



President's Board of Trustees Report

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus & Community | April 2019

SBVC Offers Two Years of Free College to Incoming HS Students

San Bernardino Valley College is making sure local high school students have one less thing to worry about by offering two years of free tuition, along with additional aid, to students participating in the district's Free College Promise program. "Starting now, we want to offer students their first two years of college for free," John Longville, president of the San Bernardino Community College District Board of Trustees, said at a kickoff ceremony at the district office on March 9. "We think that gives them a heck of an advantage." The Free College Promise program will give eligible students two years of free tuition at SBVC or Crafton Hills College, free textbooks, \$300 cash for college expenses, free access to a laptop for coursework, individualized advising and priority course enrollment. Funding for the program comes from a \$10 million endowment established in October by the SBCCD board of trustees. At the end of the kickoff ceremony, Chancellor Baron asked all attending students to raise their right hand and make a pledge, "I promise that after high school, I will go to college. I promise that I will never give up on myself or my dreams. I promise that I will be the one who makes a difference for me, for my family and for my community."



Creator of Kwanzaa Speaks on Campus

Dr. Maulana Karenga, the creator of Kwanzaa, was welcomed to the San Bernardino Valley College campus in celebration of Black History Month. The professor, author, and activist gave his lecture, "Message and Mission in Black History: Forging a Future and World of Inclusive Good," in the historic Auditorium during an exciting community event that was free and open to the public. Campus and community members in the audience, many of whom were adorned in traditional African attire or colorful patterns, watched Dr. Karenga and his wife Tiamoyo open the event with an ancient water pouring ceremony honoring their ancestors. Among the topics addressed were ways to embrace one's culture and how to take advantage of the opportunities presented to people of color today. During the civil rights movement in the 1960s, Dr. Karenga was instrumental in the creation of Kwanzaa and the pan-Africanist Kwaaida philosophy, a topic that was prominent in his speech, as various guests expressed their gratitude to Dr. Karenga for creating a holiday during which African Americans can celebrate their culture. Audience member Singing Bird of the Apache Nation thanked Dr. Karenga for acknowledging the struggle of other minorities, in particular Native Americans, and said, "I see your people and my people as one. We are no longer victims, but survivors."

SBVC Culinary Arts Wins 5 Medals in Regional Skills Showcase

Five SBVC Culinary Arts students were awarded during the 2019 SkillsUSA competition, competing against hundreds of contestants from Region 6, which serves San Bernardino, Mono, Inyo, Riverside, Orange, San Diego and Imperial counties. The SkillsUSA Championships are competitive events showcasing the best career and technical education students in the nation. Contests begin locally and continue through the regional, state and national levels. The philosophy of the championships is to reward students for excellence, to involve industry in directly evaluating student performance and to keep training relevant to employers' needs.

This year's regional competition was held at SBVC, and the silver and gold medal winners will advance to the state competition in April. SBVC awardees included gold medals to **Lynn Phillips** in Commercial Baking and **Roxanne San Miguel** in Restaurant Service. The Culinary Arts category winners included **Corrina Vidales** (gold), **Meyer Silitona** (silver), and **Natalie Mendia** (bronze). Congratulations, Wolverines!





Police Academy Class 213 Graduates

On March 7, 2019, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Frank Bland Regional Training Center, in partnership with San Bernardino Valley College, hosted the 213th Basic Police Academy Graduation Ceremony. Twenty-five trainees completed an intensive twenty-three week program, and hundreds of proud parents, friends, and family members joined to celebrate. Newly-graduated students have been hired by several law enforcement agencies, including San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and police departments in Arcadia, Baldwin Park, Ontario, San Bernardino, Beaumont, Chino, Covina, San Gabriel, and Fontana. SBVC is extremely proud of its pre-service cadets who have all been hired by these law enforcement agencies, thereby exemplifying the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Frank Bland Regional Training Center motto, "Training Today's Officers for Tomorrow's Challenges". Graduates will be expected to carry forward SBVC's commitment to excellence into their law enforcement careers. Congratulations!

