



President's Board of Trustees Report

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus & Community | June 2018

Congratulations, Graduating Class of 2018!

On May 25, San Bernardino Valley College ushered in its newest class of graduating students. Clad in black gowns and a variety of colorful stoles, the students were led onto Henley Field by President Diana Z. Rodriguez. She welcomed the thousands of students and family members that filled the stadium, acknowledging the graduates' achievements and congratulating them on years of dedication and hard work. In total, 1,424 students received 1,525 degrees and certificates, resulting in one of the largest graduating classes in the college's 91-year history. Congratulations, Wolverines!



SBVC Recognized by State as Strong Workforce Star

San Bernardino Valley College has been named a Strong Workforce Star by the California Community College Chancellor's Office, meaning that SBVC students earn better wages after finishing accelerated workforce training.

Job training programs earn Strong Workforce Stars when they meet one or more of the following thresholds:

1. **An increase in earnings by 50% or more**, based on a match to the state wage file, for students who earned a certificate or degree and were last enrolled in 2015–16.
2. **Attainment of the regional living wage by 70% or more**, based on a match to the state wage file, for students who earned a certificate or degree and were last enrolled in 2015–16.
3. **90% or more are employed in a job similar to their field of study**, according to the Career Technical Education Outcomes Survey, for students who earned a certificate or degree and were last enrolled in 2014–15.



A program would earn a bronze star for meeting one criterion, a silver star for meeting two, and a gold star for achieving three. SBVC received two silver stars for Apprenticeship in Psychiatric Technology, with a **551% increase in earnings** and 96% of students attaining the regional living wage, and Nursing, with a 53% increase in earnings and 83% of students attaining the regional living wage. The college also earned 15 bronze stars, where Pharmacy Technology saw a **207% increase in earnings**, and 79% of students studying Environmental Control Technology attained the regional living wage. The Administration of Justice and Alcohol & Controlled Substances programs showed that **100% of program participants** are employed in a job similar to their field of study.

Nuestra Graduación Celebrates Latino Graduates and Culture

San Bernardino Valley College celebrated the many accomplishments of our Hispanic, Chicano, and Latino graduates during its annual Nuestra Graduación. This celebration, presented by the Latino Faculty, Staff & Administrators Association on campus, commemorated the achievements of the Latino Wolverines graduating in 2018. Many participants were first-generation college students who, with the help of their family, peers and our faculty and staff, were able to achieve a milestone that past generations were unable to accomplish. As hundreds of friends and family watched from the steps of the Greek Theatre, graduates were each bestowed a colorful sarape stole to wear for the upcoming Commencement ceremony. Following the reception, students and their guests celebrated to the playful tunes of a traditional mariachi band performing live. The event aimed to allow students and their families to rejoice in their culture after overcoming many obstacles on their path to education. Congratulations, Wolverines!



Impressive Graduating Class of Middle College High School Crosses At SBVC

SBVC Counselor Susan Gasca with the Middle College High School (MCHS) Program has been on both sides of the academic fence, helping students navigate a workload that could prove exhausting for any A-team. Students are knocking off high school along with two years of college, and at the same time, saving thousands of dollars off their education costs. For Gasca, preparation is critical to getting students through as many units as possible towards their associate degree by the time they graduate high school. The MCHS program looks to serve students between 2.5 and 3.5 GPA, but she especially likes reaching those most in need, even at the lower end of the grade spectrum.

"If we support them, they're going to make it through. If they don't have programs like this, it's much more difficult for them," said Gasca, who has worked with the program for nine years, including six years on the Valley College side, and three years as principal of MCHS. This year, there are 65 graduates who participated in a crossing ceremony at SBVC.

Read the rest of this article at www.valleycollege.edu/news.



SBVC Hosts Inaugural Asian-Pacific Islander HS Grad Celebration

High school seniors from throughout the Inland Empire were invited to participate in the first-ever Inland Empire Asian-Pacific Islander High School Graduate Recognition Ceremony on May 11 at the SBVC Greek Theatre.

The colorful celebration included live traditional Islander music, dance and artistic performances. The participating students, who identify as Polynesian, Micronesian, Melanesian and Filipinos that associate with being Asian-Pacific Islanders (API), received a certificate from a local assembly member and a Asian-Pacific Islander graduation sash. "We want to create an empowering event for our Pacific Islander youth in our community, by taking a day to celebrate each of them," said Francine Blacksher, San Bernardino City Unified School District faculty. She explained that Pacific Islander youth are often underserved and at risk for unsuccessful academic outcomes. The celebratory event was intended to recognize API students who have risen above academic challenges and encourage their transition into higher education.



