



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: May 9, 2024

SUBJECT: **President's Report for the May 20, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting**

IVC Student Diego Victoria Receives Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship



On May 9, Associated Students of IVC (ASIVC) President Diego Victoria was named one of 60 community college recipients of the Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. Victoria was one of the 459 semifinalists selected from a pool of nearly 1,700 applicants from 380 community colleges nationwide. This highly competitive award allows students to complete their undergraduate degrees at four-year institutions with minimal financial burden. The college would like to also congratulate IVC student semifinalists Luis Barbosa and May Kyi Phyu Thinn. Read more [here](#).

Employee Recognition Ceremony Celebrates Distinguished Faculty and Staff Achievements



On May 6, the Employee Recognition Ceremony occurred in the Performing Arts Center, where colleagues gathered to honor distinguished faculty and staff for their remarkable achievements and dedicated service. The ceremony acknowledged recipients across various categories, including years of service, classified staff of the year, manager of the year, teachers of the year, and the caring campus ambassador. The event culminated with the recognition of faculty members recently approved for tenure, starting in Fall 2024. Tenure track faculty received recognition for their promising performance and dedication to their work. View photos [here](#).

IVC Students Present Research at the Bay Honors Symposium at Stanford



On May 4, twenty-nine IVC Honors students presented research projects at the [Bay Honors Symposium](#) hosted by the Bay Honors Consortium at Stanford University. IVC research projects comprised 25 out of the 85 projects accepted from 35 community colleges across the state, more than twice as many projects as any other college. IVC students' topics included magnetic fields and their applications in solar panel efficiency, eco-fascism and toxic masculinity on TikTok, and the exploitation of deceased Black rappers on Instagram. Kexuan (Margaret) Li won the Katherine Award, chosen for the most outstanding abstract submitted to the conference, for her project entitled "The Virgin Queen and The Grandmother of Europe: A Comparative Analysis of Women's Status in Elizabethan and Victorian England." Aliza Hameed and Sally Jebory were also named finalists for the Katherine Award. Additionally, three out of the four finalists for the Symposium's most prestigious award, the Heslet Award, were from IVC: Sally Jebory, Kexuan (Margaret) Li, and Kalyn Nishida. Faculty mentors, English Professor Carrie Goulding, Honors Program Coordinator, English Professor Emily Liu, and Math Professor Lan Pham also attended the symposium.

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Over 310 Students Complete Fast Friday Pre-Registration Workshop



On May 3, the Office of Enrollment Services hosted the final Fast Friday session of Spring 2024. The workshops served 312 students from 62 high schools. Fast Fridays are pre-registration workshops hosted on campus that provide incoming first-time college students the opportunity to complete multiple pre-registration steps. These steps include applying to IVC, completing new student orientation, participating in advisement with IVC counselors, completing their guided self-placement in math and English/ESL, and developing first-semester education plans. Fast Friday also allows students to tour the campus and interact with IVC students, faculty, and staff.

IVC Cares Hosts Spring Food Giving Event



On May 2, the college hosted a “Star Wars” themed grab-and-go event with 509 meals distributed to students. Each student received a meal and the opportunity to pack a grocery bag with shelf-stable pantry items and produce. Over 2,500 pantry items were provided to students. IVC Cares meal distributions occur throughout the academic year to assist in providing food and information on the Basic Needs program at the college. Meal distributions support students, address non-academic barriers, and provide a safe, welcoming environment for the campus community. The event was planned by IVC’s Basic Needs and Student Equity with volunteer support from College Corps Fellows and departments across campus. View photos [here](#).

IVC Selected for Youth Service Stimulus Grant Funded by The Allstate Foundation



On April 30, IVC announced that it received a \$25,000 grant from [The Allstate Foundation](#) in collaboration with the [Center for Expanding Leadership & Opportunity \(CELO\)](#) to

support youth-led, youth-driven community service among students. This grant is part of The Allstate Foundation’s national efforts to transform how we engage, equip, and prepare youth to participate in community service. Read more [here](#).

Students Participate in Japanese Tea Ceremony



On April 23, the Languages Department hosted Serene Elegance, a Tea Ceremony organized by Professor Fumiko Ishii. Approximately 40 students attended the event, where Professor Ishii presented a brief history and overview of the Tea Ceremony. The ceremony was led by Ms. Emika Noda, who has been practicing the art of tea making for over 10 years. Ms. Noda demonstrated the proper tea-making techniques using teacups, bamboo whisks, tea containers, scoops, and other tools. Following the demonstration, she invited students to make their tea using the methods they had just learned. View photos [here](#).

Promoting a Safe and Inclusive Community During Sexual Assault Awareness Week



[Sexual Assault Awareness Week \(SAAW\)](#) took place from April 22-26. The college held events educating students about affirmative consent, methods to end and prevent sexual assault on our campus, and how to support survivors. The week kicked off with activities sponsored by Connect OC and OC Health Care Agency which were followed by a Mental Health Resource Fair that provided a safe space for attendees to explore on- and off-campus resources. The resource fair featured a Clothesline Project display to bring awareness to the issue of violence against women. Students also participated in Denim Day by wearing denim to combat victim blaming and educating people about sexual violence. Approximately 300 students participated in the week's activities.

