



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 13, 2024

SUBJECT: **President's Report for the June 24, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting**

IVC Celebrates 39th Commencement Ceremony



On May 23, IVC celebrated its 39th Commencement Ceremony, honoring the remarkable achievements of its graduates and highlighting the exceptional stories of determination and success within its student body. Approximately 400 graduates and 2,200 guests were in attendance, accompanied by the [youngest graduate in IVC history, 11-year-old Athena Elling](#), beating out her brother Tycho Elling, who set the record last year. A total of 2,839 students received degrees, and 1,458

students received certificates of achievement. The Commencement Ceremony's success is credited to the tremendous amount of planning and collaboration effort from many individuals across the campus. A video of the ceremony is available here. View photos [here](#).

Memorial Day Observed in the Student Services Center Quad



On May 22, the Veterans Services Center (VSC) hosted an event observing Memorial Day. VSC Staff and VA work-study students constructed large red poppies arranged on the lawn to honor the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Also known as the Buddy Poppy, the red poppy has come to represent the blood shed by service members and the enduring bond shared by those who serve. At 3 pm, traditionally observed as The National Moment of Silence

on Memorial Day, students, administrators, faculty, and staff joined together to observe a moment of silence. At the same time, a member of the Air Force band performed Taps. Memorial Day is a day of remembrance, and we will never forget the names and stories of those who gave their lives for our freedom.

IVC Receives the Salute to Excellence Award



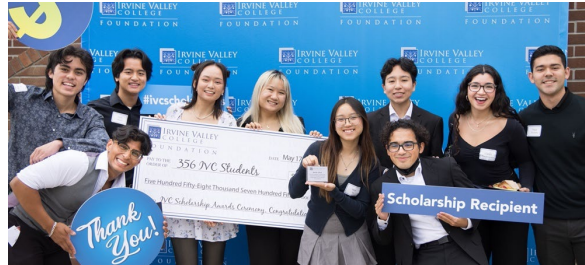
On May 21, IVC received the Salute to Excellence award for supporting the Chemistry Olympiad exam program for 10 years. Dean for Math, Science, and Engineering Lianna Zhao accepted the award on behalf of the college during the Orange County Local Section of American Chemical Society (ACS) dinner hosted at Concordia University. Students participating in the Chemistry Olympiad can park on campus for free while taking the exam. IVC's classrooms and free parking have proven to be a valuable resource to the ACS, contributing to their outreach efforts and significantly impacting its community.

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An Equal Opportunity Institution

IVC Foundation Awards Over \$787,000 During 39th Scholarship Award Ceremony



On May 17, the IVC Foundation celebrated the 39th Scholarship Award Ceremony. A total of 617 scholarships were granted by the Foundation, amounting to \$558,750, an increase over last year by \$30,450. The Foundation allocated \$81,837 to emergency funds and bookstore vouchers. In addition, outside agencies awarded \$146,680. Overall, IVC students were supported with \$787,267, exceeding

last year's total by \$67,000. The ceremony was attended by scholarship recipients, representatives, trustees, leadership, faculty, staff, and administrators of the SOCCCD. Read more [here](#). View photos [here](#).

IVC Hosts Applied Science and Engineering Club Robotics Competition



On May 17, students gathered in IVC at ATEP for the Applied Science & Engineering Club Robotics Competition. Students designed automated vehicles and tested their ability to steer in a loop and accelerate in a drag race. The projects were judged on their abilities to complete these tasks as well as their innovation.

College Corps Program Celebrates Successful Year of Service



On May 17, the end-of-year College Corps Award Ceremony celebrated the accomplishments of the second cohort of students who completed the program. The 54 College Corps fellows' combined efforts resulted in 17,365 service hours over the past eight months. Fellows dedicated 5,505.25 hours to supporting K-12 education, 10,287.25 hours to

combating food insecurity, and 1,172.5 hours to climate action. President John Hernandez, SOCCCD Chancellor Dr. Julianna Barnes, SOCCCD Board of Trustees Vice President Dr. Terri Rydell, and Dean of Counseling Services Angel Hernandez spoke during the event, offering congratulations and gratitude to the 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](#) and a video [here](#).

Early College Graduates Honored at Annual Breakfast



On May 16, President John Hernandez and Vice President for Instruction Rick Miranda congratulated the Early College Graduating Class of 2024. The event recognizing 16 Early College graduates from Beckman High School was led by Interim Director of Dual Enrollment Vinh Nguyen. The Early College graduating class of 2024 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](#).

IVC Honors Program Celebrates Largest Graduating Class of Honors Students



On May 10, the IVC Honors Program held its Awards Ceremony, celebrating 388 graduating students who have fulfilled Honors Program requirements. The graduating class is the largest cohort of honor students to graduate at IVC. At the event, graduating students announced their transfer institutions, shared what they have gained from their time at IVC, and received an Honors medallion from President Hernandez. The students were delighted to gather and celebrate their achievements while their families, friends, and IVC faculty and staff cheered them on. View photos [here](#).

