



President's Board of Trustees Report

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

SBVC Receives \$200,000 Grant to Support Student Veterans



San Bernardino Valley College has been named the recipient of a Veterans Resource Center Grant from the California Community College Chancellor's Office. With this new grant, the Veterans Resource Center on campus will be able to purchase much-needed technology to assist students. The \$200,000 grant will be used to purchase laptops, wireless access points, and an ADA-friendly mobile cart, as well as revamp the Veterans Resource Center's check-in area and replace worn flags, emblems, and banners. The Veterans Resource Center opened in 2012, and supports veterans and their dependents with counseling, educational planning, and transitional services. "The Veterans Resource Center at San Bernardino Valley College serves as a valuable resource and service hub for our students veterans and their families," SBVC President Diana Z. Rodriguez said. "Being awarded this grant from the Chancellor's Office will allow us to make necessary upgrades to our facility and better support our veterans as they strive for success."

SBVC Launches Digital 'Viewbook'

To better meet the diverse interests and needs of its students, San Bernardino Valley College has launched a new digital 'viewbook' feature on its website. This customizable digital publication creates an individual college narrative for prospective students by compiling information based on their unique preferences and educational goals. After completing a brief survey on the mobile device of their choice, students are provided with a digital viewbook that is tailored to their interests and features detailed information about various academic programs and social activities on campus. The viewbook took six months to plan, compile, design, and implement, with more than 40,000 words composing the numerous descriptions of campus programs and resources. SBVC plans to supplement the viewbook with a new "Recruiter" app, which outreach staff will use during community events to provide prospective students with immediate, individualized access to information about SBVC. **Create your own custom digital viewbook can be created at valleycollege.edu/starthere.**



Wolverines Win 2 Conference Championships

SBVC had two championship teams claim victory this semester. The women's soccer team secured the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference championship with a 5-0 victory over College of the Desert in November. The team ended the regular season with a record of 18-1-2, and went undefeated in its 10 conference match-ups. The SBVC football team clinched the top spot in the American Conference Mountain Division with a 42-22 victory over Victor Valley College this month, as well. Sophomore quarterback Armando Herrera also became SBVC's all-time leading passer and the California Community College Athletic Association's Athlete of the Month.

