



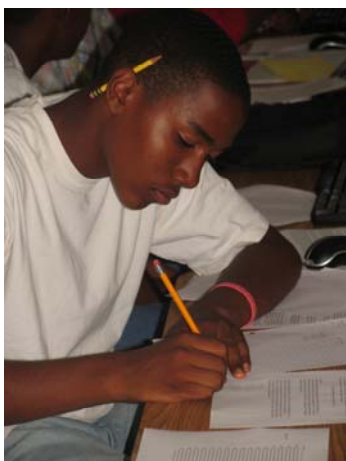
## *President's Board Report*

*September 11, 2008*

### **SBVC & SBCUSD Present: The Beauty of.....Algebra?**

Learning the cultural roots of numbers in Africa, the probabilities of gambling and the power of decimals in the currency exchange market were just a few of the topics covered in the Fall Math Institute entitled “*The Beauty of Algebra*” held at SBVC every afternoon during the week of August 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> for 25 junior high and high school students from nearly a dozen different schools in the region.

To combat what has become a persistent pattern of underachievement in African-American students in the area of Mathematics, the San Bernardino City Unified School District's department of Equity and Targeted Student Achievement sought out the expertise of San Bernardino Valley College's Math Department for a week-long math and college-readiness program. Reporters from three different local newspapers covered the popular event and spoke with students, staff and faculty involved in this partnership.



SBVC professors and several students donated their time all week to show that, as SBVC instructor Zadock Reid stated, “Math is not some abstract subject. It is part of their everyday lives. Math is alive.”

After each day's activities, students were exposed to the concept of college by presentations from Jennifer Mendoza (Tumaini) and Malaika Brown (Financial Aid). At the end of each day, students submitted a short reflection on the day's activities. Here are a few of their submissions:

*“I enjoyed today. I learned how the Egyptians and Africans used numbers. I learned so much today I can't list all of it.”*

*“Today, I learned that numbers tell a story. They are also used for other meaningful things such as saving a life.”*

*“I learned a much easier way to add, subtract, and multiply decimals thanks to the fabulous teachers at Valley College.”*



*“Stepping into this class today, I did not know what to expect, but it was nice to see all of the teachers working together to share their knowledge.”*

“Faculty members are not compensated for this,” said Dr. Haragewen Kinde, Dean of Mathematics. “They really want to touch the lives of our young people and make a difference. We are in San Bernardino and our passion is for San Bernardino.”

The week ended with a celebration ceremony for all the participants and included commendations from SBVC President Dr. Debra Daniels and City Councilmember Rikke Van Johnson.

## **SBVC Prepares for Fall 2008 With In-Service Day**

San Bernardino Valley College's 2008-2009 academic year kicked off on Friday, August 15th with all staff and faculty meetings focused on making progress together on our strategic initiatives and preparing for forthcoming accreditation visits.

The morning began at Crafton Hills College with an introduction to Dr. Noelia Vela, the new Chancellor of the San Bernardino Community College District. After her remarks, the SBVC staff and faculty gathered in the SBVC Auditorium to hear opening day remarks from Dr. Debra Daniels.

Dr. Daniels highlighted accomplishments from her first year as President of San Bernardino Valley College and set the stage for what to expect in 2008-2009. Specifically, Dr. Daniels touched on what to expect from the accreditation process, campus-wide construction projects and financial updates from a college and district perspective.

Before heading to an all staff and faculty lunch, Dr. Daniels showed an inspiring video comprised of students sharing their own stories and their reasons for coming to SBVC.



Throughout the afternoon, division and department meetings were held across campus in preparation for the semester that begins on Monday, August 18th.

## **“Week of WOW” Welcomes Huge Fall 2008 Enrollment**

With a Fall headcount soaring over 12,000 for the first time since 2004, the first week of school at SBVC found almost 1000 more students on campus than at the same time one year earlier.

To help new and returning students ease into the new semester, three separate “Week of Welcome”, or “WOW” booths were erected around campus. Anchored by the heavily-traversed walkway outside the library that saw more than 2,000 student contacts in just two days, the other booths outside the Snyder Gym and the Administration/Student Services building answered an additional 1600 questions.



From course schedules to campus maps and free bus passes, the booths staffed by campus personnel proved a popular destination for the curious and the confused.

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## **First CAHSEE Graduates Officially Receive High School Diploma**

On Thursday August 14th, more than 40 SBVC staff, faculty and parents of 13 students gathered to honor the first graduates of the CAHSEE (California High School Exit Exam) Program.

These students successfully reached their goal of receiving their high school diploma—the first group to do so as part of SBVC’s CAHSEE Program started in January 2007.

A reception with cookies, cake, punch and certificates marked the important milestone for students who can now continue pursuing their educational dreams as regular students at SBVC. In addition, all 13 students were called to the stage for recognition and received a SBVC portfolio folder as a gift.

The students included were: Geraldin Ambriz, Dalilia Alacron, Jose Chavez, Jamilah Ramirez, Janette Rodriguez, Ana Zepeda, Robert Fimbres, Sherry Murphy, Alejandra Sanchez, Karina Zamudio, Blanca Carra, Michael Tulisiack, and Alfredo Martinez.

## Psych Tech Celebration is Precursor to Higher-Paying Careers

On Thursday, August 7th, 20 graduates from the Psychiatric Technology Class of 2008 were presented with certificates from SBVC after finishing a one-year program aimed at preparing them for a new career or advancement in their current position.

