



San Bernardino  
**Valley College**

## *President's Board Report*

*September 3, 2009*

### **SBVC Joined by CHC and SBCCD Staff to Kick Off Fall 2009 Semester**

Although the Fall 2009 semester officially kicked off Monday, August 17th, the entire staff and faculty of the San Bernardino Community College District convened on San Bernardino Valley College on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> for Opening Day festivities aimed at setting the direction for the upcoming academic year.

After a continental breakfast, employees gathered to hear an update from SBCCD Chancellor Dr. Noelia Vela. Dr. Vela provided a budget update and reassured staff and faculty that SBCCD is committed to keeping cuts as far away from students as possible so as "not to leave them when they need us the most."

She shared that prudent savings ideas and initiatives from the 2008-2009 fiscal year have enabled the District to refrain from making additional cuts in 2009-1010 despite less funding from the state of California.

The guest speaker for the morning was community college veteran Dr. Pam Cox-Otto, currently CEO of Interact Communications. Dr. Cox-Otto highlighted the many differences in life and in work between generations (Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y, etc.) and how all can work together to understand each other despite different outlooks and styles.

After a break, San Bernardino Valley College staff and faculty were guided through a campus-specific kickoff by President Dr. Debra Daniels where she reiterated that SBVC will serve more students in 2009-2010 than in 2008-2009 despite having the same budget.

"If we want to continue without cuts, we need to think about everything we do because everything makes a difference," Dr. Daniels said.

After introducing new employees, reviewing goals of 2008-2009 and communicating this year's goals, Dr. Daniels answered questions from the crowd before lunch was served and department meetings commenced.



*Guest speaker Dr. Pam Cox-Otto used a deft blend of comedy, research and insight while sharing her educational experiences. (Photo by Abril Flores)*

## First Day of School for Over 13,000 at SBVC

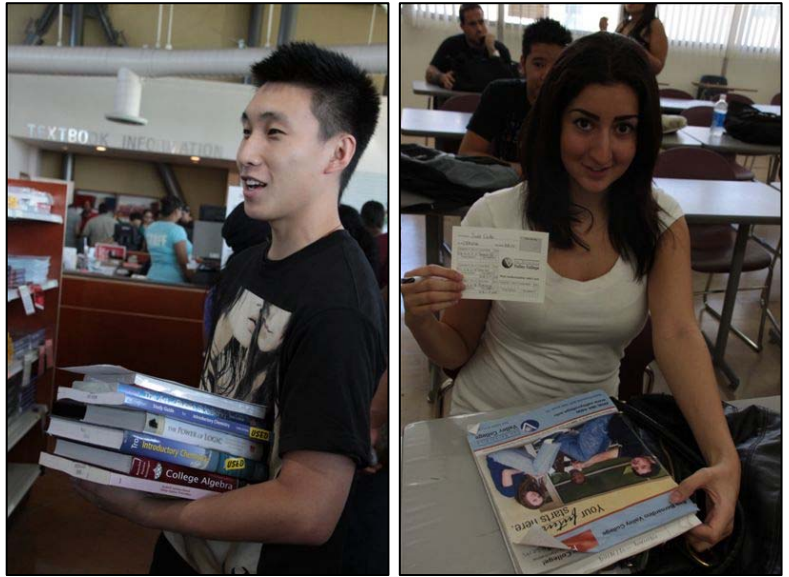
The morning started early with crowds in the parking lots and the lines for financial aid and admissions. By the end of the day, the front of most classrooms on campus felt the rush of students seeking the cherished web authorization codes allowing students to join an already full class.

Some statistics to mark the first day of the 2009-2010 academic year:

- ▶ *SBVC's headcount surpassed 13,000 students*
- ▶ *Last year on Opening Day, SBVC's headcount totaled 10,943 students (an increase of 19%)*
- ▶ *These numbers are the highest opening day numbers in over a decade*

For many students, the first day of class included finding their way around crowded parking lots and around construction fences that weren't in place when classes ended last Spring.

Three different "Week of Welcome" (WOW) booths were set up around campus to help answer student questions. Campus maps, add/drop slips and free bus passes were the most popular items being distributed to students. The bus passes are part of the "Go Smart" promotion providing free rides to SBVC students for the first week of classes.



*(At left) The SBVC Bookstore was busy with students purchasing books for their first day of classes.*

*(At right) SBVC student Judy Gallo holds up her web authorization add card that awaits a sticker from the professor that officially enrolls her in the class. Add cards were a popular item around campus as demand for already closed classes was very high. (Photos by Abril Flores)*

More than 4,000 contacts with students were made at the WOW booths on Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday, over 3,000 students attended the WOW All-Campus Activities Fair.

