



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: January 11, 2024

SUBJECT: **President's Report for the January 22, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting**

Spring 2024 Professional Development Week Held at IVC



IVC faculty, staff, and administrators were invited to attend over 70 planned sessions during the Spring 2024 Professional Development Week. The events kicked off on January 9 with the President's Opening Session slideshow of photos shared by employees showcasing how they spent their winter break. The President's session featured a keynote address, "[Becoming Hispanic-Serving Institutions \(HSI\)](#)," by Dr. Gina Garcia. During her presentation, Dr. Garcia delineated the distinctions among Latinx-enrolling, Latinx-enhancing, Latinx-producing, and Latinx-serving institutions. As an emerging HSI, IVC is in a unique position to reflect and critically assess what becoming a Hispanic Serving Institution means for our college while intentionally enhancing "servingness" for Latinx students and other minoritized students.

IVC at ATEP Hosts High School Counselor Conference



On December 15, IVC hosted the High School Counselor Conference, which was attended by 125 local high school counselors and college/career technicians. The conference was hosted at IVC at ATEP for the first time. Visiting high school partners were provided with updates on academic and student support programs available to interested students. This year's conference highlighted Basic Needs initiatives, including the Rising Scholars Grant, hands-on Career Education demonstrations, Irvine Valley Promise Program, pre-registration updates, financial aid updates, transfer programs, and IVC Honors Program. Additional programs represented in the resource fair were the AESL program, Elevate AAPI, Counseling Department, EOPS, CA College Corps, International Students Program, Mesa, and STEM-Project Raise. View photos [here](#).

IVC Cares Spreads Holiday Cheer



The IVC Cares Winter Food Giving event returned with an 80's theme on December 14. Over 520 free meals were provided to students attending the event. Students packed 3,700 pantry items that were available while supplies lasted. The campus community was invited to donate new or lightly used items to the Basic Needs Clothing Drive, which was held simultaneously in preparation for being available for the spring. Volunteers included 30 employees and 12 students from across campus who handed out food and grocery items to spread holiday cheer as the end of the semester neared.

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An Equal Opportunity Institution

EOPS Program Hosts Adopt-A-Family Event on Campus



On December 8, the EOPS/CARE/NextUp/CalWORKs/Guardian Scholars Department hosted their annual Adopt-A-Family event with the Counseling Center and College Corps. Director of EOPS, Dr. Rosa Prado, welcomed attendees and introduced Trustee Carolyn Inmon to the group. Lunch was served to nearly 100 guests who attended the event. Eligible students received grocery cards and gingerbread cookies to take home. Children in attendance received toys and gifts that were donated. Over the past 37 years, IVC's

Adopt-A-Family event has served over 7,800 students, including the 50 families served this holiday season. Photos available [here](#).

IVC Represented at Basis Needs Summit



On December 8, #RealCollegeCalifornia hosted the annual Basic Needs Summit at Evergreen Valley College. President John Hernandez is a member of the CEO Affordability, Food, and Housing Task Force. The task force helped plan the summit under the auspices of the Community College League of California. Dr. Hernandez was joined at

the summit by Interim Grant Project Manager for College Corps David Mendoza, Program Coordinator for Basic Needs Juanita Vasquez, and Program Assistant for Basic Needs Briana Bell. The convening of 350 participants allowed attendees to discover and exchange best practices and learn from colleges tackling and eliminating the barriers that economic insecurity creates for students.

Students Host Semi-Annual Global Policy Forum



IVC's Model United Nations (MUN) team and the Political Science club hosted its semi-annual Global Policy Forum on December 7. Fifty-five participants attended either in-person or virtually. Students debated "Should Countries with Nuclear Capabilities Restrict Access for Non-Nuclear Countries?" The side advocating for states with nuclear capabilities to restrict access to those without won the debate. The Global

Policy Forum is hosted every semester by IVC MUN students and the Political Science club as a service-learning event to raise awareness of global challenges and opportunities, as well as promote global citizenship. A captioned recording of the event is available [here](#).

IVC Hosts De-Stress Fest



From December 5 to 7, IVC's Offices of Student Life and Student Equity hosted a series of [de-stress events](#) leading up to the end of the semester. Students enjoyed pet therapy, a study break social and the opportunity to make do-it-yourself stress balls. The events helped students relax and reflect on all they had achieved during the semester.

The President's Office Hosts IVC Holiday Mingle



The IVC Holiday Mingle occurred on December 5 in the Performing Arts Center lobby. Over 200 Faculty, staff, administrators, and student leaders gathered in the festive open house, providing them with an enjoyable occasion to connect with peers over delicious refreshments. This gathering served as a valuable break for the campus community amidst the approaching end of the semester. Photos of the event are available [here](#).