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



On May 10, Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS), Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE), NextUp, CalWORKs, and Guardian Scholars held their annual recognition ceremony. In attendance were 65 students and 43 guests. The recognition ceremony celebrates students who earned a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, earned a degree or certificate, and are transferring to a four-year university. The program served 726 students in the 2023-24 academic year, and 356 qualified to attend this recognition event.

The 27th Issue of The Ear is Published



On May 9, twenty-four student editors of IVC's creative writing and visual arts publication "The Ear" unveiled their 27th issue to an audience of 90 attendees in the Writing Center. A live jazz performance provided by IVC students set the tone for a joyous and introspective event followed by a reading featuring the works by local and global writers.

Veterans Services Center Holds End-of-Year Celebration



On May 8, the Veterans Services Center (VSC) hosted an end-of-year celebration for veteran and military-connected students. Awards and certificates were presented in various categories, including Veteran of the Year, Military-Connected Student of the Year, and the Gung-Ho Award. The VSC also honored retiring faculty member and USMC Veteran Ted Weatherford with the Semper Fidelis award, given in honor of his commitment to supporting student veterans at IVC.

Honoring Transfer Students During Transfer Celebration



On May 7, the Transfer Center hosted a Transfer Celebration. Over 40 students and their families attended this festive event. Vice President for Student Services Martha McDonald and Dean of Counseling Services Angel Hernandez provided remarks congratulating the students on their success. Counselor Jeannine Lozano-Sagusay, winner of the Transfer Advocate of the Year award, and student alumni Hafsa Javaid 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](#).

CARE Mother's Day Luncheon



On May 3, Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) and Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) held their annual CARE Mother's Day Luncheon at Oak Creek Golf Course. The luncheon provides an opportunity to recognize and appreciate parenting students enrolled in the EOPS and CARE programs. 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 12

CARE students attended, enjoyed a meal together and received fresh orchids and gift cards to help with the cost of transportation.

Counselors from 12 Different Countries Visit IVC



On May 2, IVC's International Student Program welcomed 15 international high school counselors from 12 countries. Facilitated by KIC UnivAssist, IVC was one of the stops on the two-week tour of universities and colleges in the United States. While at IVC, the counselors visited a chemistry lab, learned about IVC's Honors

Program, and how the college offers an affordable and successful pathway to earning a bachelor's degree. The group enjoyed lunch in the new Student Art Gallery while hearing from a student panel about their community college experience and Fall 2024 transfer plans. The visiting counselors expressed their gratitude for debunking myths of community college by showcasing the rigor of our academics, facilities on campus, and the transfer success of IVC students.

Spanish Department Hosts "Noche De Baile"



On May 1, Professors Karla Lemari and Beatrice Tseng from the Spanish Department hosted "Noche De Baile," a Spanish phrase meaning "an evening of dance." Attendees learned about the history of salsa dancing and how to dance salsa and merengue. Nearly 100 people attended the event. Most attendees were students taking Spanish at IVC or Tustin

Legacy Magnet Academy. The evening was a fun, memorable event filled with learning, dancing, and singing.

Registration To Go for Local High Schools



During May, IVC faculty and staff from Matriculation, Counseling, and Financial Aid hosted the Registration To Go ("Reg To Go") workshops. The workshops provide on-site registration support labs at participating high schools where students receive wrap-around services such as assistance with class enrollment, course placement, education plans, and Free Application for Federal Student Aid/CA Dream Act applications. Over 230 students from eight local high schools completed their enrollment for Fall

2024. High school partners and students appreciated IVC's continued dedication and support with the registration process as they prepared to transition to college.

Highlights from the Performing Arts Center



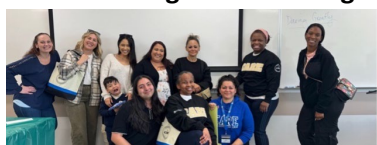
The Performing Arts Center hosted an impressive variety of shows this season, highlighting the talents of students and faculty. “Surfin Days,” an original musical by Joseph Mulroy, premiered with enthusiastic reviews. “CA Dances: A Dance and Film Festival” celebrated dance diversity in California, featuring performers from all levels and showcasing traditional and innovative forms. The “Boundless Dance Concert” featured choreography by faculty and students. Patrons enjoyed live jazz featuring Director Anibal Seminario and the IVC Jazz Ensembles during the “21st Annual Jazz Picnic.” The “Piano Feast” showcased a medley of pieces by faculty and guest artists, while “The Illusion” captivated audiences with its magical 17th-century tale performed in the PAC’s studio theater. Musical highlights included the Chorale’s “Durufle Requiem,” conducted by Dr. Matt Tresler with David Ball on organ, and the Wind Symphony concert led by Mathieu Girardet, which featured world premieres and diverse repertoire. Finally, the Symphony Orchestra’s “Harmony in Motion” celebrated IVC’s talent with classical and contemporary compositions, underscoring the college’s commitment to artistic excellence.

