



PRESIDENT'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus & Community



TAKING FLIGHT:
SOARING WITH PARTNERS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

GOAL 1

ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO STUDENT ACCESS & SUCCESS.

GOAL 2

BE A DIVERSE, EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, & ANTI-RACIST INSTITUTION.

GOAL 3

BE A LEADER & PARTNER IN ADDRESSING REGIONAL ISSUES.

GOAL 4

ENSURE FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & SUSTAINABILITY.



From left to right: Interim President Dr. Linda Fontanilla, Vice President of Instruction Dr. Dina Humble, Vice President of Student Services Dr. Scott W. Thayer speak at Fall 2023 Opening Day.

"SOARING TO SUCCESS:"

SBVC UNVEILS NEW THEME FOR 2023-24

As the fall semester begins at San Bernardino Valley College, campus is abuzz with anticipation and excitement. Capping a Convocation Week full of faculty orientations and workshops, Opening Day held a special significance as Interim President Dr. Linda Fontanilla took the stage to unveil the theme for the academic year: "Taking Flight: Soaring with Partners for Student Success." This thematic focus underscored the college's unwavering commitment to fostering partnerships that elevate SBVC students' educational journeys and career trajectories.

Dr. Fontanilla alluded to one of her previous career paths prior to coming to higher education, when she worked as an air traffic controller, in making a connection between the high-stakes industry of air transportation and community college education. "The world of air traffic control taught me the importance of communication and collaboration," said Dr. Fontanilla. "Just as pilots and controllers worked together to navigate through adverse weather conditions, you will find that collaborating with your peers and colleagues will enrich your learning experience and broaden your professional perspective."

With "Taking Flight: Soaring with Partners for Student Success," SBVC has set a course for a transformative academic year. The theme resonates not only with the college's staff and faculty but also with its students, partners, and the community at large. Opening Day served as a reminder that education is not confined to classroom walls, but a collective effort that involves stakeholders from various domains.



Background: Chancellor Diana Z. Rodriguez onstage at Opening Day, 2023

GOAL 3: BE A LEADER & PARTNER IN ADDRESSING REGIONAL ISSUES.



SBVC PARTNERS WITH CJUSD

ALLOWING STUDENTS TO EARN AA DEGREE IN HIGH SCHOOL

Starting this year, incoming freshmen at Bloomington High School can apply to the Early College Program, where students will earn college credits during high school and possibly graduate high school with an associate's degree. Students in Early College will take San Bernardino Valley College courses provided on the BHS campus before school during zero period, as well as one day a week after school on Wednesdays. Some of the college courses students will take also fulfill high school graduation requirements and A-G criteria for UC and Cal State admission, which frees their schedule during senior year for more electives.

Mentors from both SBVC and CJUSD will support the students and all costs for tuition, books, materials, application fees and other fees are covered by the district. BHS Principal Yvette Roman, who took college classes during her days as a Colton High School Student, told the students that although they will work hard, success is within their reach. "This is a great opportunity for our students to be exposed to rigorous college level courses, while gaining the skills and educational degrees that are necessary to become highly competitive within the global economy," Roman said. "An added benefit is that students will get a head start on their future educational or career paths! This opportunity could change the trajectory of our student's lives and the generations to come."

CJUSD Director of Secondary Education Dr. Eric Mooney called the Early College Program an invaluable opportunity that will empower students and propel their academic potential to new heights. "By CJUSD offering this transformative experience in partnership with SBVC, we not only expand horizons but hopefully ignite a lifelong passion for learning. The Early College program at BHS is the district's commitment to bridging the gap between education and real-world success," Mooney said. "One parent shared at our informational meeting that "she just completed her Associates degree at the age of 37 and she is beyond excited that this opportunity exists where her child can complete theirs at the age of 17."

CJUSD plans to expand the program to other district high schools in the coming years. "We are so proud to bring this program to our Colton Joint Unified students," Superintendent Frank Miranda said. "It adds another powerful opportunity for our students to explore their potential and shows the deep investment of both our district, our Board of Education and San Bernardino Valley College in both student success and the prosperity of our community." Source: *Inland Empire Community News (IECN)*

GOAL 1: ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO STUDENT ACCESS & SUCCESS.

SBVC FACULTY MEMBERS

APPOINTED TO NEW LEADERSHIP ROLES

San Bernardino Valley College leadership is changing, with Dr. Stephanie Lewis, Anthony Castro, and Bethany Tasaka all stepping into new roles.

In July, it was announced that Lewis will serve as Dean of Science for two years while Dr. John Stanskas is temporarily the Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Support at the California Community College Chancellor's Office. In an email sent to the campus, Vice President of Instruction Dr. Dina Humble said she is "confident that under Dr. Lewis's guidance, the Science division will continue to thrive and build upon the strong foundation that Dr. Stanskas has established."

