the English as a Second Language department held its 7th semi-annual Adult ESL (AESL) Mini-Conference. The Mini-Conference theme was twofold: Increasing English learners' cultural competency through the lens of exploring heritage months; and encouraging students' engagement in campus and community events while incorporating their experience back into the classroom. When this biannual event began, it was planned and attended solely by AESL faculty from IVC. However, over the last several semesters, it has shifted to a joint effort between the IVC and Saddleback faculty, with co-chairs and attendees representing each college. This energizing and inspiring event provides the opportunity to build and develop connections among colleagues in the [Adult Ed South Orange County Regional Consortium](#) (SOCRC). At this event, 28 colleagues came together to learn, share best practices, and collaborate on new ideas, activities, and resources. Participants left with materials ready to be put into practice in their classes.

Counseling Faculty and Staff Empowered to Support Underrepresented Populations



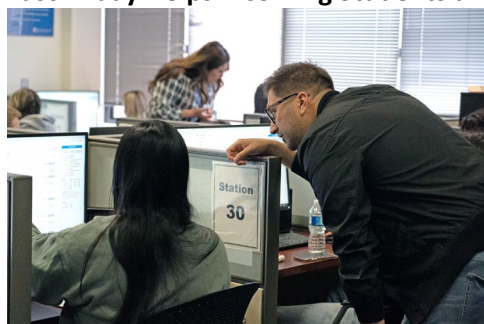
On May 12, a group of 15 employees participated in [Culturally Career Readiness Training](#) to become certified trainers with Aspira Consulting. The purpose of the training was to provide faculty and staff with a learning session focused on developing a culturally relevant career program. The professional development opportunity provided participants with skills for conducting difficult conversations with underrepresented populations regarding career readiness. The session focused on first-gen student career success, turning adversity into positive career traits, and overcoming imposter syndrome. Underrepresented populations often face unique challenges and barriers to career development. This training equips faculty and staff with the necessary tools to understand and address these inequities, promoting equal opportunities for all students.

Registration To Go ("Reg To Go") Workshops Streamline College Registration for Local High Schools



In a continued partnership with local high schools, IVC offered "Reg To Go" workshops to seven schools in Irvine Unified and Tustin Unified School Districts. The workshops provided an on-site registration support lab at each high school where participating students receive wrap-around services such as assistance with class enrollment, course placement, education plans, FAFSA, and class payment options, along with the opportunity to ask additional questions about IVC. Student Services teams consisting of staff and faculty from matriculation, financial aid, and counseling were able to provide on-site fall registration assistance to 230 incoming students.

Fast Friday Helps Incoming Students and Builds a Sense of Community



This year, the college nearly doubled the number of Fast Friday workshops offered. Fast Fridays are in-person workshops that allow incoming students to complete several critical steps to becoming an IVC student. Students who participated in Fast Friday completed orientation, advisement and developed a first-semester education plan. IVC was able to offer nine Fast Friday workshops from March through May and had nearly 300 incoming students participate and interact with current IVC students, faculty, and staff. In addition to completing the steps to becoming an IVC student, participants toured the campus, learned about services and resources, and participated in a student panel where they interacted and asked current students about the college. Matriculation also coordinated with local high schools to provide transportation to four customized Fast Friday workshops that accommodated their bell schedules. Incoming students reported an increase in information retention and reduction in college transition anxiety, acknowledging that participation helps build a sense of community and belongingness to the college.

IVC Career Center Paves the Way for Professional Growth



The Career Center wrapped up Spring 2023 with events providing valuable opportunities for students pursuing their career goals. The [IVC Job Fair](#) returned to an in-person event for the first time since 2019. Over 200 students attended the fair eager to explore many career pathways. The Job Fair featured 36 employers from various job sectors. The center also offered its first [Career Launch Academy Program](#) in collaboration with the Irvine Unified School District. A total of 25 students participated in the program, and 12 completed all four Career Launch coaching sessions earning them a Career Launch Certificate. As the end of the semester approached, the center [partnered with Amazon](#) to offer one-on-one individual resume reviews to students. Amazon provided a presentation on job application best practices and a networking lunch. The year concluded with a [luncheon](#) hosted by the Career Center with over 70 students, faculty, staff, and administrators in attendance.

IVC Hosts LBUSD Superintendent for an Educational Exchange



On May 18, IVC hosted Superintendent of the Laguna Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) Dr. Jason Vilorio, for an informational exchange and campus tour. President John Hernandez and the IVC leadership team offered a broad overview of the college, including campus improvements, college programs, dual enrollment, and outreach efforts. IVC had an opportunity to learn more about the work being done by LBUSD's teachers and staff, who are at the forefront of emerging educational technology and pedagogy. IVC looks

forward to exploring further partnerships that benefit both institutions and enhance learning experiences for students.