IVC Students Participate in the 24th Annual HTCC Community College Honors Research Conference



On April 20, sixty-seven IVC students, supported by the IVC Honors Program, participated in the 24th Annual [Honors Transfer Council of California \(HTCC\) Research Conference](#) at the University of California, Riverside. IVC students delivered 27 oral and nine poster presentations, comprising 36 of the 218 research projects. Under the guidance of IVC faculty mentors, students worked hard to conduct research, write proposal abstracts, and prepare their posters or oral presentations. IVC's Psi Beta chapter won an Outstanding Abstract Award for their project "Exploring the Dynamics of Honors Education: The Impact on Mistakes, Purpose, and Academic Self-Efficacy in Honor and Non-Honor College Students." Two IVC Honors students, Luis Barbosa and Madiha Pashtoon, were awarded the HTCC Exemplary Achievement Award. Fourteen additional IVC students participated in the conference by volunteering to moderate Q&A during oral presentation sessions. IVC Honors Coordinator Emily Liu served as the conference's program chair on behalf of the Honors Transfer Council of California.

Third Annual Preview Night Draws Record Crowd of Prospective Students



On April 17, the 2024 IVC Preview Night event welcomed over 3,150 attendees, setting a record-high attendance. The festive event invited high school students and their families to visit the campus and learn more about the college's offerings. The event featured presentations on IVC's transfer admissions programs, IVC Honors Program, GAP4+1 Program, and the Irvine Valley Promise Program. The outdoor resource fair included 60 booths from academic degree programs, student support services, co-curricular programs, student clubs, and equity-focused special population programs. Attendees experienced the vibrant campus community while enjoying meals from the Habit Burger food trucks with their families. View photos [here](#).

ELEVATE AAPI Hosts Workshop for Cambodian New Year



On April 16, [ELEVATE AAPI](#) Counselor Chanthy Thompson conducted a workshop showcasing the Cambodian New Year as well as the history of the Cambodian genocide. Thompson shared her refugee story to give students insight and background to the Khmer Rouge and the devastation of the communist war. The conflict created a massive influx of Southeast Asian groups fleeing their country and escaping to different refugee camps. The workshop embraced experiences from marginalized Southeast Asian subgroups, including the Cambodian immigrant experience. Participants learned why Cambodian New Year is celebrated in April, tying back to the origins of Buddhism within the region.

Students Explore Art and Culture in Long Beach



On April 12, [ELEVATE AAPI](#) and the Spanish Department took 28 students to the Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach. The docent-led tour explored the exhibits “Intersected Horizons”, “Cross-Border Women”, and “Vermillion Like Embers” by Alexandre Arrechea, Alexandra Phelts, and Andrey Guaianá Zignnatto, respectively. The tour offered insights into the art and cultural exhibits, deepening students’ exposure to their historical, social, and artistic significance.

Summer Serpas Presents on Corequisite Course Structures



On April 5, English Department Co-Chair Summer Serpas presented at the kickoff event for the “Deepening Corequisites Across Texas” series hosted by the Charles A. Dana Center. The event focused on building and expanding corequisite support courses across the state of Texas. Professor Serpas led a breakout session titled “Implementation of Evidence-Based, Effective Corequisite Course Structures.” This work will continue over the next two years, and Professor Serpas is scheduled to lead additional workshops for English faculty focused on effective teaching strategies in corequisite support courses.

Veterans Services Center Supports Students During Ramadan



During Ramadan, the IVC Veterans Services Center supported Muslim students by crafting Iftar Boxes. These boxes, containing an 8 oz. water bottle, dates or tangerines, and crackers, provided healthy options for breaking the fast before the evening prayer, enhancing the Ramadan experience for IVC students.

IVC Students Published in Honors Magazine “Scribendi”



Congratulations to two IVC Honors Program students who had their visual art and poetry published in the [April 2024 issue of “Scribendi,”](#) an annual publication that features creative work from undergraduate Honors students at institutions that are members of the Western Regional Honors Council. Danae Dang published a poem entitled “On Asteroid Meridian,” and Catherine Lockie published a drawing (white pencil on black board) entitled “The Visit.”

IVC Speech Wins Big at Two National Championship Tournaments



IVC Speech and Debate had the honor of ending their season competing at two national championship tournaments. IVC Forensics competed against 30 other colleges and universities at the 2024 National Online Forensics National Championship Tournament. The team was named top community college at the tournament and granted the 1st Place Sweepstakes Award. IVC Forensics continued their winning streak at the Phi Rho Pi National Championships from March 30-April 7 in Reno, Nevada. The championship tournament hosted 50 community colleges from across the country and over 500 participants. Eleven students represented IVC at the competition: because of their individual successes at the tournament, IVC’s team was awarded the gold medal in debate sweepstakes and bronze medal in overall sweepstakes in the Wheeler Division. Read more [here](#).

IVC Participates in the 17th Annual A2MEND Summit



From March 7-8, IVC attended the annual summit hosted by the African American Male Education Network & Development (A2MEND). This year's theme was Affirming Our Own Actions: Advocacy, Urgency, and Liberation. In addition to being a silver event sponsor, IVC sent 12 participants: three students, four staff, four faculty, and one administrator. The group engaged in sessions that focused on strategies to overcome barriers faced by African Americans in education, mentorship, leadership development, and community building. The keynote speaker, M.K. Asante, renowned activist, filmmaker, and educator, summed up the conference's theme with, "If you make an observation, you have an obligation." IVC students and educators left the conference with the energy, desire, and focus to notice injustice and push for change that will support and empower African American students.

Upcoming Events

Theater Conservatory Show

May 21

Spring Semester Ends

May 22

Commencement

May 23

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