



# 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:** October 17, 2024

**SUBJECT:** **President's Report for the October 28, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting**

## IVC Honors Filipino American History Month



On October 9, IVC celebrated [Filipino American History Month \(FAHM\)](#) with a vibrant event featuring a Filipino martial arts showcase, local community resource booths, and delicious traditional Filipino cuisine. The entire campus came together to enjoy the festivities, explore Filipino American culture, and build a deeper sense of community. The campus hosted a series of engaging events, including a film screening of “Delano Manongs,” a documentary that tells the inspiring story of Filipino farmworkers in the U.S. Another highlight was a Parol-making workshop, where participants crafted traditional Filipino lanterns. View photos [here](#).

## Celebrating National Coming Out Day



On October 9, the Office of Student Equity hosted Paint Your Pride, a creative activity encouraging participants to express themselves through art by sharing their journeys. National Coming Out Day, celebrated nationwide on October 11, honors the powerful moment when individuals share their gender or sexual identity for the first time with another person. While coming out can happen multiple times throughout a person’s life, the first time someone shares this part of themselves with another person is often transformative and deeply impactful.

## Language Department and Career Center Present on Foreign Language Degree Opportunities



On October 8, the Languages Department and the Career Center presented an engaging workshop highlighting the value of completing a degree or certificate in a foreign language. Participants gained insights into the wide range of career opportunities, from translation and interpretation to education, international business, and more. Expert faculty shared practical tips on leveraging language skills in today’s global job market, showcasing how proficiency in multiple languages can open doors to exciting and diverse career paths.

## Classified Senate Members Team up with College Corps



On October 5, Classified Professional Robert Flournoy led a produce-gleaning effort at Manassero Farm in collaboration with the College Corps Program. Flournoy and eight dedicated College Corps fellows volunteered their time to harvest fresh produce. The vegetables collected were donated to IVC’s Basic Needs Center and local food banks, helping to support students and community members facing food insecurity.

### IVC Showcases Programs at Irvine Global Village Festival



On October 5, IVC took part in the 23rd annual Irvine Global Village Festival as a Patron Sponsor. President John Hernandez, along with IVC's Outreach team and the Adult English as a Second Language (ESL) Department, engaged with many community members at the Great Park in Irvine. The festival featured live music, cultural exhibits, local organizations, diverse food options, and games. The teams fielded general inquiries about the campus, including semester course offerings, free ESL courses, DSPS, College Corps, EOPS, Puente Program, Summer Bridge Program, Community Education and Emeritus, Irvine Valley Promise, and steps to becoming an IVC student.

### IVC Celebrates Latinx Heritage Month



On October 2, IVC proudly celebrated [Latinx Heritage Month](#), honoring the rich history, achievements, and contributions of the Latinx community. The Office of Student Equity hosted an event featuring Latinx-owned small businesses, offering locally made crafts and delicious food. Attendees were also treated to a performance by Ballet Folklórico from Cal State Fullerton. In addition, President Hernandez joined the festivities with "Paletas" with the President, where he handed out Mexican popsicles. Latinx Heritage Month is observed from

September 15 to October 15. View photos [here](#).

### The Pathways to Success Fair Returned for Fall 2024



On October 1, IVC's Guided Pathways Completion Teams hosted the 3rd annual Pathways to Success Fair. The fair helps students explore their academic and career pathways by highlighting IVC's 10 Guided Pathways interest areas. Students were also connected with essential learning support such as the library, counseling, support centers, and programs offered at IVC. Attendees had the opportunity to hear informative presentations from the Career and Transfer Centers, further supporting their academic journey. There were 420 students

who participated in the event, and over 80 volunteers helped make it a success. View photos [here](#).

### Hillview High School Students Gear Up for IVC Idea Pitch Competition



In preparation for IVC's upcoming Idea Pitch Competition, Hillview High School, part of the Tustin Unified School District, recently hosted five industry mentors. The mentors provided valuable guidance to students, helping them sharpen their networking skills and refine their idea pitches. This event also supports IVC's K16 grant initiative, which aims to

strengthen pathways from K-12 education to college and careers. The [final round of the Idea Pitch Competition](#) will take place on November 19.

### IVC Presents at Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) In Action Institute



From September 25-27, a team from IVC participated in the second annual Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) In Action Institute, hosted by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO). IVC team members attended several workshops, with two sessions presented by IVC staff. Director of College Equity, Inclusion, and Access Erin Pollard co-presented "Promising Practices: Serving LGBTQ+ Students in California Community Colleges." Director of the Veterans Services Center Dylan Bender presented "The Warrior's Dilemma: The Difficulty and Complexity of Warriors' Transition Back into the Civilian World." Both were invited to present by the CCCCCO in recognition of their respective expertise.