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IVC English as a Second Language Instructor Featured in Article on Teaching and Artificial Intelligence



On December 4, the University of Southern California published the article “Empowering ESOL students with AI,” a feature story on IVC English as a Second Language Instructor Brent Warner. The article highlights Warner’s embrace of innovative technology applications to empower students. Warner shares how students can use artificial intelligence (AI) to take control of their learning. His commitment to integrating technology into education is evident in his courses, where he uses AI image generation and ChatGPT for engaging activities. While acknowledging challenges, he advocates for educators and students to collaboratively navigate the evolving landscape of AI in education for meaningful learning experiences. Read the full story [here](#).

IVC Women's Volleyball Team Earns OEC Conference Title



Congratulations to the IVC women's volleyball team and first-year head coach Anna Unke and her staff for helping lead the Laser squad to an Orange Empire Conference Championship and a trip to the California Community College Athletic Association (C32A) State Championship at Mt. San Antonio College the first week of December. The Lasers ended with a record of 22-5 overall and 13-3 in the conference and made the semifinal round at the state event. Tessa Marrocco, Natalia Brandlin, Mia Bertolone, and Audrey Fowler were named all-conference players. Marrocco was also named as an all-region selection, and Bertolone was selected as part of the state all-tournament team.

Veteran Students Gather for a Friendsgiving Potluck



On November 16, the Veterans Services Center hosted its annual Friendsgiving Potluck. The holiday feast was a true reflection of community engagement. The Daughters of the American Revolution donated the turkey, and the local American Legion Post 838 helped serve the food. Among the laughter and shared stories, students had the invaluable opportunity to unwind together, fostering a sense of unity as they kicked off the holiday season in a spirit of warmth and togetherness.

IVC Model United Nation Continues Their Winning Streak



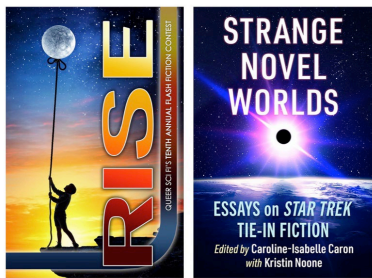
From November 10-12, IVC’s Model United Nations (MUN) earned seven awards for their representation of Cameroon at the National Model United Nations Conference in Washington, D.C. The team received the Outstanding Delegation award, recognizing their performance among the top 5% of schools present. Additionally, they secured position paper awards in five out of six committees and a Best Delegate award, showcasing inclusive and exemplary committee performance. This follows their recent win of four awards from the Pacific Model United Nations conference at Riverside City College. Read the full story [here](#).

IVC Provides State-Level Leadership on Trans Athlete Inclusion at Fall Conference



On October 27, Director of College Equity, Inclusion, and Access Erin Pollard presented at the California Community College Athletic Association (3C2A) Fall Conference as part of her role in the 3C2A Trans Athlete Inclusion Task Force. Pollard presented with the Chair of the California Community Colleges Foundation LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee Dean of Social and Behavior Sciences, Dr. Emilie Mitchell from Cosumnes River College, and 3C2A trans female athlete Chloe Anderson. The task force concentrates on providing education on the different needs and life experiences of transgender, nonbinary, and intersex athletes, as well as updating 3C2A policies to increase participation in sports and reduce harm to trans, nonbinary, and intersex student-athletes.

IVC Professor Published in Science Fiction Anthology



IVC Instructor of English Kristin Noone has been awarded an Honorable Mention in the 2023 Queer Science Fiction Flash Fiction Contest for her story "Time to Rise." Her story can be found in "Rise," this year's Queer Science Fiction anthology, published by Other Worlds Ink. Noone also presented at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA) Conference. The research from her presentation "Dinosaurs, Cosmic String, and the 'Great Big Wrong': Time Travel and Morality in 'Star Trek: First Frontier'" will form part of her upcoming scholarly book, "Strange Novel Worlds: Essays on Star Trek Tie-In Fiction," edited

with Caroline-Isabelle Caron, to be published by McFarland Books in Spring 2024. Noone also performed a reading from her novel "Spells and Sensibility" as part of a Creative Writing panel.

Upcoming Events

Rising Scholars Premier Event: Overcoming Barriers to Education

January 24

Club Day

February 7

Dance Master Class – Rope Dart Flow

February 10

Dance Master Class – Contemporary Breaking

February 12

Respectfully Submitted,

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

John C. Hernandez, Ph.D.
President