IVC Dance Students Collaborate on Film and Teach Master Classes in Alaska



IVC’s Dance Department students traveled to Ketchikan, Alaska, with Dance Instructor Jennifer La Curan. The students worked with artist Christina Hughes on crafting movements for a dance film. La Curan established a connection with Hughes at the Ketchikan Dance Film Festival, where one of La Curan’s films was featured. IVC Costume Designer Christina Perez collaborated with Hughes to design costumes harmonizing with Alaska’s natural settings while ensuring the dancers’ safety and enhancing their movement aesthetics. Matt Mason contributed an original musical score to the dance film. The students also conducted two master classes at the Ketchikan Theatre Ballet. IVC dancers Nathan Waters and Savannah Jones led a contemporary partnering class, while Amy Lin and Sabrina Campaná taught jazz/hip-hop fusion.

IVC CARE Program Hosts Regional Student Conference



On April 26, the Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) program hosted the CARE Region 8 Student Conference. This parenting conference aimed to bring parenting students from all Region 8 community colleges together to engage in educational workshops, interactive discussions, a CARE Student Alumni Panel, and networking opportunities. The event featured Saddleback College Vice President for Student Services Jennifer LaBounty as the keynote speaker. LaBounty shared about her experience and overcoming challenges as a CARE student.

IVC and PreMedCC Host Statewide Health Professions Virtual Conference



From April 25-26, IVC and [PreMedCC](#) hosted their fourth Annual Health Professions Virtual Conference. The conference is a statewide event for community college students and counselors. Approximately 250 students and counselors attended this event, featuring a panel discussion on health profession programs such as Physician’s Assistant, Physical Therapy, Pharmacy, Podiatry, Veterinary Medicine, and medical school admissions. Participants learned about program and career options in the health professions field and gained information on various health profession program requirements, opportunities, and resources.

Puente Holds End of Year Celebration



On April 24, IVC Puente hosted a ceremony commemorating the accomplishments of its members and celebrating students who will transfer in Fall 2024. Notable attendees included SOCCCD Trustee Ryan Dack, President John Hernandez, Melva Alvarez of Puente Statewide, and Francisco Marmolejo of Groundswell. Attendees included current Puentistas, their loved ones, faculty and staff, department deans, and community members. The event's keynote speakers were IVC Puente's founding faculty member Christian Chavez and Puentista Jaquelin Salgado. View photos [here](#).

Students Attend Transfer Conference at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)



On April 19, IVC's Transfer Center took 16 students to the annual Student Transfer Outreach and Mentor Program (STOMP) Conference hosted at UCLA. STOMP is a volunteer based, transfer student organization, that aims to help students achieve their university goals. Transfer students who attended this event were able to tour UCLA as well as listen to a wide variety of University of California admission workshops and presentations.

IVC Student in 9th Grade Wins Gold



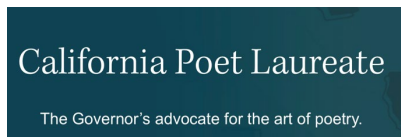
On April 16, Tatiana Tsyplikhina won a gold medal at the Grand Concours, a national French contest for students in grades 1-12. The American Association of Teachers of French hosts the competition. Tsyplikhina, now in the 9th grade, took French FR 2, FR 3, and FR 4 with Professor Anca Popescu during Fall 2022 and Fall 2023.

Students Attend the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) Capitol Forum



From April 7-10, Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) and Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE), and NextUp students from IVC and Saddleback attended the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) Capitol Forum in Washington, D.C. Students had the opportunity to participate in policy briefings on Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) and visit Capitol Hill to meet with congressional leaders and advocate for emerging HSIs. They also visited the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Senate Gallery while the Senate was in session.

Puente Students Published in Online Poetry Collection



Poems written by Puente students Elena Gookin and Ana Hernandez were selected and published online in "My California," a project of the California Poet Laureate Lee Herrick and the California Arts Council. Gookin's poem, "Las Bonitas Semanas," was chosen to represent her home county of San Bernardino and is a tribute to her hometown of Ontario. Hernandez' poem "Thank you, California," was chosen to represent Orange County. The student poems can be found [here](#).

President's Report to the Board of Trustees

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Upcoming Events

Boundless Dance Concert Encore Livestream

June 25-30

Summer Session Ends

August 12

Fall 2024 Professional Development Week

August 12-16

President's Annual State of the College

August 12

IVC Laser Day

August 14

Instruction Begins

August 19

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Hernandez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John C. Hernandez, Ph.D.
President