Many of the new graduates are, or will soon be, employed at state corrections facilities or at mental health hospitals and will see a competitive starting wage between \$44,000 and \$48,000 including excellent benefits.



“We’ve been getting an influx of applicants because employees with LVN (licensed vocational nurse) don’t have the classification to advance in state facilities without their Psych. Tech license,” said Associate Professor Mimi Tumang. “The numbers in our program are running higher than in previous semesters—partly because of the advantage of utilizing the summer session so that they can finish sooner than at other schools and get that advancement in rank and pay at their jobs more quickly.”

Another group of graduates will receive their certificates in December. In addition, the next group of incoming Psych. Tech. students will have an orientation on September 17th at 8:00 p.m. in the Campus Center (CC-139) with a guest speaker from the State Corrections Office in Visalia.

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## New Parent Education Program for Rialto Residents

San Bernardino Valley College's Child Development Department, through a grant with First 5 San Bernardino, is starting a "Parents as Teachers" Program for Rialto residents.

"Parents as Teachers" (PAT) is a free program serving families throughout pregnancy and until their child enters kindergarten. The goal of PAT is to improve parenting practices and increase children's school readiness and school success.

Trained parent educators visit families once a month to share child development information with parents, help them learn to observe their own child, address their parenting concerns, and engage the family in meaningful activities. Additionally, parent educators show parents how to prepare children for kindergarten and demonstrate how to tell if children are experiencing any developmental delays.

## Student Profile: David Moreira

Many of the more than 12,300 students currently attending San Bernardino Valley College have unique stories that are far from the historically recognized educational path—and David Moreira is one of them.

In his first 18 years, David lived in a third-world country where surviving a deadly hurricane meant carrying fresh water to and from his village for him and his family. He then proceeded to spend his formative teenage years weathering the tough streets of Queens, New York, while enduring the separation of his parents.

But, after coming to California to be with his dad and getting his GED after a stint at San Bernardino High School, his last six years have brought anything but stability as seen in the timeline below:

2002 - Was homeless  
2003 - Enrolled at SBVC  
2004 - Left school to join the military  
2006 - Discharged from military  
2007 - Re-enrolled at SBVC and CHC  
2007 - Was incarcerated  
2007 - Lost his job  
2007 - Failed classes at SBVC  
2007 - Was homeless again  
2008 - Re-enrolled at SBVC

Now, at only 24 years old, David's return to San Bernardino Valley College epitomizes the value of community colleges—as the key bridge linking an individual to their future opportunities regardless of their past.



“I was always outgoing, always looking for adventures and sometimes found it in the wrong places,” David shared. “That’s what led me to the Navy, to my legal challenges, and to my current financial standing, and I think I’ve finally found a little stability.”

Part of David's life and educational experience is tied into his desire for information and discovering where he stands in society. Even while living in the homeless shelter, David would go to the library during the day to help quench that thirst for learning about life. His turbulent childhood did provide one major positive outcome that drives him today—an appreciation for different cultures, ideologies and opportunities.

“Through my experiences, I’ve realized that education is definitely a key to success because epidemics like poverty and HIV/AIDS are often sustained and proliferated by lack of education,” David said. “I’m always searching for what I was put here to do and to learn more about the world. I think everyone has a reason to be here and I’m trying to do the best with the time that I have and keep life in balance.”

As David searches for where he will make his mark in the world, he has a general idea in his mind of being some type of advocate. That role could be as a teacher, a lawyer, a minister, or in some other counseling role where he can share his life experiences so as to help others avoid the mistakes he made.

“I’m really working hard to correct those bad habits that led to me being arrested, and have kept me from getting a job,” David shared. “I wasn’t making the most of my time on this Earth and that’s what led me into truly focusing on college. I realized I couldn’t do it alone.”

Realizing he wasn’t alone in his journey, David has gotten involved on campus with the Tumaini Program, and, for Fall 2008, David is applying for the Honors Program at SBVC.

“Even the negative parts of life keep me going,” David said. “When you laugh it’s good. When you cry, it’s good. All of life is an experience, both the pain and pleasure.”

David is a living example that no matter your stage of life—your future truly does start here at San Bernardino Valley College.



## ***Save The Date***

### **Saturday, September 13, 2008**

6:00 p.m. – SBVC Football Field

#### The “Bell” Game – Football - Riverside Community College vs. SBVC

After a six-year departure, the 69<sup>th</sup> meeting of the “Bell” game will see Coach Pat Meech’s SBVC Wolverines host RCC. RCC won the last meeting in 2002, and SBVC has not defeated RCC since 1996. The all-time series shows RCC with a 35-32-1 record in the “Bell” game. The actual “Bell” is five feet tall, weighs 350 pounds, and will be presented to the winning squad after the game.

### **Thursday, September 18-21**

Various Hours. – Downtown San Bernardino

#### Route 66 Rendezvous

The SBVC Technical Division and Financial Aid Office will showcase the school’s offerings at San Bernardino’s biggest event of the year, the Route 66 Rendezvous.

### **Saturday, November 8, 2008**

6:00 p.m. – SBVC Football Field

#### SBVC Track and Football Field Dedication and Homecoming Football Game)

Homecoming festivities will be highlighted by the dedication of Dr. Charles H. Beeman Track and the Henley Brothers Field during the half-time of the SBVC vs. Golden West College (Huntington Beach) conference game.

### **Saturday, November 15, 2008**

Time TBD

#### Super Saturday Open House

Bigger and better than ever, this free event is aimed at bringing the community on campus to discover all that SBVC has to offer.