

TO: Julianna M. Barnes, Ed.D., Chancellor, and Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: John C. Hernandez, Ph.D., President

DATE: May 7, 2026

SUBJECT: **President's Report for the May 18, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting**

IVC Jazz Picnic Celebrates Student Musicians and Supports Music Scholarships



On May 2, IVC hosted the IVC Jazz Picnic at Live Oak Terraces, inviting the campus and community to enjoy an afternoon of live music in a relaxed outdoor setting. The free event featured performances by the IVC Jazz Combo, the Studio Jazz Band, and the Concert Jazz Band, all under the direction of Steve Wade. Attendees were encouraged to bring lunch and picnic chairs to relax on the lawn and enjoy the talents of IVC's student musicians. Donations were accepted during the event, with proceeds benefiting music scholarships and the IVC Foundation.

Fast Friday Workshops Help Incoming Students Prepare for Fall Enrollment



The Office of Enrollment Services concluded its Spring 2026 Fast Friday pre-registration workshop series on May 1, supporting 306 incoming first-time college students from area high schools. Designed to simplify the transition from high school to college, the on-campus workshops help students complete key enrollment milestones in a single visit, including their application, new student orientation, academic advisement, and first-semester education planning. Students also toured the campus and connected with IVC students, faculty, and classified professionals, helping them become familiar with college resources and develop a sense of belonging before the start of their first semester. The success of the Fast Friday series reflects IVC's continued commitment to removing barriers, strengthening early engagement, and supporting students as they take their next steps toward college success.

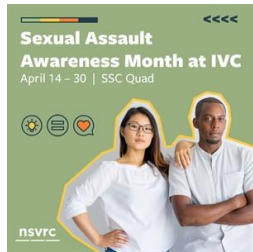
Women's Flag Football Wins Orange Empire Conference Championship



IVC's women's flag football team made history by winning the first Orange Empire Conference (OEC) Tournament Final, defeating Cypress College 32-27 on April 30. The Lasers rallied late in the game after trailing in the final minutes, sparked by a critical interception returned for a touchdown. After securing a defensive stop, sophomore Akayla Chaple delivered another touchdown pass to seal the championship victory. The win capped an

outstanding season for IVC, which finished 15-4 overall and was ranked No. 5 in the nation. Led by Head Coach Sami Logan, the team's inaugural championship highlights the program's competitive strength, resilience, and promising future in women's flag football.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month at IVC Promotes Prevention, Advocacy, and Support



Throughout April, IVC recognized Sexual Assault Awareness Month with a series of events designed to raise awareness, promote prevention, and connect students with resources. Activities included Alcohol Awareness, a Mental Health Resource Fair, Denim Day, and an open house at the Office of Student Rights and Grievances. Each event helped students learn more about sexual assault prevention, survivor support, mental health, and the campus resources available to uphold student rights and well-being. The observance also aligned with the national theme “Together We Act, United We Change,” reinforcing the importance of collective responsibility in creating a safer and more supportive campus community.

Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition Showcases IVC Student Creativity



IVC hosted the opening reception for the Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition on April 30. The event celebrated the creativity, talent, and artistic achievement of IVC students, bringing together the community for an evening of art, connection, and recognition. Awards were announced during the reception, honoring outstanding student work selected for the exhibition. The exhibition will remain open to the public from April 30 through July 13, expanding access to student artwork and strengthening IVC’s role as a center for arts and culture in the community. This annual exhibition highlights the power of student expression and reflects the college’s ongoing commitment to supporting creativity, artistic development, and student success. View photos [here](#).

