



President's Board of Trustees Report

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

Inaugural Taste & Tour Event Raises \$20,000 for SBVC Students



The first-ever SBVC Taste & Tour was a success, with nearly 200 guests enjoying an evening of food, drinks, and interactive presentations from departments across campus. The event, organized by the SBVC Foundation, brought in more than \$21,000, with net proceeds going towards SBVC student scholarships and educational programs. The Brass Brothers, a band led by two SBVC alumni, played music throughout the night, and guests were able to mingle with SBVC students, faculty, and staff. "For me, the highlight was showing the beauty of the campus and the quality of SBVC programs, and at the same time, giving guests samples from local restaurants," Karen Childers, SBVC Director of Development and Community Relations, said. The response from guests was very positive, with people telling Childers they loved the atmosphere and learning about SBVC's programs, with one saying it was "definitely the best event I've seen at SBVC." The SBVC Foundation awards more than \$200,000 in scholarships every year to students, who use the funds for books, supplies, and enrollment fees. Because of how successful the night was and the great feedback, Childers thinks this is only the beginning, and there will be another Taste & Tour next fall.

SBVC Launches Refreshed Homepage

On October 5, SBVC launched a redesigned landing page to improve the college website's accessibility for students and visitors. Based on the college's analytics data, almost half of visitors to the college website currently use mobile devices, and that percentage has been climbing steadily for years. "Without a mobile-optimized web interface, our users were forced to 'pinch and zoom' to read basic content on our website," says Paul Bratulin, Director of Marketing & Public Relations. "That means that our website was not user-friendly for approximately half of our audience. This update has de-cluttered our landing page to make it less overwhelming and text-heavy for first-time visitors, and is geared especially towards improving new students' understanding of our enrollment process, making it easier for them to learn about the wealth of opportunities our college offers."

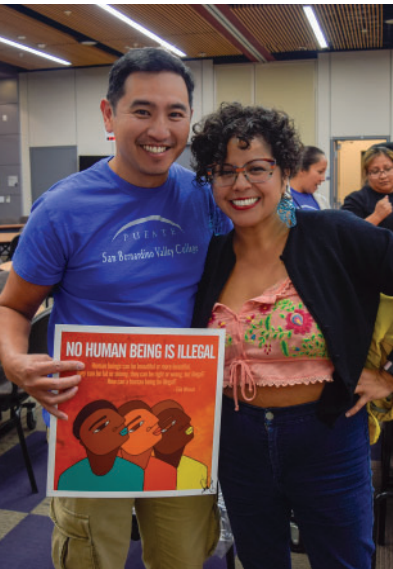


Disability Awareness Fair Empowers Students with Differing Abilities



San Bernardino Valley College hosted a Disability Awareness Fair, stylized as Disability to empower those with differing abilities and shift the mindset to "all abilities" as opposed to "disabilities." The event provided a resource fair for students on the various programs, services, and resources SBVC has to offer for individuals of varying physical or learning abilities. Local agencies were also represented to provide information, including the State Council of Developmental Disabilities, a state agency that ensures people with developmental disabilities and their families receive the services and supports they need. The fair provided pizza and drinks, raffle tickets and prizes, and energetic music to encourage students to visit multiple resource booths. The event was organized by SBVC's Office of Disabled Student Programs & Services (DSPS), which provides a variety of on-campus services that enable students with disabilities to function independently in an educational environment. Event organizers aimed to inform students on how SBVC is committed to providing an accessible learning environment that allows each student to reach their academic goals and participate in a full range of campus activities.

SBVC Supports its DREAMer Students with Undocumented Student Week of Action



SBVC hosted numerous events and activities to commemorate Undocumented Student Week of Action, a campaign to advocate for a permanent solution to codify the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program that includes a pathway to citizenship, support and resources to all undocumented students. The week kicked off with a keynote lecture from artist and activist Favianna Rodriguez, who spoke about how to support migrant communities and the importance of the butterfly symbolizing DACA students and their families. A mini-transfer fair was held for undocumented students, featuring SBVC Dreamer Alumni from the CSU/UC systems. Hadley Bajramovic hosted a "Know Your Rights" presentation, covering numerous immigration topics and answering student questions. Students also attended various workshops and panel discussions, including a webinar on how to pay for college and a workshop on self-care for DREAMers.

