



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, 2024

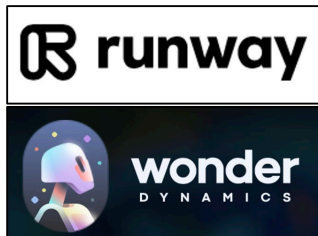
SUBJECT: **President's Report for the February 26, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting**

IVC Celebrates Black History Month



Throughout February, IVC honored [Black History Month](#), hosting campus-wide events, sharing information on classes related to Black history, and promoting activities happening in the local area. The month-long celebration recognizes and celebrates African Americans and their central role in US history. The Black Student Success Scholars program organized events, including a panel of esteemed black professionals from our local community who shared their unique personal and professional career stories. A keynote event was Dr. Yanice Carter's presentation on Project Scholars, prison reform, and the transformative power of education.

IVC's Interactive Media Arts (IMA) Program Enters New Partnership with Two AI Software Companies



Two leading AI virtual filmmaking software companies, Runway's AI and Wonder Dynamics, will work in close partnership with students in IVC's IMA 35, Concept Design and AI, course this spring. The course will introduce students to cutting-edge techniques in concept design for virtual filmmaking and immersive entertainment by incorporating the latest industry-standard AI software. IVC students will be the first to have portfolios demonstrating these industry-standard skill sets.

Office of Research, Planning, and Accreditation Publishes Article in Peer Reviewed Journal



JOURNAL OF APPLIED RESEARCH
IN THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Congratulations to Director of IVC's Office of Research, Planning, and Accreditation Loris Fagioli, Research and Planning Analyst Marcella Reyes, and Saddleback Research and Planning Analyst Joshua Dorman for their collaborative efforts and recent publication in the Journal of Applied Research in Community Colleges. The article, "Embedded Tutors Support Community College English as Second Language (ESL) Students" was accepted for publication in the Spring 2024 edition of the journal. The research looked at the causal effects of embedded tutors in ESL courses. Results indicated that offering this resource increased students' success rates. Students who met with tutors were three to six times more likely to pass their transfer-level English course, with the highest improvement in online classes. This is the fourth peer-reviewed article IVC's Office of Research, Planning, and Accreditation has published since 2020.

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

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An Equal Opportunity Institution

IVC Management Begins Year-long Commitment to Growth and Development



On February 9, the IVC management team commenced a year-long journey of workshops and coaching sessions led by Founder Dr. Joe Hill of Higher Performance Group. Dr. Hill will guide this experience to optimize team communication, alignment, capacity building, and execution. This initiative underscores the management team's dedication to continual growth into higher-performance leaders through ongoing development efforts.

Amanda Romero Awarded Counselor Advocate of the Year



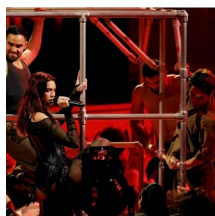
On February 7, Career Education Counselor Amanda Romero received the Community College Counselor Advocate of the Year award from the Orange County Department of Education. Romero was awarded for her commitment to being a community college educator and advocate for the OC region. The annual OC Counselor Symposium, put on by the Orange County Dept. of Education, is one of the largest events, with over 700 participants in attendance. It aims to equip educators with strategies, best practices, innovative tools, and resources to ensure K-14 student success.

IVC Holds Spring 2024 Club Day



On February 7, more than 400 students attended [Club Day](#), where they had the opportunity to explore 47 student organizations. Attendees visited club booths, participated in activities, and enjoyed a meal while making new friendships and exploring potential career paths and interests. This event was made possible by the joint effort of the [Inter-Club Council](#) and the Office of Student Life. Photos from the event are available [here](#).

IVC Dance Student Performs at Grammys



On February 4, IVC Student Kazuma Inoue performed at the Grammys with international sensations Dua Lipa and Diavolo for a performance that captivated audiences worldwide. This remarkable opportunity followed Inoue's performance at Diavolo's "Existencia" showcase. Inoue's achievements serve as a testament to his passion and hard work. As a community, we are proud of his accomplishments and eagerly anticipate the extraordinary things that lie ahead on his journey.

IVC Participates in 44th annual Orange County Black History Parade & Unity Festival



On February 3, President John Hernandez, Vice President for Instruction Rick Miranda, and Dean of Counseling Angel Hernandez spent some time at the IVC Outreach booth during the annual Orange County Heritage Council Black History Parade and Unity Festival. The event hosted thousands of community members and featured marching bands, dance teams, double Dutch squads, community groups, and more. This was the 44th annual Orange County Black History Parade & Unity Festival, Orange County's only black history parade. The Orange County Heritage Council is a volunteer nonprofit promoting the Black community and developing events and activities to encourage family and cultural interaction.