Black Excellence Education Summit Connects High Schoolers with SBVC

Hundreds of local high school students were invited to San Bernardino Valley College for the Black Excellence Education Summit. The event served as an introduction to the college lifestyle, and presented the numerous special programs and resources SBVC has to offer. Nearly 400 students from 10 local high schools were guided into the SBVC Auditorium, where campus faculty and community officials welcomed them with upbeat music and a line of high-fives. Several guest speakers and campus faculty addressed the crowd of eager students by stressing the importance of higher education and excellence in the African American community. Following a guided tour of the campus, the students participated in several workshops and seminars that introduced them to the resources, programs, and career opportunities offered on campus. Panels of campus and community members familiarized the attendees about concurrent college enrollment while still in high school, as well as transfer pathways available while studying at SBVC. Students were informed about campus workforce development options and the employment opportunities within these programs. The summit also addressed one of the biggest determining factors for students considering college: affordability. Students were steered through the financial aid process and how to apply for various scholarships. The goal of these workshops was to answer any questions regarding the college process and illustrate the financial opportunities when transitioning from high school to college. Go, Wolverines!



SBVC Hosts Interfaith Conference

Assemblymember Eloise Gómez Reyes, a San Bernardino Valley College alumna, chose SBVC as the location of her second annual Interfaith Conference on March 9. Called "The Bridge," the conference was a way for a diverse group of local lawmakers, community members, and faith-based organizations to meet. There were speakers, workshops, and opportunities to chat with elected officials. The day was all about unity, and coming up with ways to serve the community. Gómez Reyes recently held her swearing-in ceremony at SBVC for her second term as an assemblymember representing the 47th district.



Brewer Wins Coach of the Year

Men's basketball head coach Quincy Brewer was named the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference North Division's Coach of the Year. He led the team to a division championship, with a 9-1 record. SBVC center Roman Silva was selected co-player of the year for the North Division, earning the honor alongside David Thompson of Mt. San Jacinto. Wolverines Damani Washington and Nathan Pendarvis were named to the conference's first team, while Eric Hancik and K'Lon Williams earned spots on the second team. Brandon Thompson received honorable mention. The awards were chosen by the conference's coaches.



SBVC Eases Financial Aid Process Through Advanced Technology

The Financial Aid office at SBVC is getting smarter about how and where students are able to get financial assistance by using artificial intelligence. Ernesto Nery Jr., Director of Financial Aid, said that the department launched an interactive chatbot on their website in May 2018, and has since had 3,199 interactions. The technology is a work in progress, but he said it is being utilized and gaining traction. Students don't necessarily have to wait for staff, or go to the counter, or wait on the phone. "We are looking at that right now. We hope by 2020 to go fully electronic," he said. The college will always still accept in-person documents, but students and parents will then be able to submit from virtually anywhere. Financial aid staff will be available in the lobby area to help students submit forms online, which will avoid long lines and wait times. He said students are also more inclined to complete the application through the app process. "People in this age are used to text, quick, easy and short. FAFSA now has an app instead of going to the website. The app is a lot easier, user-friendly," he said. "They won't have to physically wait in line. Hopefully, that will alleviate those potential barriers, the time frame, the wait times."



SBVC Hosts Civil Rights Concert



As Black History Month came to a close, SBVC hosted a Civil Rights Concert in the Auditorium to celebrate the historic events that have led to the rights and freedoms we hold today. Chair of the Performing Arts Department, Matie Scully, introduced the concert by stating, "At the root of all civil rights are the civil discussions that must precede the struggle for, and the implementation of, those rights." This celebration, which was free and open to the public, included live performances from SBVC's dance students, faculty members, and the campus' elite Voci Soli choral ensemble. There were also theatrical acts, spoken word performances, and anecdotes from guest speakers. The concert touched upon the fight for the rights of African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and the LGBTQ+ and disabled communities. Within the performances of the night, William Lacey's powerful voice captured the attention of the audience, resulting in an enlivened crowd as he sang a rendition of *Madamina! Il Catalogo e Questo*, originally performed by Don Giovanni. A re-enactment of *They Killed Fred* was performed by Eric Fuggins and George Cortez, giving insight into the death of Black Panther Party member Fred Hampton. SBVC's Civil Rights Concert was a night to reflect upon the struggles and hardships of those who fought for the freedom of many. Guest speaker David Whitmore stated, "History forgotten is history doomed to be repeated."