### IVC Hosts Walk of Hope for Suicide Awareness and Prevention



On September 24, IVC held its annual Walk of Hope for Suicide Awareness and Prevention. The event opened with a welcome by President John Hernandez, followed by remarks from Chancellor Julianna Barnes and Vice President for Student Services Martha McDonald. This year's keynote speaker, Joshua Rivedal, founder of "Changing Minds: A Mental Health Based Curriculum" and "The i'Mpossible Project," shared his inspiring journey and insights on mental health advocacy. The campus community participated in a one-mile walk around the campus to promote education, awareness, and solidarity in preventing suicide. The event serves as a powerful reminder of the collective impact each individual can have in supporting mental health and saving lives. A mental health resource fair featured community partners offering vital information and outreach services. View photos [here](#).

### IVC Helps Portola High School Students Apply for Financial Aid



On September 23, Student Services Specialist Erica Lehman from the Financial Aid Office presented to 608 seniors at Portola High School in Irvine. Students were provided a basic overview of federal and state financial aid programs, information on important deadlines, and hands-on assistance applying for financial aid. Attendees also learned about the benefits and eligibility requirements for the Irvine Valley Promise Program.

### AANAPISI Week Celebrated at IVC



From September 23 to 26, IVC celebrated Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISI) Week. Throughout the week, the [Equitable Learning Experience Valuing Achievement, Transfer, and Empowering Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders \(ELEVATE AAPI\)](#) program hosted an information booth where attendees received information promoting ELEVATE AAPI and the significance of AANAPISI at IVC. The [Center for Asian American and Native American Pacific Islanders \(CAANAPI\)](#) organized engaging activities, including tea tastings, bracelet-making, and journaling workshops. The week's celebration ended with a roundtable discussion on the role of food in Asian culture. View photos [here](#).



### Let Freedom Read Celebration: Banned Books Week 2024



From September 22 to 28, IVC celebrated Banned Books Week. This national event champions the freedom to read while highlighting past and present efforts to censor books in schools and libraries. IVC's Library and English Department co-hosted the 10th annual Banned Books Week Read-Out, reinforcing the right to read under the First Amendment. Students, faculty, and staff shared powerful excerpts from once-banned books and original creative works during the event. The most impactful moments came from students' impromptu reflections on the power of literacy and the vital role public libraries play in providing free and diverse information. The celebration also featured a writing contest on censorship, with five student winners recognized for their outstanding work. View photos [here](#).

### IVC Represented at the City of Irvine Hispanic Heritage Month "Fiesta Latina en Irvine"



On September 22, IVC participated in the City of Irvine's Hispanic Heritage Month celebration, "Fiesta Latina en Irvine." This vibrant, all-ages event honored the rich culture and contributions of Latin American indigenous communities and people of Spanish, Mexican, Caribbean, Central, and South American descent. Attendees enjoyed a cultural blend of music, food, language, literature, and art. IVC's Outreach team, faculty, and staff from Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS) and Adult English as a Second Language (AESL) hosted informational tables and engaged with the community.

### IVC Joins American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Institute on AI



On September 12, IVC launched its participation in the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Institute on AI, Policy, and the Curriculum by attending a two-day conference. IVC is one of the 131 institutions participating from across the US. The event brought together faculty and staff to explore the implications of artificial intelligence on curriculum and campus policies. The institute focused on understanding how AI can shape educational outcomes and how to prepare students for a future where AI skills are essential. The Institute provides monthly virtual sessions and access to mentors, allowing teams to collaborate with other institutions as they develop action plans for implementing AI into courses and addressing related challenges. This work aims to create thoughtful policies and curriculum changes that balance innovation with concerns around academic integrity and ethical AI use.

### A Night of Community and Support at Puente's "Noche de Familia"



On September 10, the Puente Program hosted its annual "Noche de Familia," welcoming over 60 students, siblings, parents, grandparents, and friends to celebrate and learn about its mission. The event fostered a strong sense of community, highlighting families' vital role in supporting Puente students throughout their educational journey. President John Hernandez, the Puente team, Puente Student Ambassadors, and special guest poet Donato Martinez warmly welcomed attendees, offering encouragement and inspiration for the year ahead.

View photos [here](#).