The Arts Village at IVC is Open for Classes



On February 2, the Orange County Register published an [article](#) about the new Arts Village at IVC. The 62,471-square-foot complex will be fully opened to students later this spring. Two buildings, Music and Dance and Visual Arts are now live and host various classes. The Fine Arts and Gallery building will be available in the near future.

The Pathways to Success Fair Returned for Spring 2024



On January 31, IVC's Guided Pathways Completion Teams held the second Pathways to Success Fair. The event aimed to help students identify their learning pathway by creating awareness of the 10 interest areas and fostering connections with essential learning support such as the library, tutoring, and the Writing Center. Students were encouraged to connect with academic and career interest areas, as well as student support centers. They also heard presentations from the career and transfer centers. More than 340 students participated in the event, and over 80 volunteers helped make it a success. South Orange County Community College District Trustee Marcia Milchiker was among the volunteers who helped check students in as they arrived at the event. View photos [here](#).

IVC Earns Recognition as Women in Cybersecurity Chapter



On January 25, IVC was recognized as a [chapter for the national Women in Cybersecurity](#) (WiCyS) organization after months of collaborative efforts with women cybersecurity students. The college is featured on the national website, solidifying its commitment to supporting women in the cybersecurity field. IVC is the sole community college in Orange County with this recognition. Students are eligible to receive stipends from WiCyS and have access to scholarships to address the gender gap in cybersecurity.

IVC Receives Recognition as an All-Steinway School



On January 24, IVC received an All-Steinway School distinction, signifying the college's dedication to musical excellence, exclusively utilizing Steinway & Sons pianos in teaching, practice, and performance spaces. This milestone reinforces its position as a premier institution for music education in Southern California. The strategic investment acquired 19 Steinway pianos, including 12 Steinway & Sons grand pianos and seven uprights. This commitment allows students to refine their musical talents on world-class instruments and aligns seamlessly with the college's dedication to artistic growth. Read more [here](#).

Rising Scholars Program Receives Certificate of Congressional Recognition



On January 24, IVC hosted the Rising Scholars Premier Event, which showcased accomplished artists and creators who overcame significant barriers through education and art. The [Rising Scholars program](#) reshapes the trajectories of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated students through access to quality education and resources. The event included performances by Jail Guitar Doors and Playwright Project. Through their performances, the artists provided a glimpse into the narratives and talents that thrive within prison confines, challenging stereotypes and illustrating the profound impact of education and creativity. Following the event, the program received a Certificate of Congressional Recognition from Representative Katie Porter (CA-47). View photos [here](#).

IVC Student Kennedy Pucci Selected for 2022-23 3C2A Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll



On January 24, the California Community College Athletic Association (3C2A) announced that former IVC women's basketball player Kennedy Pucci was selected as a 2022-23 3C2A Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll member for her athletic and academic achievements. With nearly 24,000 student-athletes in the 3C2A, the accomplishment is truly commendable. Pucci was also named IVC's women's scholar-athlete of the year for 2022-23. She maintained a 4.0 grade point average during her time with the Lasers. Pucci will be honored at the 3C2A Scholar-Athlete Luncheon on March 27 as part of the annual 3C2A Convention in Sacramento. Read more [here](#).

Jerry Hernandez Secures 500 Wins as Lasers' Head Coach



On January 19, Jerry Hernandez led the Men's Basketball team to victory over Golden West College, securing his 500th win as the Lasers' head coach. Hernandez is currently in his 28th season as the head men's basketball coach at IVC. Under his guidance, the team achieved significant milestones, including a school record of 27 wins in the 2008-09 season and reaching the state tournament for the first time in 2009-10. Hernandez's coaching tenure has been marked by consistent playoff appearances, 20 or more wins in 11 seasons, and a No. 1 state ranking in 2013. His players have earned numerous accolades, with

over 100 receiving scholarships at four-year colleges, including Division I institutions. Read more [here](#).

GAP4+1 Featured in Los Angeles Times Article on Business Etiquette



On January 16, the Los Angeles Times published an [article](#) that highlighted the GAP4+1 program's course on business etiquette. The business etiquette course is seen as crucial for students in accounting, as much of their future work involves face-to-face contact with clients or extensive interviews with employers. The goal is to prepare them for the professional world by instilling the necessary skills and behaviors for successful interactions in a business setting. [GAP4+1](#) is a partnership between IVC and California State University, Fullerton, that

enables students to graduate with a bachelor's degree in four years and a master's degree in one additional year.