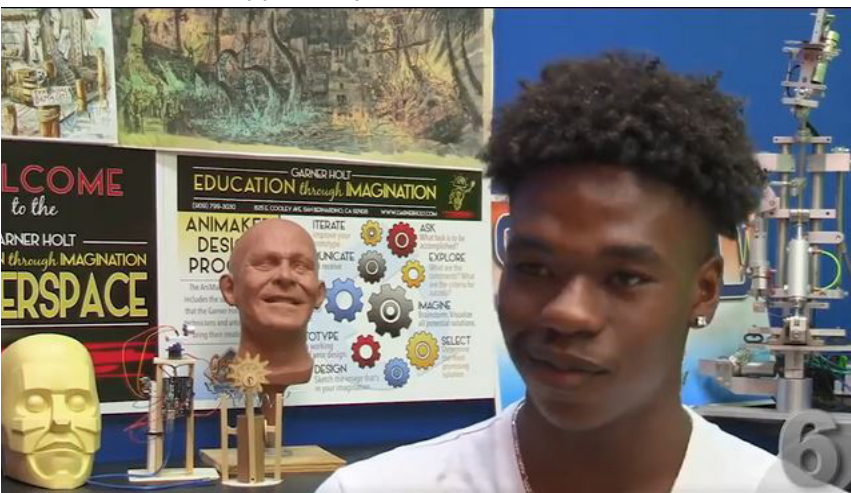
'Generation Go' Student Success

Not unlike a lot of high school students these days, Richard Jones just needed a little nudge in the right direction from someone who cared. Jones found it at San Bernardino Valley College. "Once I got into the Valley College program, I've seen that there's more to the world than just making the dumb decisions," said Jones in an interview with Education through Imagination (below). Jones is a senior at San Andreas High School who interned over the summer at Garner Holt Productions. After completing a prerequisite 72-hour Valley College workforce preparation class, Jones said that interning at the world's leading animatronics manufacturer offered him a creative new way of thinking about a career in robotic technology, not to mention forming better relationships with his family. In collaboration with the County of San Bernardino Generation Go Grant and a partnership with San Bernardino Valley College, Jones was one of 26 San Bernardino Unified School District High School students that recently finished the internship. Before the students graduate high school, they are able to acquire college credits, achieve valuable work experience, and receive certificates in high demand fields. The program partners with the San Bernardino County Workforce Development Department and 33 school districts and nine colleges and businesses. He and the other students were co-enrolled in college, earning education credit while getting paid minimum wage through the 120-hour internship through San Bernardino County's County's Workforce Development Department award-winning Generation Go! The Career Pathways program helps students access work experience, and work-based learning activities as part of San Bernardino County's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.



SBVC Alumnus Unanimously Appointed to Local School Board

Darrell Peeden, a San Bernardino Valley College alumnus, was selected to fill the vacant Trustee Area 5 seat by a unanimous vote of 4-0 at a special meeting of the Moreno Valley Unified School District Board of Education. Peeden attended San Bernardino Valley College with his twin brother, Daniel. Together, they were both members of SBVC's football team where they played on the defensive side, which led to a victory during the conference championship. He also ran for SBVC's track and field team while maintaining a 3.7+ grade point average. In May 2013, both Peeden and his brother received their associate degrees in business administration from SBVC. Peeden continued his education at the University of California, Riverside where he earned his bachelor's, followed by his master's degree in Public Policy. He has dedicated the past 18 years to developing youth mentorships and empowerment programs for the Inland Empire youth. He has also served as a Board Member on the Citywide Coalition, a partnership of Moreno Valley's non-profit organizations, as well as Sigma Beta Xi, an organization that provides mentorship and youth services for schools in the Moreno Valley area. All of this has contributed to what has made Peeden the best choice in helping to provide education to the children of Moreno Valley. Not only has he become an inspiration to SBVC alumni, but also current SBVC students who are embarking on a journey of a successful yet passionate career of making a difference in the local community.



SBVC Honors Veterans with Special Recognition and Celebration



During the week of Veterans Day, over 100 students, staff and community members joined together to recognize our country's veterans on the SBVC campus. The Veterans Day Celebration is held every year "to honor those who have served in our United States Armed Forces, offer continuous support, and to ensure that the veteran population at SBVC always know that they are appreciated," Jason Alvarez of the Veterans Resource Center said.

Alvarez welcomed the crowd, while Mel Austin served as master of ceremonies. Gilbert Galvez provided the keynote speech and Marcellus Austin served as student speaker. Lance May also gave the Marine Corps birthday recognition speech before cutting into a special Marine Corps birthday cake to share with the crowd. "The Veterans Resource Center will always serve as a comprehensive pillar for academic success and will maintain the highest standard for excellence," Alvarez said. Congratulations, SBVC!

Annual Día de Los Muertos Celebration Unites Community

Traditional dances, jubilant music, and spectacular art marked the 12th annual Día de Los Muertos Celebration at San Bernardino Valley College. Remarkable altars honoring community members' loved ones were on display in the Gresham Art Gallery and courtyard. This special annual event was hosted by the Latino Faculty, Staff, and Administrators Association, SBVC's Arts, Lectures, and Diversity Committee, and the SBVC Art Department. The celebration also included face painting, a screening of Disney Pixar's *Coco*, and an art exhibit with altars made by students and community members. A vibrant local tradition, altars are created to welcome spirits that return to their homes on November 1, during Día de Los Muertos. Altars can have marigolds, candles, toys, photos, personal mementos, food, tissue paper decorations, and things that individuals enjoyed during life.