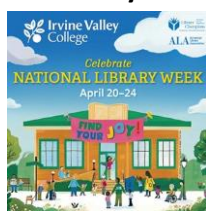
GAP4+1 Business Leader Speaker Series Welcomes Former IRS Commissioner Charles “Chuck” Rettig



IVC’s Guaranteed Accounting Program (GAP4+1) hosted its Business Leader Speaker Series on April 24, featuring Charles “Chuck” Rettig, former commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Rettig served as IRS Commissioner from 2018 to 2022 and brought extensive experience in tax controversy, litigation, and federal tax administration. His discussion connected students with real-world insights from a nationally recognized business and government leader. The event included a recruitment fair, giving students opportunities to engage with

employers, explore career pathways, and build professional connections in accounting, tax, and business fields. View photos [here](#).

IVC Library Celebrates National Library Week



From April 20-24, the college celebrated National Library Week with activities that encouraged creativity, reading, and campus connection. This year’s theme, “Find Your Joy,” invited students to participate in a bookmark design contest. The winning designs will be printed as official library bookmarks in Fall 2026. The celebration also included a week-long book drive, where students, faculty, and classified professionals were encouraged to trade gently used books to take home and read. Through creative engagement and shared access to books, National Library Week highlights the Library’s important role in fostering curiosity, lifelong learning, and a love of reading across the IVC community.

IVC Men's Tennis Wins Back-to-Back State Championships



On April 22, IVC's men's tennis team captured its second consecutive state title, sweeping Foothill College, 5-0, during the 2026 California Community College Athletic Association Men's Dual Team Championship at Ventura College. The victory marked the program's fifth state championship, all earned since 2015, and capped a dominant 14-1 season for the Lasers. Under the leadership of Head Coach Ross Duncan, IVC opened the match with a strong doubles performance from Humam Alajeely and Nevin McCann, Philip Neuman and Steven Anderson, and Jonathan Hinkel and Richard Petery. Anderson continued the momentum in singles with a win, followed by Bradley Yung, who secured the championship-clinching point. The Lasers also earned the Orange Empire Conference title, the No. 1 seed in the Southern California Region, and postseason victories over Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Glendale. This back-to-back championship reflects the dedication, teamwork, and competitive excellence of IVC's student-athletes and coaching staff. Read more [here](#).

Jonathan Hinkel Earns National ITA Arthur Ashe Leadership and Sportsmanship Award



IVC men's tennis student-athlete Jonathan Hinkel was named the 2026 Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) California Community College Athletic Association Men's Arthur Ashe Leadership and Sportsmanship Award recipient on April 23. The national recognition honored Hinkel's excellence on the court, leadership among his teammates, and service to the community throughout the season. As a captain for the IVC men's tennis team, Hinkel helped create a supportive team environment where student-athletes could thrive. He played a key role in leading the Lasers to back-to-back California Community College Athletic Association State Championships while remaining undefeated in singles play and recording only one doubles loss against junior college competition. He was also recognized as IVC's Character Champion and nominated for the Orange Empire Conference Character Champion Award.

Gaypril Pride Celebration Highlights Community, Resources, and Belonging



On April 23, IVC hosted its annual Gaypril Pride Celebration. The event invited the campus community to explore LGBTQIA+ community resources, participate in activities, and connect with vendors and on-campus organizations. Hosted in support of IVC Pride Scholars, the celebration created a welcoming space for students to build community, learn about supportive resources, and celebrate identity and belonging. This annual event underscored IVC's ongoing commitment to fostering an affirming campus environment where all students feel seen, supported, and valued.

IVC Aspiring Educators Club Builds Statewide Connections at Spring Convening



IVC's Aspiring Educators Club was represented at the California Teachers Association Aspiring Educators (CTA-AE) Spring Convening on April 18-19, by Faculty Advisor Mary Simon, current Student Board President Rebecca Pineda, and incoming Student Board President April Jaeanne Madden. The convening brought together Aspiring Educator chapters from community colleges, University of California campuses, California State University campuses, and private institutions across the state to discuss current legislation, strengthen local clubs, and explore pathways into the teaching profession. A highlight of the weekend was Pineda receiving the We Honor Ours Award for Outstanding Local Chapter Leader, recognizing her leadership and service to IVC's chapter.

