



San Bernardino  
Valley College



# President's Board of Trustees Report

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

## Class of 2020 Graduates in First-Ever Virtual Commencement Ceremony

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, San Bernardino Valley College celebrated its graduating class of 2020 with a first-ever virtual commencement ceremony. The online livestream progressed exactly like SBVC's traditional in-person ceremony, except it could be viewed remotely on the campus's website, YouTube and Facebook. The event featured greetings from President Diana Z. Rodriguez, Chair of the SBCCD Board of Trustees Dr. Anne L. Viricel, and keynote speaker Dr. Judith Valles, San Bernardino's first Hispanic mayor and immediate past president of the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra. After these congratulatory messages, graduates had their names read in alphabetical order alongside their virtual cards, which were designed and submitted by each graduate in advance. The major with the most graduates this year was again in Liberal Arts, which included 233 graduates emphasizing in Biological and Physical Science, and 302 emphasizing in Social and Behavioral Science. In total, 1787 students received 2,418 degrees and certificates, resulting in one of the largest graduating classes in the college's 93-year history. Congratulations, Wolverines!



## SBVC Awards First Associate of Arts Transfer Degree in Spanish



Eloisa Contreras is using her Spanish language skills to help her community. A returning student, Contreras enrolled at SBVC in 2016, wanting to perfect her Spanish in order to become a certified interpreter for the health care or court system. In addition to taking several Spanish and Chicano history classes, Contreras was a supplemental instructor for the Spanish department and a member of Sigma Delta Mu. "All of my professors were very helpful and would motivate me," the San Bernardino resident said. Contreras made SBVC history in March when she became the first student to receive an AA-T degree in Spanish. The AA-T degree guarantees admission to the CSU system with junior status, and students can transfer "being much closer to meeting their academic goals and with a specific emphasis," Spanish instructor Nori Sogomonian said. This fall, Contreras will continue her studies at Cal State San Bernardino. "It's an honor to be the first student to receive the Spanish degree at SBVC," she said.



## SBVC HIGHLIGHTS

### SBVC Student Wins Best Director at Inaugural WolverineCon & Film Festival

SBVC's inaugural WolverineCon, now part of campus' annual International Student Film Festival, successfully transitioned to an online platform and had more than 85 submissions from around the globe. WolverineCon was planned as a way for different departments to collaborate, with art students creating event posters and theater students involved in an expo, panel discussion, and cosplay competition. Because of the pandemic, all on-campus events were cancelled and the films were broadcast live on YouTube and Facebook. This year's Grand Jury winner was "Meow" by Grace Wang of the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. SBVC student Jacob Hickman was also named Best Director for his Star Wars fan film "Powertrade." Through donations, sponsorships, and submission fees, this year's festival brought in \$3,449. "Overall, given the circumstances of this year's event, it is a success," Lucas Cuny, assistant professor of Radio, Television, and Film, said.



### Hip-hop Legend Warren G Treats SBVC Football Players to Barbecue Feast



With a barbecue trailer filled with 50 pounds of chicken, 40 pounds of beef flank and short ribs, rapper Warren G spent one Saturday afternoon feeding SBVC football players the best meal most of them had since the coronavirus pandemic shut the world down. Coaches were buying their players groceries, as many of them were marooned thousands of miles away from home. "We have a food bank on campus that does a great job helping out our students in general, and thank goodness we have that," head coach Daniel Algattis said. "Warren said he has this barbecue rig and some food, let's get some things together and help some families in the area. Let's start with your team and your boys." Together with the "Regulate" rapper, the coaches devised a plan to feed the team in a safe and responsible way.

### SBVC Student Earns Athletic Training Scholarship

Anicca Anguiano, a two-year member of the SBVC athletic training program, was named a 2020 recipient of the California Community College Athletic Training Student Scholarship as chosen by the California Community College Athletic Trainers Association. Anguiano will be transferring to the University of La Verne in the fall to continue her studies and training as an athletic trainer. In his nomination letter, SBVC head trainer Keith Candelaria wrote, "Anicca has proven to be the most reliable student we have had, as she maintained a full schedule of other obligations. Anicca works a full-time job at a local business as well as maintains a full-time class schedule. Maintaining all these responsibilities, Anicca was still able to stay consistent with her volunteer hours, remain punctual with her committed times, and work without taking days or times off from her schedule. Her time management skills, punctuality, and commitment to see all her duties through speaks volumes on her ability to becoming a successful student within the field of athletic training."