*(At left) Students, staff and faculty volunteered to answer questions at three different "Week of Welcome" (WOW) booths across campus. (Photo by Daniel Nguyen)*

## Larger Second Class of Valley-Bound Commitment Students Begin College

Without having to pay a dime for books or classes, 92 local high school graduates from the class of 2009 started their college career at SBVC last month as part of the Valley-Bound Commitment.

Thanks to a \$150,000 donation from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians in January 2009, the successful first year program was expanded to accommodate students from 12 different local high schools. An orientation with parents and students was held in July where students selected classes and parents learned about the details of the program.



*Marco Cota, SBVC Dean of Counseling and Matriculation, provided an orientation in Spanish Valley-Bound Commitment parents.*

“When I first arrived at SBVC in 2007, I instantly recognized the critical role that SBVC, as the local community college, plays in helping increase the college-going rate in the area. We launched the Valley-Bound Commitment specifically to help eliminate all economic barriers that previously prevented students from considering college,” said SBVC President Dr. Debra Daniels. “After last year’s successful pilot program with Colton High School, we were delighted that San Manuel Band of Mission Indians believed in the program and provided the funding to triple the size of the programs and expand accessibility to 12 local high schools.”

Both the *San Bernardino Sun* and the *Riverside Press-Enterprise* covered the first week of college for the 92 students in this unique program. Interviews with the students revealed their gratitude and thankfulness for their chance to make their dreams of college a reality. This year’s group of students will be challenged to surpass the success of last year’s pilot program students. Of the 31 students that completed their first year of college as part of the original Valley-Bound Commitment program from Colton High School, all 31 are back again for Fall 2009 and many are on track to graduate as early as next semester.

The SBVC Foundation is actively seeking donations that can sustain and possibly expand the 2010-2011 Valley Bound Commitment.

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## Big Bear Super Saturday

The Big Bear Super Saturday One Stop event held on August 8, 2009 at Big Bear was very successful with an estimate of 60 students/potential students participating. Several staff members traveled up the hill while others remained in the office to process paperwork in real time.

“We heard it over and over again that Big Bear residents were very grateful for the one-stop registration,” said SBVC’s Susan Bangasser.

Many students had student ID numbers and were ready to take the assessment exams, filled out financial aid information and asked questions about concurrent enrollment. The next Big Bear Super Saturday for Spring Registration is scheduled for Saturday, December 5th.



## Measure P Construction Update

As the Fall 2009 semester begins, major progress on three construction projects is changing the face of the campus on what seems like a weekly basis.

### Media & Communications

KVCR staff donned hardhats and cameras as they walked through the shell of the building in mid-August. The exterior walls continue to form as the building takes shape. In the background, the procurement process for the furniture, fixtures, A/V and IT is in high gear. Completion on the building is scheduled for December 2009 with the move-in scheduled for Spring 2010.



### New North Hall

The giant steel structure in the heart of campus is growing each day as the new North Hall begins to take shape. The building is scheduled for completion in March 2010 with occupancy expected in the Summer of 2010.

### New Chemistry and Physical Science Building

After more than a month of daily demolition, the northern section of North Hall has disappeared into rubble.

The next step is to dig out the basement and remove all asphalt and debris throughout September.

When completed in April 2011, the new Chemistry and Physical Science Building will be LEED Certified.

LEED is an internationally recognized green building certification system, providing third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance across all the metrics that matter most: energy savings, water efficiency, CO2 emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.



## Omnitrans Provides More Free Rides to College

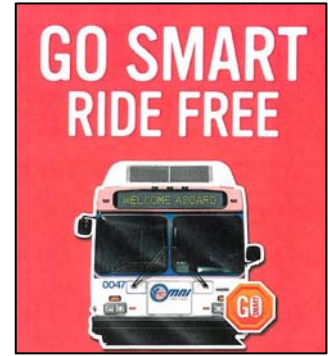
For students looking for a way to save some money to help pay those extra enrollment fees and avoid the battle for parking spots during the busy first days of the semester, the Omnitrans "Go Smart" promotion promised a free seven-day bus pass simply for being an SBVC student.

In partnership with SBVC, Cal State University San Bernardino, Chaffey College, Crafton Hills and Loma Linda University, Omnitrans gifted students with a special "Go Smart" pass for a limited time only.

When activated during the first week of the fall session, it was good for seven consecutive days of unlimited travel anywhere in the agency's 480 square-mile service area.

In the first year of the pilot program in 2008, more than 1,600 Go Smart passes were activated by SBVC students leading to over 17,000 trips—the highest rate among all participating colleges. Preliminary figures from the 2009 program reveal that 2,289 passes were activated—a 42% increase over 2008. The share of students that tried a bus pass increased to 17.6% from 12.8% one year ago.