ELEVATE AAPI and Spanish Department Host Cultural Field Trip to “Majestic Tango”



On April 18, the Equitable Learning Experience Valuing Achievement, Transfer, and Empowering Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (ELEVATE AAPI) program partnered with the IVC Spanish Department to take students to the Irvine Barclay Theatre at the University of California, Irvine, for a performance of “Majestic Tango.” The cultural field trip was organized by ELEVATE Faculty Mentor Beatrice Tseng and Spanish Professor Karla Lemari, offering students the opportunity to experience Argentine tango through live music, movement, and storytelling. For many students, this was their first time attending this type of performance.

Pre-Health Professions Virtual Conference Draws More Than 1,000 Registrants



On April 16-17, the Pre-Health Professions Virtual Conference brought together 1,050 participants for a statewide learning opportunity focused on health career pathways, admissions preparation, and student success in pre-health fields. Hosted by IVC’s Transfer Center, the conference drew strong participation from California Community College students, with 538 registered, including 174 from IVC. Participants also included college staff, high school students, university students, presenters, and panelists. Students also joined from institutions such as Stanford University, Arizona State University, Harvey Mudd College, and Morehouse School of Medicine, among others. The strong turnout reflects growing interest in health professions and reinforced IVC’s role in connecting students with resources, guidance, and pathways into high-demand health careers. View sessions [here](#).

Employee Recognition Ceremony Celebrates Service, Leadership, and Excellence Across IVC



On April 16, IVC held its annual Employee Recognition Ceremony, honoring faculty, classified professionals, and administrators, whose dedication strengthens the campus. The event celebrated employees for milestone years of service, and recognized outstanding contributions through awards for Classified Professional of the Year, Manager of the Year, Teachers of the Year, and Caring Campus Ambassadors. The ceremony also highlighted faculty members who were newly granted tenure, effective Fall 2026, in recognition of their strong teaching, professional contributions, and commitment to student success. Together, these honorees represent the talent, care, and service that shape IVC’s welcoming and student-centered environment. The celebration reinforced the college’s continued commitment to recognizing employee excellence and fostering a culture of appreciation across the campus. View photos [here](#).

Strong Attendance and High Energy Mark the Fifth Annual Preview Night Event



IVC Outreach hosted another successful Preview Night on April 15, welcoming 3,124 prospective students and their families to campus for an engaging open-house experience. The event featured an outdoor resource fair where guests connected with Guided Pathways academic interest areas and key student support services represented by 55 program booths. ASIVC and student clubs also participated, helping showcase opportunities for student involvement. Attendees participated in a variety of breakout sessions aligned with different interests, including Visual Arts open classrooms, a backstage tour of the Performing Arts Center, adult learner pathways for those returning to college, GAP 4+1, Women in STEM, and a general session highlighting the honors, university transfer, and the Irvine Valley Promise programs. View photos [here](#).

Dr. Jonathan Henderson Leads Campus Conversation on Anti-Blackness



On April 15, IVC welcomed Dr. Jonathan Henderson, a faculty leader, researcher, and equity practitioner with nearly 15 years of experience in higher education, for a campus conversation focused on understanding and addressing anti-Blackness. Dr. Henderson opened the session by defining anti-Blackness and distinguishing it from broader concepts such as racism and bias, while highlighting how it can operate across policies, practices, and campus culture. The campus community engaged in

dialogue centered on the lived experiences of Black students, faculty, and classified professionals, followed by small-group discussions that encouraged reflection on local challenges and opportunities for action. The session provided space for learning, dialogue, and collective responsibility, reinforcing IVC's ongoing commitment to fostering an inclusive and equity-minded campus environment. View photos [here](#).

ELEVATE AAPI Represents IVC at APAHE Conference



More than 30 IVC faculty, staff, and students represented the Equitable Learning Experience Valuing Achievement, Transfer, and Empowering Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (ELEVATE AAPI) program at the Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) Conference from April 12-14. This year's

conference theme, "Legacies in Action: Courage and Resilience," was reflected in the ELEVATE AAPI team's strong engagement and commitment to community throughout the event. IVC attendees were prominently featured across multiple conference sessions, sharing their expertise, research, and innovative practices.

