



President's Board of Trustees Report

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

SBVC Ranked #3 Most Affordable Out-of-State Online College

San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC) has been ranked among the most affordable online out-of-state colleges in the United States. CollegeStats.org, a higher education data collection and analysis website, recently released its annual rankings of the least-expensive online out-of-state colleges, naming SBVC third in the country. "San Bernardino Valley College is honored to be recognized as one of the best in terms of value for education in the nation," said SBVC President Diana Z. Rodriguez. "We strive to ensure a level of educational excellence in programs and services at SBVC, and are committed to helping students with limited resources meet their educational expenses, both in-state and out-of-state." In a typical academic year, most SBVC students receive financial aid grants and scholarships, and over 97% avoid taking on any student loan debt while attending. With nearly \$33 million in grants, scholarships, and other financial aid distributed annually, SBVC is positioned among the top choice schools for affordability for those looking to pursue higher education online from anywhere in the nation.



Instructor Earns Master Pilot Award for 50+ Years in Aeronautics



In honor of his exceptional flight record, SBVC aeronautics instructor Larry Rice has been recognized with the Federal Aviation Administration's Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award, given to pilots who have practiced safe flight operations for 50 years or more. The Yucaipa resident started flying in 1969, when he was 18 years old. He began attending San Bernardino Valley College, where he joined the SBVC Flying Club. As a part of this organization, Rice provided flight instruction for other students and participated in National Intercollegiate Flight Competitions in California, Illinois, and Arizona. Rice became a certified flight instructor in 1971, and earned an associate degree in business and aeronautics from SBVC. After graduation, he attended California State University, San Bernardino where he earned bachelor's and master's

degrees in business. His passion for flying continued: he spent 33 years with Kaman Bearing and Supply Company, working in pilot and management positions, and is an adjunct professor at SBVC, teaching private pilot, instrument, and weather classes.



SBVC HIGHLIGHTS

SBVC Alumnus Connects Students with Colleges through Smartphone App

Last year, Fredrick Jones was a student at SBVC, where he served as president of the Umoja-Tumaini Club, and launched a Virtual Study Corner to assist students with their studies and mental health during the global pandemic. He transferred to Cal State San Bernardino, where he is part of the California Student Opportunity Access Program for first-generation students. Jones is now also the director of product marketing and user experience for Siembra, an app that lets college counselors reach traditionally-underserved high school students. He has played a major role in expanding Siembra's reach, and aims to continue his goal of engaging lower-income, first-generation students with resources to increase retention and matriculation. Jones said he really likes Siembra's innovative connectivity. "There's no need to take the extra step to order transcripts, and your parent is also involved," he said. "We all work together to make sure you have that success."



SBVC Partnership with Volvo LIGHTS Earns "Innovation Award" Nomination

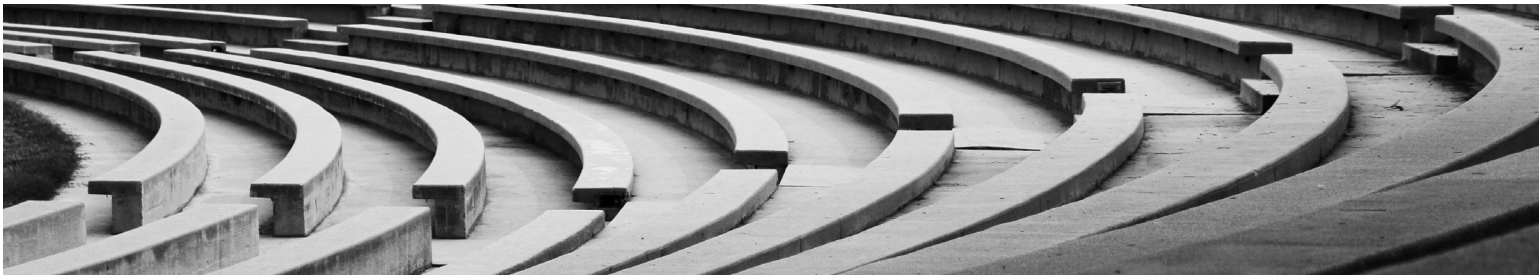


The Volvo LIGHTS (Low Impact Green Heavy Transport Solutions) project, was a 2020 Innovation Award Honoree at the virtual Breath of Life Awards Gala this past fall. The program is a collaboration between 15 public and private partners, including San Bernardino Valley College. Led by Volvo and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), the project deployed electric trucks and zero-emission forklifts to help shuttle freight between the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and warehouses in Southern California. These trucks and forklifts help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve public health. Using a Volvo LIGHTS grant, SBVC launched its heavy-duty electric truck technician training program in 2019. Congrats, SBVC!

