



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: November 30, 2023

SUBJECT: **President's Report for the December 11, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting**

Navigating Career Education through Advisory Partnerships and Industry Alignment



CAREER EDUCATION

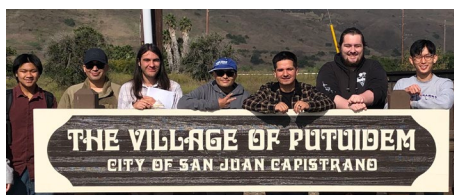
On December 7, Economic & Workforce Development Director Martha Payán-Hernández hosted a workshop on “Developing Effective Career Education Advisory Meetings.” The workshop included a presentation from Automotive Service Excellence Education Foundation Vice President George Arrants. The workshop focused on developing partnerships with local business and industry through program advisory committees to ensure curriculum design and improvements are industry informed and aligned to current industry standards and needs.

Native American Heritage Month



Throughout November, IVC honored [Native American Heritage Month](#), a time dedicated to celebrating Native Americans and their diverse cultures, histories, and traditions. The events included a Día de los Muertos Celebration featuring a community altar built by the campus community. California Cultural Resources Preservation Alliance, Inc. Co-Founder and President Dr. Patricia Martz presented on the history of the Acjachemen, the first people of South Orange County, and why it is important to learn about the past for a better future.

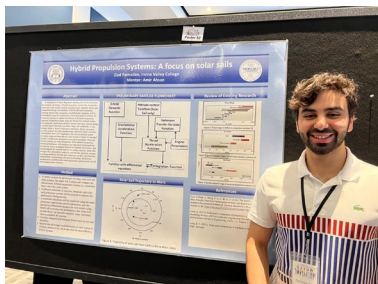
IVC Students Explore Indigenous History



the interconnected histories of the United States and Indigenous people.

IVC History instructor and former [SOCCCD BLOOM](#) intern Alex Dinh took over twenty students on a field trip to explore an outdoor museum honoring the Indigenous people of San Juan Capistrano, the Acjachemen Nation. They examined how their history is preserved and continues to unfold. The field trip provided students with a rich and inclusive experience focused on

IVC Students Present at the 2023 Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research



On November 18, the IVC Honors Program sponsored student participation at the [Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research \(SCCUR\)](#), a competitive annual conference for undergraduates at California two- and four-year colleges, hosted this year by California State University, Fullerton. IVC students presented 14 oral presentations and 5 poster presentations on topics including the educational success of Latinx community college students and the effectiveness of AI-driven algorithmic trading through sentiment analysis.

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

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Julianna M. Barnes, Ed.D., Chancellor • John C. Hernandez, Ph.D., President, Irvine Valley College

An Equal Opportunity Institution

IVC Classified Senate Spreads Holiday Cheer



Senior Administrative Assistant Beverly Hill, Executive Assistant Angela Orozco Mahaney, and Custodian Robert Flournoy continued the Thanksgiving dinner tradition started by Flournoy in 2013. The team worked with members of the Classified Senate, raising funds to assemble dinner baskets for families in need. The meals were offered to 52 students that were identified with the help of Extended Opportunity Programs and Services and the Basic Needs program. The baskets were distributed on November 17, just before the Thanksgiving holiday.

IVC Wins Awards at Greater Irvine Chamber Distinguished Educator Program



On November 16, Dr. Patricia Beckmann-Wells, who leads IVC's [Interactive Media Arts \(IMA\) Program](#) was honored with a Distinguished Educator Award for 2023. Dean of Career and Continuing Education and Integrated Design, Engineering and Automation, and Extended Education Administration Debbie Vanschoelandt accepted an award on behalf of the [NSF S-STEM Scholarship Program](#) as part of a collaborative effort between the Samueli School of Engineering at UCI and the Engineering program at IVC. IVC student Joshua Ochoa was recognized and received the Lt. Col. Thomas U. Wall Memorial scholarship. SOCCCD Clerk Carolyn Inmon, Trustee Marcia Milchiker, IVC leadership, and Beckmann-Wells' husband and son were in attendance to congratulate the winners.

IVC Selected for State Chancellor's Photoshoot



On November 16, IVC hosted members of the state Chancellor's Office and their agency partners for an Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) student photoshoot. Students from IVC were selected by the Chancellor's Office to be featured as part of the [ICanGoToCollege.com](#) campaign that will focus on the AAPI communities. Of more than 300 applicants throughout California, 22 of the 39 students selected were from IVC. Some IVC students are being flown to Cosumnes River College and Sacramento City College for photoshoots.

Marketing and Creative Services Earns Awards from National Council for Marketing and Public Relations



On November 16, IVC's Marketing and Creative Services received three awards from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) District Six. The team received the following 2023 Medallion Awards: Gold for Notes/Cards/Invitations, Silver for Computer-Generated Illustration, and Bronze for Interior Signage/Displays. District Six includes all community colleges in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Territory of Guam.

IVC Celebrates International Day



The International Student Program (ISP) and International Student Club hosted International Day on November 15 in recognition of [International Education Week \(IEW\)](#). IEW is an annual event co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and Department of Education, highlighting the benefits of international exchange on U.S. college campuses. International Day included student-hosted tables highlighting different aspects of their home countries and sharing their cultural traditions, food, and activities with visitors. The event also showcased a performance by the West African dance troupe, Djembe Fusion. View photos [here](#).