SBVC Celebrates 2018's African American Graduates

The annual Black Graduate Recognition Celebration commemorated the many achievements of SBVC's African American students graduating this spring. In conjunction with Commencement, the exciting event aimed to celebrate the culture, heritage, and accomplishments of our African American community on campus. As each student's name was called, a colorful Kente stole was placed on their shoulders, serving as a visual representation of their cultural history. The Kente Ceremony allowed graduates to recognize the contributions and sacrifices of their ancestors, as well as to acknowledge the friends, family members, faculty, and classified professionals who have helped them achieve their goals.



SBVC Pilots Zero Textbook Cost Degree

San Bernardino Valley College is committed to making education accessible to everyone, and with the Zero Textbook Cost Degree, students will be able to finish their degree without having to pay for a single textbook. The Zero Textbook Cost Degree, or "Z-degree," is an Open Educational Resources (OER) initiative now being piloted at more than 20 colleges. This fall, SBVC will pilot a Z-degree: an A.A. in Liberal Arts with an emphasis in Social and Behavioral Sciences. Grant funds for the Z-degree are provided by the California Community Colleges State Chancellor's Office, and according to Jennifer Bjerke, a geography instructor at SBVC, if the program is successful, **SBVC students will collectively save roughly \$700,000 over three years.**

"These degrees lower the cost of education, increase access to educational resources, and decrease the time to degree completion," Bjerke said. "All of these objectives are a great fit with the overall mission of the California Community Colleges." The Liberal Arts with an emphasis in Social and Behavioral Sciences degree has been selected for the pilot program because it's one of SBVC's most popular degrees, and is a great choice for students who want to transfer.

"Additionally, we already have enough faculty teaching courses with zero textbook costs that we could offer a clear pathway to completing 60 units without ever paying for a textbook," Bjerke said. "With this grant, we are ensuring that this Z-degree pathway is sustainable and we are continuing to expand our zero textbook cost course sections, which will hopefully lead to more zero textbook cost degrees and certificates." Read the rest of this article at www.valleycollege.edu/news.



SBVC Inspires Girls Interested in STEM

The future of STEM is female, and San Bernardino Valley College is doing its part to ensure that girls are given opportunities to learn all about technology.

When SBVC was approached by the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools about bringing the CyberTech Girls Workshop to the Inland Empire, SBVC readily agreed to host the event. Created by Coastline Community College professor Tobi West, the workshop was created to "address the underrepresentation of females in the information security field," SBVC Professor of Computer Science and Computer Information Technology Roger Powell said.

Sixty middle and high school girls from 25 schools across San Bernardino and Riverside counties came to SBVC for the area's inaugural CyberTech Girls Workshop. There were four hands-on activities, with the girls learning how to understand representation of data within a computer by creating a binary bracelet with their initials and getting a closer look at computer hardware by taking apart and putting back together a desktop computer. Read the rest of this article at www.valleycollege.edu/news.



FoodIEFest 2018 Highlights SBVC's Cultural Diversity



On April 24, SBVC hosted the college's 2nd Annual FoodIEFest, a campus-wide celebration of international cultures that brought cuisines from across Southern California and the world to campus for an all-day food festival. During the event, students organized an international flag parade to showcase the countries represented by international and immigrant students on campus. Thousands of campus and community members participated in the day-long event, which featured food options from local vendors and the Culinary Arts Department. There were also live performances from SBVC students that showcased the international theme.

The Huddle at SBVC Expands its Support for Student Athletes

Not quite a year old, the Athletic Success Center (The Huddle) at San Bernardino Valley College is already seeing positive results for sports-minded students that get easy access to extra help in math and English, priority registration, and financial resources. And, at times, a little tough love.

SBVC Athletics Counselor Andre Wooten first came to campus in 2004, concerned at how little academic support was available for athletes. Today, he said the learning center has grown to provide guidance to over 200 athletes.

As one example of how the program strengthens academic commitment, he points to the women's soccer team where students are required to register and keep up with their study schedule. If they don't meet three to four hours study per week, they run extra laps. He'd like to see all coaches apply similar positive pressure.

"The girls' soccer team graduation rate is over 80%. She (Coach Kristin Hauge) has 18 sophomores this year and all are graduating," he said. Students can access computers, online research, and print papers at the center. He said it's important to reach athletes at risk of slipping into territory where they may value running a ball more than making the grade. Students are usually unaware of minimum requirements of 16 core classes or 2.5 GPA to transfer to a four-year college on athletic scholarship. "It's up to them. The whole point is that if you can get an athletic scholarship to pay for your education, that means you have no debt," he said. Read the rest of this article at www.valleycollege.edu/news.



Upcoming Events

June 14

**Police Academy
Graduation #210**

6:30pm / ALFC

August 2

Psych Tech Graduation

6:00pm / Auditorium