"'Go Smart' is an opportunity for college students to try the bus free to see how well it works for their situation," said Director of Marketing Wendy Williams. "Like most of our customers, students are looking for low-cost transportation solutions. Omnitrans offers convenient service to each campus and with our 100% natural gas fleet, taking the bus is also environmentally responsible."



## Machine Trades Students Compete at National SkillsUSA Championship

The National SkillsUSA championship is a national contest where students demonstrate their skills in math, engineering, manufacturing skills, and Computer Numerical Control Programming. Students are tested for eight hours in all aspects of manufacturing vying for top honors in the skill areas.

This year's event was held in Kansas City, Missouri, from June 21-25 and included three SBVC students: Christian Gonzales, Eric Moreno and Rick Phillips.

Christian Gonzales competed against 51 other post-secondary students placing in the top 80% of the students.

Eric Moreno competed in Computer Aided Design where he demonstrated his skills in manufacturing design processes. Eric competed against 51 other high school students, since he is a concurrent enrolled student from high school.

Also attending were Rick Phillips, student and gold medal winner at this year's State SkillsUSA championship, where he competed in precision milling in Fresno.

Dave Aston, advisor and adjunct faculty at San Bernardino Valley College attended with the students. SBVC President Dr. Debra Daniels supported this year's team by sponsoring the team's trip.



*SBVC student Christian Gonzales competed with qualifiers from all over the United States.*

## Student Profile: Raeniece Barnett –Building Bridges to Success

Growing up in a family of eight kids, Raeniece Barnett was told that it was up to her to make something of herself. Although her parents were supportive, they pledged not to help along the way so that Raeniece could gain an education in the same way her father did—from experience. Raeniece struggled through her first two years of high school in the Crenshaw area of Los Angeles before moving to San Bernardino where she graduated with the Sierra High School class of 2009.

“For the first two years of high school, I was missing a lot from ditching and not taking thing seriously,” Raeniece admitted. “But, after moving here, my outlook on life changed and I didn’t hang around with the same group of friends.”

It was at this point that Raeniece started considering college as a possibility to help propel her forward towards her dream of leaving behind county assistance and heading to University of California, Berkeley to pursue a career in the legal field.

Raeniece’s high school counselor told her about a new program at SBVC called the Summer Bridge Program. Aimed at helping new students transition from high school into college, this two-week program put on by the Math and Science Student Success Center held in early August was just what the doctor ordered for Raeniece.

“I didn’t know anything about the campus, how to register for classes, or even that I needed to buy my own supplies,” Raeniece said. “I’m very shy and was intimidated about looking stupid on the first day of school. But, I’m so grateful for the help I received in the Summer Bridge Program. I’m sad that it’s over because I learned a lot and even met some new friends.”

As part of the Math & Science Student Success Center on campus, the program was highlighted by SBVC staff and faculty members from the Math, Science and Counseling departments. Session topics included topics ranging from beating test anxiety, learning how to access their new student e-mail accounts, figuring out those building abbreviations on the campus map and hearing about support mechanisms like the Writing Center. SBVC President Dr. Debra Daniels and SBCCD Board of Trustees President James Ramos both encouraged the students on the final day of the program to go after their dreams.

“I didn’t expect this program to be this good and now I’m so much more prepared for school to start because nobody really told me what college was like,” Raeniece shared just days before starting the Fall semester. “I was also a little scared of Algebra and Chemistry, but learned in this program that once you get into it, it’s actually fun. More people should get involved because they could learn a lot.”

As Raeniece prepares for her first day of college, she knows that her ability to succeed is all on her shoulders. Although her parents may not think they’re supporting their daughter on her journey of self-discovery via education, Raeniece can tell otherwise.

“She’s started offering to do my dishes, has bought me a few clothes and sometimes gives me rides to school,” Raeniece said. “I can tell my mom is proud of me and wants me to succeed and it’s showing in little ways—she can’t hide it!”



*Raeniece Barnett*



*Raeniece Barnett participates in an experiment measuring the mass of gold as part of a Chemistry experiment.*

## ***Save The Date***

**Thursday, September 17**

Constitution Day – Library Viewing Room and other locations around campus

On Sept. 17, 1787, the U.S. Constitution was signed by thirty-nine brave men who changed the course of history. Now Constitution Day will be celebrated to continue their legacy and develop habits of citizenship in a new generation of Americans. Organized by the Office of Student Life, special guest speakers, live music and voter registration drives will highlight the commemoration of this historic day

**Wednesday, December 2 – Sunday, December 6 - (*various times*)**

You're A Good Man Charlie Brown – SBVC Auditorium

The SBVC Theatre Department presents the family-friendly production based on the comic strip created by Charles M. Schulz. More than 30 cast members will grace the stage in a series of skits, songs and vignettes featuring the "Peanuts" characters from the comic strip created by Charles M. Schulz.