Going Back to School After a Disability

Though she never dreamed she could go back to college after becoming disabled, Amaka Edith Eboka found the specialized support she needed to do so at San Bernardino Valley College. Eboka has a disability and did not have any resources until she arrived at SBVC in 2010. "When I came back to SBVC, I had nothing," she said. "My hopes were shattered. The only job I knew how to do was nurse assistant, which I could no longer do due to my ill health." Eboka's daughter was born with sickle cell anemia, and both were in and out of the hospital. "I was beginning to lose it," she said, but "when I stepped into SBVC,



the CalWORKs staff embraced me and encouraged me." CalWORKs helps students reach their educational goals by providing assistance with services like employment assistance, child care, and book vouchers. Eboka said the team has gone the "extra mile" to provide her with not only support and counseling, but daily necessities like clothing. Other departments on campus have lended a helping hand as well. The SBVC Police Department recently surprised her with a small room heater.

"I am pleased to be associated with SBVC Disabled Student Programs and Services, as they have a great support program for all disabled students," Eboka said. "Ms. Ana [Bojorquez] is always willing to help every student that walks into the High Tech Center, and I think that's awesome." Eboka is studying human services and plans to become a substance abuse counselor. She has enjoyed taking classes with professors Melinda Moneymaker, Maria Cox, and Scott Hoage, who all told her one thing: "You can do it, don't ever give up." "I appreciate my professors for their hard work," she said. Eboka lives with pain every day, "but I do not allow my limitation to determine how far I can go in life," she said. The support she has received from financial aid, CalWORKs, and other departments has helped Eboka push forward, with her determination carrying her further. "There is an ability in every disability," she said.

Boeing Representative Shares Insights with SBVC Aeronautics Students

During a recent visit to the San Bernardino Valley College campus, Boeing's Randy Smith shared with 90 aerospace students what a typical day is like at the company. Smith, the senior operations manager for the delivery center, talked about job responsibilities, Boeing's hiring process, and what it's like to live in the Seattle area. SBVC hopes he will return in the spring to give another presentation and interview new graduates. "Mr. Smith demystified how it is to work for such a large corporation and made it real for our students," Peggy Weber of the Applied Technology, Transportation, and Culinary Arts Division on campus said.



Wolverines Make History in Cross Country State Championships



The San Bernardino Valley College women's cross country team scored its highest team finish in its 35-year existence at the State Championships at Woodward Park in Fresno. Returning All-American Alyssa Benavides had a solid back-half of the course, helping PCAC Champion Alissa Johnson stay near the front, coach Eric Abrams said. Benavides, the first SBVC woman to reach All-American, was the top finisher for the Wolverines, clocking in at 19 minutes, 18.4 seconds on the 5K course, good for 24th. Johnson finished less than seven seconds later in 27th at 19:25.4. "I've coached cross country for 19 years, and this is the most impressive group of women I have ever been around," Abrams said. "This goes way beyond their accomplishments on the course. America's future is bright knowing that these 10 women and two amazing assistant coaches are in it."

VP Seeks to 'Be a Voice' for all Wolverines

Dr. Scott Thayer wants to ensure that every student at San Bernardino Valley College feels welcome and supported. "I believe it's been my personal mission to try to be a voice for those who have no voice," he said. "That's something I try not to lose sight of, to make sure the concerns of our students are being articulated and discussed." Thayer, SBVC's Vice President of Student Services, is a community college graduate and transfer student himself. Born and raised in Minneapolis, he always loved school, and "it wasn't are you going to college, it's where are you going. It was a mindset my parents provided for us." He has been SBVC's Vice President of Student Services since April, and oversees all areas within student services, including counseling, admissions and records, and financial aid. Thayer is working on strengthening SBVC's learning communities, enhancing the student experience, and finding creative ways to help Wolverines. One new project that assists students is the food pantry on campus, a place where students struggling with food insecurity can pick up non-perishable items to take home. Thayer wants students to know about opportunities on campus available to them, whether it's visiting the health center or performing in a play or signing up for tutoring, and utilize those resources. "Being engaged on campus is critically important to student success," he said, and students are always welcome to come to him if they need any information. "We are here on campus to answer the questions of these students. If I don't have the answer right away, I'll find an answer for them."



Upcoming Events



December 13
Psych Tech Graduation
6:00pm / Auditorium

December 14
Planetarium Show:
The Christmas Star
6:30pm / Planetarium / \$3

January 14
Spring Semester Begins

January 28
Nurse Striping Ceremony
10:30am / Auditorium