SBVC Inspires Single Mother to Work Towards Two Master's Degrees

Any number of good excuses could have stopped Nikia Chaney from finishing her GED and pursuing post-secondary education. Growing up in South Central Los Angeles, and later, housing projects in San Bernardino, poverty was like a breeding ground for hopelessness. By the fall of 2002, she had enrolled at San Bernardino Valley College and found her escape from that hopelessness. "That was Valley College to me. There was this other place that was so different, students were excited and energetic." She had one advantage, she was used to a rigorous and diverse work schedule. At one point, she was a housekeeper, and a security guard. She worked in fast foods, and a seamstress in a bridal boutique. The young single divorced mom worked as she juggled three children with one on the way while staying fully committed to her studies. Chaney graduated with honors from SBVC in 2004, and subsequently earned her bachelor's and two master's degrees. Chaney is now a humanities teacher at Cal State, San Bernardino, and is the fourth Inlandia Literary Laureate, a two-year position bestowed on her for community volunteerism, writing and literacy programs.



SBVC Takes Psychology Students to National Conferences

SBVC is one of the few community colleges that takes psychology students to major conferences, where they get an opportunity to present their research in poster sessions. This spring, Dr. Amy Jennings, psychology instructor, brought seven students from research methods and statistics classes to the Western Psychological Association conference in Portland. In addition to presenting their class projects, they also attended sessions on psychological research and graduate school, networked, and met up with six recent SBVC graduates who have transferred to CSUSB, and were there to present their research from last spring. Typically, only upper-division undergraduates from research universities attend such conferences, which is why it's so outstanding that Jennings ensures that students taking lower-division courses at a community college are able to participate. Several departments donated funds so the students could afford to travel and stay in Portland, including administration of justice, economics, history, and philosophy/religious studies, and Jennings said she was "very grateful" for their support.



SBVC Auditorium Featured in ABC News 'Hometown Tour' Segment



In a personalized segment for ABC News, reporter Leticia Juarez toured her most memorable places from her hometown of San Bernardino. San Bernardino Valley College was featured as an important point in her childhood, as it marked the time in the 1980s when her mom decided to return to school and earn her college degree. "Do you remember walking through these doors?" she asks her mom in the news segment. "Oh yes," her mother answers, emphatically. Juarez stood on the stage of the historic SBVC Auditorium with her mother, Leticia Juarez-Johnston, who recalled her involvement in the theater program at San Bernardino Valley College. Juarez and her sister were also recruited to play various roles in the Mexican-American Pageant on campus. "It was very important for me that you and your sister embraced my culture, the Mexican culture, so you would know where I come from," said Juarez-Johnston.

LETICIA JUAREZ-JOHNSTON
LETICIA'S MOM

STAR Program Celebrates 25 Years

Happy Anniversary to our Success Through Achievement and Retention (STAR) program! This student resource provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and serves to motivate students towards the successful completion of their degree. The campus received its first round of STAR funding 25 years ago, and has been going strong ever since with a variety of no-cost services, tutoring, and counseling. "We have laptops and scientific calculators that they can check out overnight," said Deanne Rabon, coordinator at STAR. "We're here to help the students the best we can and keep them motivated." She said they also offer a full range of free tools for success. Probably the most important aspect of the program is its inspirational model. She said the STAR staff wants students to know they can dream big on their goals, and feel comfortable stepping onto any higher education campus. The program regularly hosts field trips to four-year universities so that students can experience other campuses, and equipped to make their decisions on transfer opportunities. Last semester, they visited Arizona State University at Lake Havasu City, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and UC San Diego, among several other campuses. The STAR Program has enjoyed many years of success, Rabon said. Participating students have graduated and transferred to colleges all across the country, including UCLA, California State University Long Beach, Cal Baptist and the University of Alaska. They have gone on to pursue careers in a variety of fields, such as social work, medicine, business and theatre arts.