# SBVC SNAPSHOTS

## SBVC Launches Free Virtual Health & Wellness Activities

The Office of Student Life hosted a new workshop series to bring health and happiness to the campus community. In its first-ever virtual Zumba session, staff and students could dance away their calories from the comfort of their homes. Free virtual yoga classes also premiered through Zoom as an outlet for students to de-stress as they approached finals week.



## SBVC President Keeps Campus Updated Remotely

Despite the campus closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, President Diana Z. Rodriguez was steadfast in maintaining effective communication with SBVC's staff and faculty. In her first-ever Zoom meeting, President Rodriguez spoke to over 150 campus members in virtual attendance. She gave updates regarding the status of Commencement, various strategies to provide student support through online platforms, and the future of on-campus resources for the fall semester. In light of the unrepresented transition to off-campus work, President Rodriguez graciously thanked the dedication of the outstanding faculty and staff present, who continuously commit themselves to student success.



## FYE Hosts Virtual Time Management Workshop

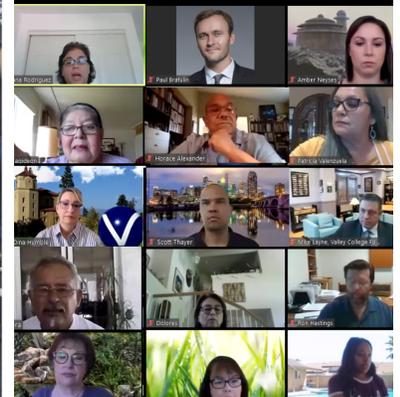
Heather Johnson, First Year Experience Counselor, hosted a special Zoom workshop for students seeking advice on how to better manage their time as they transitioned to schooling from home. Topics included how to avoid procrastination, how to create a to-do list, and best practices for multi-tasking while avoiding household distractions.

### 7 Steps to Beat Procrastination

- Make it meaningful
- Take it apart
- Write an Intentional Statement
- Tell Everyone
- Find a Reward
- Settle it Now
- Say NO!

## EOPS Distributes Regalia to Program Graduates

The Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) of SBVC made every effort to recognize its program graduates. Counselors and staff members hosted a drive-by celebratory event to distribute graduation caps, tassels, and decorative frames to display the degrees and certificates the graduates earned.

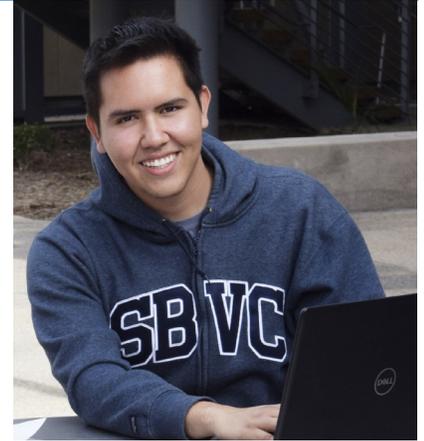




# SBVC HIGHLIGHTS

## Oscar Luna: Graduating with Highest Honors & Transferring to Berkeley

Oscar Luna arrived at SBVC ready to change his life. Originally a nursing major, Luna switched to computer science because he was “always curious about how computers worked at a fundamental level,” and is now headed to UC Berkeley – one of only a handful of SBVC computer science majors to transfer to a four-year college. Luna plans to major in electrical engineering and computer science, and chose Berkeley because it is “known for having the best computer science program in the country.” Like the rest of his fellow graduates, Luna had no idea he would end his time at SBVC during a pandemic, but understands the necessity of a virtual commencement. “Public health is of the utmost importance right now,” he said. “I wish things were different, but there are much bigger sacrifices other people are making.” Luna will be attending this year’s virtual Commencement ceremony as one of only 38 degree recipients graduating with Highest Honors, or a 3.9–4.0 GPA.



## SBVC’s Academic Senate Continues its Accreditation Process During Closure



Members of the SBVC Academic Senate have continued to prepare the campus for its evaluation by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), which has established a broad set of standards to ensure the quality of education provided by the institution. As part of the required periodic self-study, our campus must assess how well and to what degree we meet these accreditation standards. Prior to campus closure, SBVC was hosting several open forums for community input to be included in the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report by the Office of Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Academic Senate has transitioned to online meetings, has continued to send feedback surveys to campus, and has attended webinars presented by ASCCC, including “Accreditation with ACCJC During a State of Emergency.” The Senate has also developed its first draft of SBVC’s Accreditation Report, which includes pages of evidence of meeting standards that include institutional mission and effectiveness; student learning programs and services; resources; and leadership and governance.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 1**  
Summer Session 1 Begins

**June 22**  
Summer Session 2 Begins

**July 6**  
Summer Session 3 Begins

