



San Bernardino Valley College



President's Board of Trustees Report

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

SBVC Foundation Raises Almost \$1 Million to Support Students

The SBVC Foundation has raised over \$960,000 through various donations and grants to directly support SBVC students, both in response to the pandemic, and as part of its recurring effort to raise funds for scholarships. One of the largest donations came from the Chuck Obershaw estate, whereby a generous donation of \$350,000 will be added to the existing Obershaw endowment for a combined total of \$600,000. A donation from the Jay Pritzker Foundation enabled the Finish Line Scholars Program to award over \$150,000 to students in need. The Foundation contributed \$180,000 to be used for emergency financial aid, allocating \$70,000 for undocumented students, who were not eligible to receive CARES Act emergency assistance, and \$5,000 for student transfer fees. Additionally, the Inland Empire Community Foundation awarded \$20,000 to be used for emergency aid going directly to students struggling to stay enrolled due to COVID-related financial hardships. In all, these generous donations will help many SBVC students get closer to achieving their academic goals in a time of great need. Congratulations!



SBVC President Forms Equity, Inclusion & Anti-Racism Committee



SBVC's newly-formed Presidential Committee on Equity, Inclusion & Anti-Racism has been working to ensure the campus is a safe and welcoming place for every member of the campus family, where every individual can feel respected, seen, and heard. "The committee's goal is to look at our institution's practices, policies, and processes with a critical and constructive eye, in hopes of identifying areas in which we can improve upon the experience of not only our students, but also our employees, where equity and inclusion are concerned," Classified Chair Ernest Guillen said. The first effort of its kind in the college's 95-year history, the 40-member committee was formed during the Fall 2020 semester by President

Diana Z. Rodriguez, who serves as its administrative chair. The group is working on multiple long-term projects, primarily focused on improving access and inclusiveness for all students, and welcomes input from all members of the campus community.



SBVC HIGHLIGHTS

President Rodriguez takes Regional 'Presidents for Entrepreneurship Pledge'

To exemplify her belief in fostering innovation through education, SBVC President Diana Z. Rodriguez signed onto the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship's 'Presidents for Entrepreneurship Pledge' (PFEP) along with the 11 other Inland Empire community college presidents. By signing the pledge, the consortium's presidents committed to taking five steps: forming teams to focus on entrepreneurship; connecting with entrepreneurs in the community; collaborating with industry in the region; focusing on business and job creation; and holding events to spread the word about success stories. "I think it's important that we bridge the education that we're providing today with the work that's going to be needed tomorrow and beyond that will work in the post-pandemic environment," President Rodriguez said.



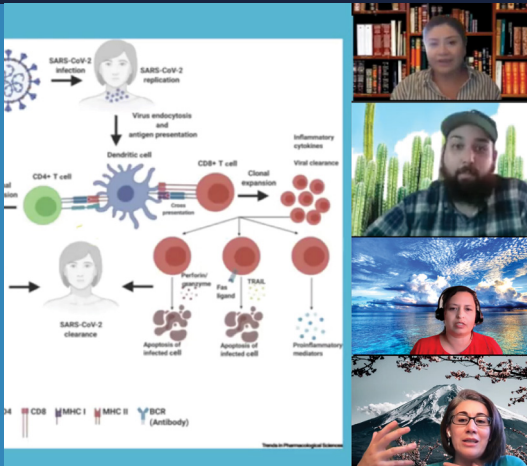
SBVC Ranks in National 'Top 20' for Online Computer Science AA Degree



SBVC was recently ranked as one of the top schools to provide an associate degree in computer science in a virtual setting. According to ranking website TheBestSchools.org, SBVC is in the top 20 of all US institutions of higher education offering an associate degree in computer science. The program at SBVC covers a wide range of topics in the computer science realm, but emphasizes software engineering and information processing. This is the second time SBVC has been ranked by an organization for its computer science program. In 2019, AffordableCollegesOnline.org considered data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), and ranked SBVC in the top 50 for offering affordable, quality education for one of best online software engineering programs in the US.