Computer Information Management Students Tour FBI Computer Forensics Lab



On May 22, Professor of Computer Information Management and faculty lead on the regional CyberPatriot Project Michael Franklin organized a tour with a group of students at the FBI Orange County Regional Computer Forensics Lab. The tour provided insight into the world of digital forensics and the critical role it plays in law enforcement. During the tour, students had the chance to see firsthand the state-of-the-art technology used by the FBI to investigate cybercrime, including

computer hardware and software, digital evidence processing tools, and forensic analysis techniques. They also met with FBI agents to ask questions about their work and the field of digital forensics.

The Only Two-Year Institution to Compete at Information Technology Cybersecurity Competition



IVC's cybersecurity team, [IVCyber](#), recently participated in the Information Technology Competition (ITC) at Cal Poly Pomona. The team, consisting of three members, took on the role of a consulting company and responded to a Request for Information (RFI) from a hypothetical client. IVC was the only two-year institution to participate amongst four-year institutions. Read the full story [here](#).

Tiffany Tran Received California Intersegmental Articulation Council's (CIAC) Service Award



Counselor and Articulation Officer (AO) Tiffany Tran received the CIAC Service Award for her work and "outstanding service 'above and beyond the call of duty' to the CIAC community and to the students and the institutions [they] serve." The [CIAC](#) membership comprises AOs from all California Community Colleges, UC, CSU, and private schools. Tran has taken on numerous leadership positions in her career, with several of her current roles including the co-trainer for new AOs for the California Community College Chancellor's Office and a key member of the AB 1111 Common Course Numbering Statewide [Task Force](#).

Music Instructor Mathieu Girardet Wins Chapman University Shaun Naidoo Legacy Award



IVC Professor Mathieu Girardet received the Shaun Naidoo Legacy Award at Chapman University, where he conducts the wind symphony. This is the only student nominated award given to a faculty member. The award recognizes one faculty member every year who has inspired and profoundly impacted the Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music. Professor Girardet is being recognized for his inspiring and profound impact on the students and the conservatory. This highlights his dedication and excellence in teaching and conducting the wind symphony.

IVC Representatives Attend Senator Dave Min's AAPI Heritage Month Empowerment Summit



On May 6, members of ELEVATE AAPI advisory committee, IVC's AANAPISI grant program, Dean Bui and Professor Tseng joined IVC community partners and Senator Dave Min's district director, IVC Alum Ash Alvandi, at Min's second annual Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month Empowerment Summit. Min spoke on his work on the Budget Subcommittee #1 on Education, authorship of SB 512 to expand access to higher education for foster youth, and advocacy as vice chair in the California Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus as well as the importance of community colleges in education. In 2021, over 80 AAPI nonprofits were awarded the "Stop the Hate" grant funding the fight against Asian hate. In honoring AAPI Heritage Month, Min emphasized AAPI unity, anti-Asian hate, and his role in securing a \$156.5 million AAPI Equity Budget which addresses longstanding racial inequities, provides services to victims of hate crimes, and funds prevention efforts to keep all Californians safe.

Upcoming Events

Summer Session Ends

August 13

IVC Laser Day

August 16

Fall 2023 Professional Development Week

August 14-18

Instruction Begins

August 21

President's Annual State of the College

August 14

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Hernandez".

John C. Hernandez, Ph.D.
President

Special Addendum: IVC's Response to Student Houselessness and Housing Insecurity

Irvine Valley College (IVC) understands that stable housing and basic needs is fundamental to student academic success and well-being. This report outlines the housing support services available to IVC students to support retention and success in their academic goals.

Framework of Support - IVC Holistic Care Team and Universal Needs Assessment

In an ongoing effort to support the holistic well-being of its students, IVC has implemented a universal Needs Assessment Form, which serves as the initial step in accessing services at the Basic Needs Center, Food and Housing Insecurity Scholars Program, or to obtain a personal appointment with the Basic Needs Case Managers. The assessment form is available online as well as printed in seven languages including Farsi, Russian, Arabic, Korean, Japanese, Spanish, and Chinese.

Students that indicate food and housing needs receive individual consultations and ongoing-follow up care from Basic Needs Case Workers, who work closely with students to connect them with on and off-campus resources. Basic Needs Case Workers are Masters of Social Work (MSW) Interns provided through a partnership with California State University Fullerton Master of Social Work (MSW) program. This partnership marks a significant enhancement of the housing support offered at IVC. MSW interns are on campus Tuesdays and Thursdays through Fall and Spring semesters. In the 2022-2023 academic year, MSW Interns provided assistance to 71 students. Among those, 28 chose to meet with the interns in person, while 43 connected through various digital means including phone, email, Zoom, or text.

Additionally, IVC utilizes a multidisciplinary approach to student support through the Basic Needs Holistic Care Team. This team is composed of various professionals who meet monthly to discuss coordination of care across campus programs and avoid duplication of services. Members include Basic Needs team, MSW Intern Case Managers, Manager of Student Equity, Food and Housing Insecurities Counselor, Mental Health Therapist, and Veterans Services Center staff.