With Lewis assuming this new role, it opened up the position of interim Dean for Mathematics, Business & Computer Technology. Due to the significance of this position, and after careful consideration, it was decided to split the duties between mathematics faculty chair Anthony Castro and mathematics faculty member Bethany Tasaka. Tasaka will serve as interim dean for the first year, with Castro taking over for the second year.

Putting two people in this role is in line with SBVC's goal of providing "ample opportunities for professional development and career growth within our talented team," Humble said.



Bethany Tasaka



Anthony Castro



ARTS CONNECTION'S YOUTH

ART INNOVATION FELLOWS VISIT SBVC

The Arts Council of San Bernardino County has been on a mission to nurture creativity and empower young artists through its Youth Art Innovation Fellowship (YAIF) program.

This year, the program reached new heights as 41 talented students from San Bernardino County embarked on a two-week immersive art experience, coupled with inspiring field trips. The highlight of this experience was a visit to San Bernardino Valley College, where students were welcomed by SBVC faculty and had the opportunity to explore its vibrant arts programs. Tours of SBVC's Art Department, Gresham Art Gallery, the Film, TV & Media Department and KVCR left the students inspired by the creative potential they could have in these in-demand career fields if they enroll at San Bernardino Valley College.



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WOLVERINE WELCOME PREPARES NEW STUDENTS FOR FALL

Thanks to the two-day Wolverine Welcome event, close to 500 new San Bernardino Valley College students are better prepared for the start of the fall semester.

Wolverine Welcome, formerly known as New Student Welcome Day, took place on campus August 7 and 8, and kicked off with a welcome message from SBVC Interim President Dr. Linda Fontanilla and a keynote speech from writer, actor, and comedian Kyle Erby. Later, students attended an extensive resource fair featuring dozens of campus departments and enjoyed a complimentary lunch.

On the second day of Wolverine Welcome, students watched presentations from First Year Experience, EOPS, Student Accessibility Services, and Umoja, and were able to meet with admissions and records, financial aid, and counseling representatives. The event was hosted by the SBVC Outreach and Recruitment Office and was "a great success," Outreach Coordinator Amanda Moody said. "Our students walked away with resolutions, answers, and support from instruction and student services." By extending the welcome event from one day to two, it "ensured all new students were ready to begin the fall semester," she added. "It is important to host outreach and retention events to engage with our students and establish a relationship with folks who need our services and guidance."



GOAL 1: ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO STUDENT ACCESS & SUCCESS.

INAUGURAL ARTS & HUMANITIES DIVISION ORIENTATION SHINES A LIGHT ON CREATIVE PATHWAYS

The first-ever Arts & Humanities Division Orientation was held August 8, as a way to introduce students and their families to the programs offered at SBVC and possible career paths.

Every department in the division — Art; Communication Studies; Dance; Education, Reading & Literacy; English; English as a Second Language; Film, TV & Media; Modern Languages; Music; and Theater Arts — participated in the event. There was a panel discussion, with department chairs sharing information and insights with the audience, and students were able to ask questions during one-on-one breakout sessions.

The idea for the orientation "came about as we continue to look toward building enrollment and creating a sense of belonging for our students," Arts & Humanities Dean Leticia Hector said. The department chairs were excited to take part in the event, and additional support was provided by the SBVC Outreach Team, SBVC counseling liaisons, and partners from California State University San Bernardino.



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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

ANITA ARNOLD



Anita Arnold is one of the hearts of SBVC's nursing program.

Whether they are her patients or her students, Anita Arnold always treats people with the care they deserve.

Arnold, a professor of nursing, was recognized for her dedication and contributions to the field this spring, when she received the Science Achievement Award. "I love nursing and teaching because I get to help people improve their lives," Arnold said, adding, "Life is difficult no matter what way you spin it, and it's nice to be able to help."

Her path to San Bernardino Valley College began at a high school, where she taught biology. Arnold has always been interested in the medical field, and as someone who loves learning and is open to new challenges, she decided to switch careers and go into nursing. For more than a decade, she worked primarily at St. Bernardine Medical Center in the cardiac telemetry unit, before coming to SBVC to focus on teaching.

"I was impressed by the students who came from Valley," Arnold said, and after hearing good things from Yolanda Simental, associate dean of health sciences and director of Nursing, she decided to leave the hospital and enter the classroom as an SBVC instructor.

"I love the motivation of nursing students," Arnold said. "They are serious about what they do and are caring people. I've had the honor to meet so many future nurses, and they give me hope for our medical system."

Arnold is also a proponent of the STEM-MESA Program, which provides free tutoring to students. "We have a great deal of information that we require students to learn and it is very difficult to do that on your own," she said. "Learning happens in conversation and with practice and repetition, and tutors provide all that."

EVENTS

Sep 13 | Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

10:00 AM | B-100

Sep 16 | Concert Under the Stars

5:00 PM | Greek Theatre

Sep 23 | Football SBVC vs Long Beach

6:00 PM | Football Field



@sbvalleycollege

701 Mount Vernon Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92410