MCHS Students Celebrated at 7th Annual Inspire Success Luncheon

Dozens of hard-working Middle College High School students were celebrated during the 7th Annual Middle College High School Inspire Success Brunch on March 1. While attending MCHS, students are also enrolled in classes at San Bernardino Valley College, earning college credit. This year, 70 MCHS students were invited to the brunch, which acknowledges those who have completed a minimum of six college units and earned a GPA of 3.5 or better during the spring and fall 2018 semesters. "We want to provide an opportunity for the students to talk with faculty from similar major backgrounds and learn more about possible careers, goals, and interests for higher education," MCHS Program Counselor Kim Wingson said. The brunch also honors seniors who will earn their Associate of Arts degree or IGETC (Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum) certification by May. IGETC is a series of courses that community college students in the state can take, designed to satisfy general education requirements, before transferring to a University of California or California State University. This year, five MCHS students will graduate with an AA degree and IGETC certification, while eight will have completed their IGETC. Wingson says that SBVC and MCHS have a "strong relationship," and the schools are "constantly working to collaborate with one another to best serve our students. This awards brunch was only one of the many events we are privileged to experience with the Middle College High School." Congratulations, Wolverines!



SBVC Named in 'Top 50' Community Colleges for Hispanic Students

In its February issue, *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education* magazine named San Bernardino Valley College one of the nation's Top 50 Community Colleges for Hispanics. SBVC is ranked #27 for community colleges with the greatest total enrollment of Hispanic students. *Hispanic Outlook* is a national magazine that provides education news, innovations, networking, resources and the latest trends impacting students from kindergarten through graduate school all while maintaining a unique Hispanic perspective. SBVC is going above and beyond to support Hispanic students, through services like Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) and special events during Hispanic Heritage Month, which includes guest speakers, activism workshops, and documentation guidance. Recently, SBVC was recognized by *The Washington Post* for its ability to work closely with local schools to boost Hispanic college enrollment. Congratulations!



SBVC Partners with County Gov't to Host New Employee Trainings



In January and February, SBVC partnered with the County of San Bernardino's Performance, Education & Resource Centers (PERC) to provide instructional space to conduct new employee orientations for hundreds of new county staff. As part of their orientation, county staff learned about the educational and professional development opportunities available on campus at SBVC and CHC. Although orientations are usually conducted at county facilities, recent building renovations have forced county administrators to seek other facility options to provide much-needed trainings for the county's roughly 22,000 employees. "We are very grateful for the support that we have received from our community partners at SBVC," said Trinka Landry-Bourne, Chief Learning Officer at PERC. "SBVC's responsiveness and collaborative attitude has helped us to build a strong educational partnership for the benefit of our workforce and local community."



End-of-Year Events

May 6
SBVC Retirement Party
10:00am / B-100

May 8
Scholarship Award Ceremony
2:00pm / Auditorium

May 10
24th Annual Spotighting Our Success Awards
5:30pm / Campus Center / \$16

May 10
Pacific Islander Graduation
4:00pm / Greek Theatre

May 15
Tumaini Naming Ceremony
6:00pm / B-100

May 17
Black Graduate Celebration
4:45pm / B-100

May 17
Puente Year-End Celebration
5:00pm / Campus Center

May 21
Pharmacy Techology Pinning Ceremony
4:45pm / Auditorium

May 22
MCHS Graduation Ceremony
6:00pm / Greek Theatre

May 24
Commencement 2019
9:00am / SBVC Stadium