SBVC Alumna Credits Online Classes for Out-of-State Transfer Success

When Marina Hand was attending SBVC in 2018, her husband suffered a severe back injury that left him permanently disabled. She soon became the family's sole breadwinner, and Hand said she "truly" believes that "if not for Valley's flexibility in online class scheduling, I would not have been able to graduate." Hand thrived at SBVC, and "came to deeply love the campus community." She was a member of Alpha Gamma Sigma, made the Dean's List, and did community service at the public library in Grand Terrace. After earning her degree in Library Science, Hand and her husband moved to Omaha, Nebraska, where she transferred into the Library Science program at the University of Nebraska. Hand took another chance and applied for a coveted full-time position at the campus's Criss Library, where she was quickly offered the job. "In combination with other scholarships and grants I've managed to pick up along the way, I am now attending my dream college at no cost, and working at my dream job," she said. "I wouldn't have gotten this far if Valley didn't offer a library program."

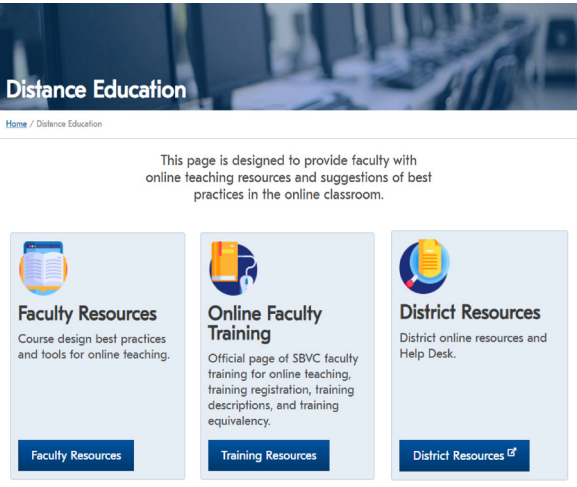




SBVC SNAPSHOTS

Distance Education Team Launches Online Portal

The Distance Education team, spearheaded by Margaret Worsley and Davena Burns-Peters, has developed and launched an online DE portal for faculty. The site is designed to provide teaching resources and suggestions for best practices in the online classroom. Faculty can get necessary training completely remotely at valleycollege.edu/distance-education.



Police Academy Class #39 Holds Virtual Ceremony

The Extended Police Academy Class #39 graduated on January 2 in a first-ever virtual ceremony. The Police Academy website was revamped to include all graduates' portraits and names and featured a countdown to the pre-recorded celebration before its premiere directly on the webpage. Sixteen trainees completed the extended 52-week program, completing 920 hours of class instruction and skills training, and earning 36.5 college units. We are proud of our new graduates, who will bring commitment and excellence into their law enforcement careers. Congrats, grads!



Blue the Wolverine Goes Virtual through Animation

Just as the SBVC campus has gone mostly virtual during the pandemic, so has its mascot. Blue the Wolverine, whose physical appearance on campus debuted in 2019, was recently unveiled in animated form to deliver messages to students on social media and encourage prospective students to register for the Spring 2021 semester.

Soccer Midfielder Transfers to 4-Year University Despite Halt of Recent Season

Andrew Haro was expected to do great things for the SBVC men's soccer team during the 2020 season. However, his season came to a halt with the global pandemic and subsequent pause in campus athletics. Nonetheless, Haro continued to pursue his dream of playing at the next level. Haro has committed to continue his college career at Pacific Union College, an NAIA school located in Angwin, California. "Andrew is a technically sound player, who always showed up for us, no matter what his role was at the time," SBVC head coach Josh Brown said. Congratulations, Andrew!





SBVC HIGHLIGHTS

SBVC Recognizes Outstanding Faculty and Staff During Spring Opening Day

SBVC rang in the start of the new year with a Virtual Convocation Week, which consisted of three days of professional development opportunities for employees. More than 300 faculty and classified professionals virtually attended Spring Opening Day, where President Diana Z. Rodriguez reflected on a resilient 2020 and looked ahead to the future of on-campus instruction and the rollout of a COVID vaccine. President Rodriguez also announced the winners of the 2020 Outstanding Faculty and Classified Employee of the Year awards. The 2020 Classified Employees of the Year were **Judy Rodriguez** and **Cedric Wrenn**, while **Bethany Tasaka** and **Margaret Worsely** won the Outstanding Faculty awards, and **Mary Lawler** won the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award. President Rodriguez then introduced the virtual event's guest speaker, Nzingha Dugas, Executive Director of the Umoja Community Education Foundation (UCEF). Dugas urged attendees to continue encouraging the academic engagement, student leadership, professional development and matriculation success for underserved students. She emphasized "empowering the powerless", fittingly quoting from Martin Luther King Jr. on his birthday.



SBVC Launches Online Welcome Center to Expand Virtual Student Services



New to SBVC?

Ask us anything! We're available...

- Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.
- Friday 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

[Join Zoom](#)



SBVC's Welcome Center, which has long provided assistance to current and prospective students on all things SBVC, has taken its services to the virtual world. The updated Welcome Center webpage now gives students the option to join a Zoom call and remotely participate in its Information Table. Existing students can also ask their general questions by scheduling an appointment with a Welcome Center ambassador. SSSP Coordinator Joseph Nguyen, who helped spearhead the center's virtual relaunch, says he is excited to make the Welcome Center's services more accessible to incoming students, or to those who just need a little bit more guidance when it comes to becoming a Wolverine.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 12
Lincoln's Birthday
 Campus Closed

February 15
Washington's Birthday
 Campus Closed

