



President's Board Report

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus & Community | February 2017

Spring Enrollment Blossoms at SBVC

On January 17, San Bernardino Valley College's first day of the spring semester saw more students enrolled in spring classes than at any other point since the Great Recession.

As students explored the campus's renovated facilities and green spaces, instructors and administrators rushed to their classes and regular meetings. One topic of conversation was the uncharacteristically pleasant January weather, which tempted some students to linger on campus just a little bit longer than usual.

Another topic was the remarkable increase in spring enrollment, which hit 12,567 students by the end of the day. This number exceeded enrollment at the end of the fall semester by about 500 students, which almost never happens.

"Spring enrollment is traditionally significantly lower than the preceding fall," said Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Ricky Shabazz. To see an increase this year is particularly encouraging for administrators, who had been leading a year-long, campus-wide effort to increase enrollment over the prior year.

Although a thorough analysis has not yet been completed, there are signs that the college is doing particularly well in expanding its online programs (the college currently offers 22 degrees 39 certificates either completely or partially online), as well as classes in the evenings and weekends. There is also a concerted effort to offer classes to high school students who are ready to begin college early.

Classes have already started for some, but there are still plenty of classes open and available for those who would prefer to start the semester in February or March. "It's really exciting to be so close to the finish line," said Luis Macedo, a sophomore business major. He graduates this May.

Congratulations, SBVC!



SBVC Students Tour Historically Black Colleges

In November and December, 30 SBVC students went on a tour of six Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), including Tuskegee University in Alabama and Fisk University in Tennessee.

The tour was organized by the SBVC Counseling Department and led by Transfer and Career Services Coordinator Kathy Kafela. To participate, students had to fill out an application, go through an interview and attend a mandatory orientation.

Many participants had never been on a plane before, let alone traveled outside of Southern California.

Christopher Williams, SSSP Coordinator in the Transfer and Career Services Department, said numerous students have received acceptance letters and scholarships since the tour.

The tours will be conducted on an annual basis. Go Wolverines!



Puente Project Celebrates 30 Years at SBVC



Since starting at SBVC in 1986, the Puente Project has helped hundreds of students with mentoring, counseling and educational services, offering support during their time in college and preparing them to become leaders in the community. In December, the SBVC chapter was celebrated during a gala attended by 200 people. The Puente Project was established in 1981, and there are now dozens of chapters in the U.S.

SBVC counselor Laura Gomez helped get the Puente Project up and running at the college. "This is something that has to be done for the community," she told the Inland Empire Community News. "There are opportunities available for everyone, but so many feel that it is not for them. It's the successes of the students that are my rewards. It's important to have someone believe in them." Student Danya Padilla told IECN the program gave her confidence a boost. "For me, it was the push I needed to keep going," she said. "I'm not afraid of what's out there. I take everything I learned with Puente everywhere I go."

SBVC Music Department Performs for Local Kids



In December, more than 200 kids from SBVC's Child Development Center spent the day watching the college's music department present the short English opera *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. Every year, the opera is held on Fridays in November and December as a training program for SBVC students in the music department.

"This is a great little show to show a different side of the Christmas story," organizer Rebecca Ward said. The children "loved it," she added. "There is a funny king who is hard of hearing that is the comic relief in the show, plus dancers and silly jokes." Next year, the department plans to invite more schools to attend performances.

High Schoolers Tour Applied Tech Programs

In November, over 400 students from Indian Springs High School in San Bernardino visited campus for a tour of the facilities and to meet prospective instructors. As part of their campuswide tour with the First Year Experience program, students visited the Applied Technology Building, where the Aeronautics, Automotive Collision, Electronics and Welding programs showcased equipment used in their respective departments and local industries.

Instructors from each department presented hands-on demonstrations on the proper use of tools and equipment they use on a daily basis. Students were impressed with the tour and presentations, prompting several inquiries regarding the CTE programs offered at SBVC. Go Wolverines!



Psych Tech Graduates Enter In-Demand Job Field

At the psychiatric technology graduation ceremony in December, 23 students proudly walked across the stage to take their place among the ranks of thousands of medical professionals who have launched their careers from San Bernardino Valley College. They had many reasons to be proud. SBVC's psychiatric technology graduates have consistently ranked highest in the state on board certification exams. They also enjoy access to a robust job market that is projected to grow steadily into the foreseeable future. "One-hundred percent of our graduates who want a job get hired," said Dennis Jackson, the program's director.



SBVC Innovates to Reach Local Community



If you have been seeing or hearing a bit more about SBVC recently, there's a good reason. The college has been exploring new ways to reach prospective students, parents, and community members.

During the Fall 2016 semester, the SBVC Executive Team launched an *SBVC Cares* campaign campuswide, designed to reinforce positive attitudes between employees and students. The college also unveiled a new logo to celebrate its 90th anniversary and advertised heavily using outdoor billboards, newspapers, radio, movie theater ads, and bus ads to spread information about enrollment. Engagement on SBVC social media channels grew dramatically during this time, and the college overtook its competition in November 2016 to become *the most popular California community college on Facebook*, with over 28,000 followers. College administrators, faculty, and classified professionals teamed up to develop new events and outreach initiatives, such as the 90th Anniversary Gala, WinterFest and Day of Service.

During the Spring 2017 semester, the college continues to seek new ways to facilitate its outreach to the community and bring attention to its many programs and course offerings. Many successful strategies from Fall 2016 have been continued and several new initiatives have been launched for the first time. Over the Winter Break, the college established an outreach booth inside the Inland Center Mall, distributed hundreds of lawn signs to employees, launched permanent video displays at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, posted street banners in San Bernardino, and launched a mobile ad campaign that targeted local smartphone users. The college continues to promote its programs heavily through every means of paper and electronic communication available, from postcards, to emails, to texting students important information about college programs. The Executive Team has also increased the number of public events administrators attend around the community, ensuring that they promote the college directly to community leaders, politicians, and decision-makers.

Way to go, SBVC!

Upcoming Events

February 17

Dance Performance
Project 21
free / 6:30pm / Auditorium

February 22

Dr. Michael Eric Dyson
*Race, Racism & Race
Relations in the US*
free / 6:00pm / Auditorium

February 24

Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast
free / 7:30am / Campus Center