MESA Program Encourages Students to Apply for Undergraduate Research Opportunities



On November 14, the Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Program hosted an event encouraging students to apply for undergraduate research opportunities. The event included a panel of three students who had previously completed summer research projects, two from Cal State Fullerton's Undergraduate Research Experience and one from Texas A&M's Advanced Technologies for the Preservation of Biological Systems. In addition to sharing their research projects, they provided insights into the application process and their experiences with the programs. IVC is partnering with local four-year institutions, including Cal State Fullerton and Chapman University, to place students in their Undergraduate Research Experience (URE) and

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship in Earth and Environmental Science (SURFEES). MESA aims to inform students of these opportunities and help them submit robust applications to facilitate their selection into these programs.

Campus Community Raises Awareness During Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week



IVC commemorated [Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week \(HHAW\)](#) from November 13 to 17 by hosting a Lunch and Learn presentation and resource fair. The presentation shared information about accessing resources through the IVC Basic Needs program, such as food and housing assistance. The resource fair connected the campus community with various off and on-campus resources. Additional community webinars included topics on affordability, mental health, and connecting with Orange County residents to discuss misconceptions about homelessness.

College Corps Annual Orange County Consortium Symposium Returns to IVC



IVC College Corps organized and hosted the 2nd Annual Orange County Consortium Symposium on November 4. The day kicked off with breakfast and inspiring speakers, including President John Hernandez and CEO/President of South County Outreach LaVal Brewer. The symposium offered workshops on time management, financial literacy, mock interviews, and conflict resolution strategies. Incoming College Corps fellows enjoyed lunch while gaining insight from a panel of fellows from the first cohort. Breakout workshops were facilitated by SOCCCD Board of Trustees Vice President Terri Rydell and Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Cindy Vyskocil. View photos [here](#).

IVC's Model United Nations Win Big at Pacific Model United Nations Conference



On November 4, the IVC Model United Nations program attended the Pacific Model United Nations conference at Riverside City College. The team won the most awards of all colleges in the competition, including Outstanding Delegate, Distinguished Delegate, and Best Delegate. The team consisted of 16 students who simulated the Security Council on the

issue of women's resilience in regions plagued by armed groups and the General Assembly on science, technology, and innovation for sustainable development.

Students Visit the Great Park Palm Court



Adult ESL Instructor Gail Schwartz took 24 students on a field trip to the Great Park Palm Court Arts Gallery that included a tour led by Director/Curator Adam Sabolick. The gallery featured works from artist Dorothea Lange, exploring themes of race, gender, and identity in a historical context. The exhibit featured photos of Manzanar, showcasing surprising elements like white migrant workers and women in traditionally male roles. The field trip continued with a visit to the Great Park Food Lab, impressing students with diverse plants from around the world.

Puente Achievements and Cultural Engagement



The Puente program was very active on and off campus during October and November. Highlights included celebrating the mid-year transfer of Raphael Ortiz Marquez, a first-generation student from the first Puente cohort, who shared his academic journey and will attend San Diego State University. The program also conducted mentor training with over two dozen participants for the upcoming semester. Puentistas engaged in various activities, including attending a Lila Downs concert, creating altars at the IVC Library, participating in a college-wide Día de los Muertos celebration, and representing at the 21st annual Noche de Altares in Santa Ana. Additionally, Puentistas attended a regional transfer Motivational Conference at Cal State San Bernardino.

New Jazz Ensemble Director Starts Jazz Festival in Lima, Peru



festivals, ensuring a vibrant and inclusive celebration.

IVC Jazz Ensemble Director Anibal Seminario orchestrated the inaugural Lima Jazz Fest held from October 2 to 7. Departing from conventional norms, the festival prioritized audience connection and embraced the Latin side of jazz, offering a unique experience. The festival featured sold-out concerts and complimentary master classes. The event showcased a diverse array of artists, captivating both seasoned enthusiasts and aspiring musicians. The festival's visionary approach, capturing the cultural spirit of Lima, elevated it beyond typical jazz

IVC Honors Students Published in the "Think You?!" Undergraduate Research Journal



Nine honors students had their undergraduate research published in the 2023 edition of "Think You?!, the Proceedings of the Bay Honors Research Symposium." The Bay Honors Symposium accepts Honors student abstract proposals through a competitive process, and the journal showcases the best work from California community colleges. Published work includes "The Unhinged Woman: An Intersectional Feminist Evaluation of Postfeminist Antiheroine Fiction and Online Gender Performance" from Ria Singh Thakur, second-year English major and finalist for both awards given by the 2023 symposium, the Katharine Award and the Heslet Scholar Award. The published papers can be found online at the [Think You?! website](#).

Upcoming Events

Piano Recital

December 12

IVC Cares Food Giving Event

December 14

Uncle Vanya

December 14-17

Actors' Showcase

December 18

Musical Theater Showcase

December 19

Theater Conservatory Show

December 20

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Hernandez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "H".

John C. Hernandez, Ph.D.
President