SBVC Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month With Campus Community

The SBVC Arts, Lectures, and Diversity Committee hosted several events and activities to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, one of which was a workshop focusing on Nahuatl, a Mesoamerican language spoken by indigenous people in North and Central America. Stephanie Lozano facilitated the unique workshop, which shed light on the language that was once believed to be extinct, but is actually still spoken by more than 1 million people living far from cities and urbanized areas in Mexico. The discussion centered around modern versus classical Nahuatl and the difference between language and dialect. The Hispanic Heritage Film Festival was also held, screening one movie per week, including Stand and Deliver, La Bamba, Selena, and Friday. In conjunction with National Coming Out Day, a special lecture was presented by Student Regent to the University of California, Riverside, Marcela Ramirez-Stapleton. She discussed her efforts to support diversity and equity in higher educational institutions, challenges faced by women of color and members of the LGBTQ+ community, and how community members can contribute to positively changing their experiences as students and patrons of academia. Lilliam Rivera, author of "The Education of Margot Sanchez," also spoke to students about her creative process and the themes present in her books.



Senator Leyva and Assemblymember Reyes Tour SBVC CTE Programs

On September 24, Senator Connie Leyva and Assemblymember Eloise Gomez-Reyes visited SBVC's Applied Technology Division to tour its programs and gain a better understanding of the college's need for funding to upgrade the division's instructional facilities. SBVC's Technology building is now over 54 years old and has met its anticipated lifespan, but it is in need of significant improvements to meet the demands of the instructional programs using it today, and studies of the building have shown that it would be more costly to retrofit or upgrade the facility than it would be to replace it with a new one. The college's executive team impressed upon the high profile visitors the need for state funding to help replace the facility and improve the college's ability to meet the demand for state-of-the-art technical education in the local community.



SBVC Students Win Award for Short Film on Suicide Prevention



Students at San Bernardino Valley College recently won an award at the 5th Annual Screening and Awards Ceremony of the Directing Change program, a film contest addressing young adult suicide prevention for the Inland Empire. Shelly Thomas and Fatima Herrera won recognition for their honest and open short film "You are Worthy" to help children and youth at risk of suicide, and to help adults better understand the tragedy of mental illness. The Directing Change contest is a project of Each Mind Matters, California's mental health movement aimed at preventing suicide and reducing the stigma of mental illness. Dr. Benamine Pierre Scott, an adjunct professor at SBVC, said he opened the opportunity for his human services students to earn extra credit by entering the contest. He hoped the challenge would allow them to put their own stamp of understanding on uneasy conversations around youth suicide. The students came up with the idea, shot the film, introduced it and entered it into the competition. "Our biggest thing was to make sure that no matter what, you are worthy and there are resources out there," Shelly Thomas said. The film addresses four categories, including suicide prevention, depression, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia. Their message of connecting youth to help before it is too late resonated with judges and earned top recognition at the contest's reception.

Sophomore Quarterback Ties Passing Touchdown Record

During the victorious October 13 football game against Antelope Valley College, SBVC sophomore quarterback Armando Herrera tossed three touchdown passes, which made him tied for the SBVC football program's career touchdown passes record. As of October 13, Herrera has thrown for 42 career touchdowns over the last two seasons, tying with Jamie Sander, who played for the Wolverines during the 1993-94 season. A graduate of Redlands East Valley High School, in September Herrera broke the record for most touchdowns in a game, with seven. "Honestly, I didn't know" about the records, Herrera told the San Bernardino Sun. "I'm just playing ball, that's it. I'm having fun." He also credited his teammates for having made "a big impact on the team."



Upcoming Events



November 13
Veterans Day Celebration
1:00pm / B-100

November 29
John Trudell Poetry Festival
7:00pm / B-100

December 4
Winterfest 2018
3:00pm / All Campus

December 7
President's Holiday Gathering
11:00am / Campus Center