### IVC 30 to CPA Program: Empowering Future Certified Public Accountants



In January 2023, IVC launched the [IVC 30 to CPA](#) program to help students meet the educational requirements to become licensed Certified Public Accountants (CPAs). This initiative has provided valuable resources such as scholarship information, CPA review course discounts, sample resumes, recruiting guides, and employment opportunities. The program also offers students the chance to engage with recruiters and gain insights into the accounting profession. The program created a Canvas group with over 430 students joining since its inception. Each participant receives a personalized Google sheet to track their coursework against the California Board of Accountancy's (CBA) educational requirements.

### IVC Professor Summer Serpas Supporting National Corequisite Development



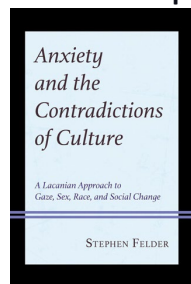
Professor Summer Serpas collaborates with colleges nationwide to enhance corequisite support courses. In Texas, Serpas is working with the Dana Center on the "Deepening Corequisites Across Texas" initiative, helping colleges develop and refine corequisite structures using research-based practices. Her work in the program includes facilitating a meet and greet session, developing and presenting two webinars in Fall 2024 in the Designing and Improving English Corequisites strand, leading a semester-long community of practice for instructors in Spring 2025, and presenting at an in-person convening in Fall 2025. In Colorado, Serpas supports three Hispanic Serving Institutions, Adams State, Colorado State University Pueblo, and University of Northern Colorado, by coaching department chairs and administrators and leading a four-part workshop series on improving corequisite composition support.

### IVC's Adult ESL Expands Career Pathways for English Learners



In Spring 2024, IVC received the California ELL Healthcare Pathways grant in partnership with Coastline ROP to launch free Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Pharmacy Technician programs for English learners. The grant covered all course materials and embedded an AESL instructor in each program, ensuring students had the language support needed to succeed. Every one of the 31 pharmacy technician graduates is now licensed, and many students from both programs have secured jobs in the medical field. This fall, we will continue offering the Pharmacy Technician program with funding from the Orange County Community Foundation, and next semester, we'll add a Dental Assisting program through the ELL Healthcare Pathways grant. IVC's AESL program supports career transitions by offering courses like English for using computers, child development, and law.

### Professor Stephen Felder Acknowledges IVC Colleagues and Students in Latest Book



Professor of Humanities Dr. Stephen Felder recently published his book "Anxiety and the Contradictions of Culture: A Lacanian Approach to Gaze, Sex, Race, and Social Change." In the book's acknowledgments, Dr. Felder expressed deep gratitude to Jhuma Chakraborty at the IVC Library for her crucial assistance with research resources. He also gave special thanks to Dean Brooke Bui for her unwavering support during his chemotherapy and for championing his work. Dr. Felder further recognized his colleagues Brittany Adams, Lisa Alvarez, Roy Bauer, Henry Carnie, Araceli Centanino, Frank Marmolejo, and Jamie Poster for their camaraderie and contributions to his work, as well as his students for their insights and encouragement throughout his academic journey.

### IVC Joins Cal LAW Pathway to Law School Initiative



As a new partner in the Cal LAW Pathway to Law School initiative, IVC has spent the past year building infrastructure to support students pursuing legal studies, criminal justice, public policy, and law school. The initiative aims to help high school and community college students with barriers to achieving their law-related aspirations. Developments include hiring a Pre-Law Counselor and the growth of student clubs that connect students with the legal field. The newly established IVC Mock Trial Team will compete in the Spring 2025 American Mock Trial Association Regional tournament, while the Pre-Law Society has scheduled tours of the Orange County Superior Courts in October and UCLA Law School in November. IVC is in its second year of the Exploratory Law Dual Enrollment pathway at Tustin and Beckman High Schools. Several 2023-24 cohort students are now studying legal studies at IVC. IVC's American Bar Association (ABA)-Approved Paralegal Studies Department is preparing for its 7-year reapproval process, with a self-evaluation report due in early 2025 and a site visit from the ABA in 2026. The program's enrollment continues to grow each year, doubling since 2019.

### Upcoming Events

#### The Tempest

October 24 – November 3

#### First-Generation Student Celebration

November 14

#### Día de Muertos

October 30

#### Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week

November 17-23

#### College Fair

November 6

#### Idea Pitch: Final Round

November 19

#### Veterans Day Ceremony

November 7

#### International Student Fair

November 20

#### music@noon Student Recital Series

November 8

#### Equal Pairs dance Concert

November 21-23

#### Native American History Month

November 13

Respectfully Submitted,

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

John C. Hernandez, Ph.D.  
President