IVC Participates in ACCJC Regional Convening on Student Mobility



On April 13, a team from IVC attended the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) Regional Convening. The convening focused on "The ROI Story: Advancing Economic Outcomes and Student Mobility," highlighting how colleges can use program-level return on investment data to strengthen transparency, planning, and student outcomes. IVC's team included Vice President for Student Services Martha McDonald, Vice President for Instruction Rick Miranda, Vice President for College Administrative Services Davit Khachatryan, Academic Senate President Rebecca Beck, Director of Research, Planning and Accreditation Loris Fagioli, and Assistant Director of Marketing and Creative Services Melanie Buettner.

IVC Model United Nations Earns Top Honors at National Conference in New York



From April 5-10, IVC's Model United Nations (MUN) team competed at the National MUN Conference in New York, earning an Outstanding Delegation award, a distinction given to the top 5% of schools in attendance. The 16-student team represented Azerbaijan across eight committees and earned four Position Paper Awards for excellence in analysis, relevance, and writing, as well as two Outstanding Delegate Awards. One IVC student was also selected to serve as a committee chair, a highly competitive leadership role. IVC was one of only two community colleges to receive an Outstanding Delegation award and tied with Riverside City College for the most Position Paper Awards earned by a single delegation. Read more [here](#).

Student Retreat Supports Student Wellness and Leadership Development



NextUp and the Youth Empowerment Strategies for Success, Independent Living Program (YESS-ILP) hosted a Student Wellness and Leadership Retreat in the Angeles National Forest on March 14 and 15. The two-day experience provided students with an opportunity to explore leadership development, wellness education, and outdoor recreation. Students engaged in workshops on personality types, communication styles, mindfulness, and gratitude while taking part in team-building activities that encouraged connection and personal growth. The retreat supported student wellness, belonging, and leadership development while offering valuable insights for expanding future programming and preparing students to serve as peer leaders.

Black Student Success Scholars Explore HBCU Transfer Pathways



From March 15-20, 15 IVC Black Student Success Scholars participated in a multi-day tour of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across Texas and Louisiana. The tour provided students with an opportunity to explore transfer pathways, learn about academic programs, experience HBCU campus environments, and deepen their understanding of the history and legacy of Black excellence in higher education. Students visited Texas Southern University, Prairie View A&M University, Grambling State University, and Xavier University of Louisiana, among others. In addition to visiting college campuses, students toured the Whitney Plantation, a historical site dedicated to sharing the lived experiences of enslaved people in Louisiana. The visit offered an opportunity for students to connect history, identity, resilience, and education. The HBCU Tour served as both a college exploration experience and a culturally affirming learning opportunity, helping students envision new transfer possibilities while strengthening their sense of belonging, purpose, and community.

IVC Hosts Inaugural Annual High School Math Contest



On March 14, IVC hosted its first High School Math Contest, welcoming students and instructors from eight high schools for a day of academic challenge, campus engagement, and STEM exploration. More than 50 participants and supporters attended the event. Following the 30-question math contest, attendees participated in campus tours led by IVC Outreach student ambassadors and learned more about the college and the Mathematics Department during a presentation. Participating schools included Beckman, University, Portola, Tesoro, Aliso Niguel, Troy, Marina, and Tarbut V'Torah Community Day School. The event received positive feedback from students and instructors, with participants praising the organization, campus tours, and exam questions. Schools expressed strong interest in returning next year, with some hoping to bring multiple teams.

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Upcoming Events

Love and Information

May 7-17

Scholarship Award Ceremony

May 15

Mozart Requiem

May 15

Piano Feast

May 18

Theater Arts Showcase

May 19

Commencement

May 21

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 initial "J".

John C. Hernandez, Ph.D.
President