Emergency Housing Support Available to IVC Students

IVC partnered with Sonesta Simply Suites Orange County Airport to provide immediate short-term housing to students experiencing housing insecurities or homelessness. The Sonesta Simply Suites location is easily accessible from IVC. After an initial assessment by Basic Needs, Veterans Services, or Title IX, a student in need will be housed with Sonesta Suites for a maximum of three days while a more permanent solution is determined. Sonesta has two room options available: a studio suite room with a bed and kitchenette (\$109 per night) available for a single student, and a one-bedroom suite with a kitchenette and additional sleeper couch (\$139 per night) available for a student with dependent children.

Once the Basic Needs Holistic Support team determines that the student's needs have been met, the student is connected with local supportive services if necessary.

For the 2023-2024 academic year, \$40,000 was budgeted to support student housing insecurities via a federal grant. These funds would support approximately 95 students with emergency housing through the Sonesta Suites contract.

Veteran-Specific Student Housing Support

The Veterans Services Center has established emergency housing tailored to the needs of student veterans and military-connected students, to ensure that all students have access to resources and achieve academic success.

As a response to these specific needs, the Veterans Services Center has partnered with the American Legion Post 291 to provide an extended housing option. The American Legion will provide veteran or military connected students with a week-long hotel voucher. The week-long hotel accommodations will allow a student veteran to be connected with the Department of Veterans Affairs for further case management services.

Emergency Grants

Reports from the Financial Aid Office and the IVC Foundation show that IVC has taken steps to enhance its support for students facing financial emergencies. IVC now offers a universal emergency grant application and has combined four funding sources into one, removing barriers for students and creating greater campus-wide oversight of funds distributed to students.

Last year, the IVC Foundation successfully awarded \$56,973 in emergency grants to a total of 120 students. The largest amount received by a student was \$1,000 and, on average, the emergency grants provided by the IVC Foundation amounted to \$500.

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) also played a role in the amount of financial assistance students received. Last year, a total of \$1,607,903 of HEERF funds were awarded to 1,100 students. The largest amount received by a student was \$6,200, with an average grant amounting to \$1,600.

Community Housing Partners

The Basic Needs Department is working on creating a network of support with community housing partners that provide wraparound services, emergency shelters, transitional housing, and specialized support for vulnerable populations. The following are agencies that provide off-campus resources for IVC students:

211 OC, a data warehouse of local basic needs resources available to all community members in need. 211 OC serves as the entry point to the coordinated entry system in Orange County, ensuring that those who are experiencing homelessness are connected with a dedicated case worker.

American Family Housing focuses on providing permanent supportive housing for individuals and families in need with the guidance from case workers.

Cal AIM is a program that targets CalOptima/MediCal recipients. Through this referral program, participants receive access to a housing navigator that can assist them with finding suitable housing options.

Family Assistance Ministries provides a comprehensive range of support, including food, shelter, mental health support, and case workers. In addition, Family Assistance Ministries also provides emergency shelter and motel vouchers.

The Family Solutions Collaborative offers wraparound services aimed at preventing homelessness. They provide vital support in the form of food, housing assistance, and rental aid.

Friendship Shelter offers emergency shelter services, providing individuals experiencing homelessness with a safe place to stay. Additionally, they provide bridge housing and long-term housing.

HomeShare OC offers a unique solution to housing challenges by matching students with homeowners who have an extra room to spare. Through this program, students can access affordable housing opportunities, often at highly discounted rates or even at no charge.

The **HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)** program provides student veterans referrals to a collaborative program which pairs HUD's Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance with VA case management and supportive services for homeless Veterans. These services are designed to help homeless Veterans and their families find and sustain permanent housing and access the health care, mental health treatment, substance use counseling, and other supports necessary to help them in their recovery process and with their ability to maintain housing in the community.

Launch Pad offers targeted support to prevent homelessness among emancipated youth ages 18-21 who are at-risk of homelessness.

Stand Up for Kids focuses on supporting students aged 18-24 in Irvine who are facing housing instability. Through a dedicated grant, this program provides housing assistance and case management services.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) assists very low-income veterans and their families. This program offers comprehensive case management and supportive services aimed at preventing the loss of housing or rapidly re-housing homeless veterans. By identifying suitable housing situations and providing ongoing support, SSVF ensures that veterans and their families have the necessary resources to maintain stable housing.

Tierney Center/OC Goodwill offers a wide range of support services for veterans in need. Services include housing assistance, addressing basic needs, financial assistance, employment support, legal, or VA benefit assistance.

Wise Place focuses on providing housing and wraparound services specifically tailored to meet the needs of domestic violence survivors and women experiencing homelessness.

New Partnership with City of Irvine

IVC is currently working in partnership with the City of Irvine to provide housing assistance to IVC students through a new program entitled Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAPP). While the details of this new partnership have not been finalized, the City of Irvine has indicated that they would like to commit up to \$600,000 to be split between IVC and Irvine Unified School district. A campus tour and initial meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2023. The campus is very excited about the potential for a significant increase in support this could bring to IVC students.