IVC Professor Carolina Kussoy Presents on Data Analytics Instruction



On January 9, Carolina Kussoy presented on IVC's data analytics pathway during Alteryx's SparkED Winter School Training. IVC currently offers a three-course data analytics pathway that starts with data analytics fundamentals, a course articulating to California State Universities. Students then learn data analysis and visualization

through software applications to achieve certification with Alteryx and Tableau, two leading data analytics software providers. The SparkED education program offers a free comprehensive teaching and learning initiative, making it easy for educators to integrate data analytics into their classrooms.

IVC Students Attend Student Veterans of America National Conference



On January 4 through 7, eight students from the Veterans Services Center participated in the Student Veterans of America National Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. Workshops covered topics from resume building to interview strategies, helping them prepare for a competitive job market. Networking was a significant aspect of the conference, allowing students to connect with peers nationwide who share their experiences and aspirations. One of the conference's highlights was the resource fair, where leading organizations like RTX, Raytheon, and Boeing showcased their commitment to supporting veterans in their career development.

Women's Flag Football Coming to IVC in Fall 2024



On January 1, the athletics department announced women's flag football is coming to IVC. Dean of Kinesiology, Health, and Athletics Keith Shackelford says IVC will be the first college in California, including public and private, 2-year and 4-year institutions, to sponsor the sport at the varsity level. Off-season training begins March 22, with summer training for incoming first-year students starting in July. The inaugural season is expected to kick off on September 2. Read more [here](#).

Voices for Equity in Community College History Education



IVC Professor of History and Gender Studies Brittany Adams served as a member of the organizing committee for the January 2024 annual meeting of the American Historical Association. As the sole community college representative on the planning committee, Adams recruited three panels highlighting pedagogy and history teaching in community college. Adams served as chair on the Equity in the History Classroom panel and as a commenter on a panel that discussed the stages of a community college career as a history professor. Professor of Ethnic Studies Araceli Centanino also attended and presented her experiences as a faculty member in the early stages of her career.

The Puente Program Has a Productive Start to the Semester



Throughout January, the Puente program participated in several events. Students in the program visited the Laguna Art Museum for a docent-led tour to view "Marking an Era: Celebrating Self Help Graphics & Art at 50." On January 31, Puente hosted an evening Mentor-Mentee Meet and Greet where Puentistas met with their mentors. Students also participated in the second Annual Scholarship Lab, an afternoon devoted to completing IVC Foundation scholarship applications. The Scholarship Lab is a project started by last year's Puente cohort and sustained by this year's Puente Student Ambassadors.

Free Tax Prep Available to Students and Community Members



[Orange County \(OC\) United Way's Free Tax Prep](#) has returned to IVC, aiming to aid students and community members in their tax preparation efforts. This complimentary service is accessible to individuals with a household income below \$64,000. To receive assistance at IVC, individuals can schedule an appointment with an IRS-certified volunteer through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Services are available in English, Spanish, or Farsi. Appointments remain open until April 6.

IVC Hosts Southern California AANAPISI Regional Meeting



In January, Equitable Learning Experience Valuing Achievement, Transfer, and Empowering Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders ([ELEVATE AAPI](#)) hosted the Southern California Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AANAPISI) regional meeting. The meeting was the first in-person convening for the region since the COVID-19 pandemic. With over eight schools present, the colleges met for a day of growth, program development, and relationship building. The event included Foundation for California Community Colleges presentations regarding the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Student Achievement Program (AANHPI SAP). Dr. Mike Hoa Nguyen discussed the current and future implications for AANAPISIs and Minority Serving Institutions designations, and the Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education showcased the advocacy efforts nationwide.

Author of Bill Mandating Ethnic Studies in High Schools Visits Class at IVC



On December 12, the Honorable Jose Medina, former Assemblyman for the 61st District and author of AB 101, the bill to mandate Ethnic Studies in high schools, came to speak to Dr. Priya Shah's Introduction to Ethnic Studies class. He led the students in an engaging and informative discussion about the process of getting the bill signed into law and the potential impact of Ethnic Studies curriculum.

Upcoming Events

Dance Master Class – Modern

February 29

IVC Foundation's Celebrating Excellence Awards

March 8

Irvine Valley College Saxophone Day

March 3

College Fair

March 13

Wind Symphony

March 3

PAC DEIA: Your Ideas Matter!

March 25

Respectfully Submitted,

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

John C. Hernandez, Ph.D.
President