SBVC Launches COVID-19 Forums to Inform and Empower Local Community

In March, SBVC hosted a series of informational forums that addressed COVID-19 and the racial, ethnic and cultural disparities persisting in public health and vaccination. The forums were an effort spearheaded by SBVC's biology department to provide a space for campus and community members to have conversations about the unique concerns of minority groups, while also providing factual information about the virus and its lasting effects. The first session centered on historic medical maltreatment of Black Americans, and how that has potentially affected their ability to trust advancements in medicine, including the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine. Other sessions centered on the biology of viruses, development of vaccines, and how San Bernardino County and neighboring areas are distributing the inoculations. The last forum of the series included a segment for sharing personal stories about COVID-19.





SBVC SNAPSHOTS

SBVC MEChA Club Hosts Virtual Chicano Speaker Series

SBVC's MEChA Club continued a 20-year-long tradition by hosting its Chicano Speaker series in 2021. However, this year's event transitioned to an online format for the first time ever. The virtual series tackled three topics that affect the Inland Empire, including disparity in the health care system, immigration, and DACA/DREAMers. The series featured several guest speakers, including Darby Dsnaya, who spoke about various health care inequalities within the LGBTQ+ and Chicano communities.



SBVC Alumna Awarded Top Nurse Practitioner

SBVC alumna Jamie Howder was voted "Top Aesthetic Nurse Practitioner" for the fifth straight year in the Aesthetic Everything Awards. Aesthetic Everything is the largest network of aesthetic professionals in the world, and this year's winners of the annual awards were culled from over 40,000 votes cast. Howder received her associate degree of nursing from SBVC in 2003, then began her career as an ER registered nurse. She currently practices at Hospitality Medical Aesthetics in Redlands, California. Howder was also awarded in the top women business owners category.

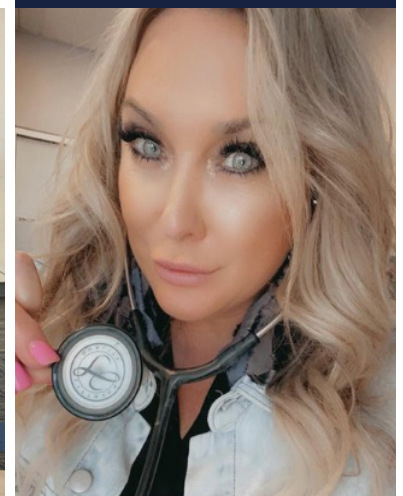


SBVC President Leads Women's Day Tea Talk

President Diana Z. Rodriguez aimed to inspire and empower at SBVC's first-ever "Celebrating Women: Virtual Tea Talk." Hosted by Student Health Services, the Women's Day event aimed to connect students with women that hold leadership positions at SBVC, and discuss the unique experiences of being a woman in leadership.

SBVC Becomes COVID Testing Site for Community

The SBVC campus transformed into a free COVID-19 testing site this spring for the community. "Testing is just one part of COVID-19 mitigation efforts, and is important to help curb community spread and detect new variants," President Rodriguez said. "We were happy to help our public health officials and provide easier access to testing for San Bernardino residents."





SBVC HIGHLIGHTS

SBVC Student Reflects on Community Programs that Inspired his Enrollment

When San Bernardino resident Joshua Echeverria was 15 years old, he was accepted into the SB Unified School District's Police Department Explorers Program. This program offers a career pathway for youth who are interested in pursuing a profession in law enforcement. Joshua said this program taught him the importance of integrity, self-respect, discipline and various leadership qualities. Inspired by his time in the program, he then enrolled at San Bernardino Valley College, where he is currently pursuing a degree in administrative justice. "After I complete my associate's degree in administrative justice at San Bernardino Valley College, I will be applying to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Academy," he said. Once through the academy, he intends to apply for the position of school police officer with the SBCUSD Police Department. "I want to give back not only to my community but to the SBCUSD Police Department, for making a program like this available to youth like myself," he said.



SBVC CalWORKs Team Forges Community Partnerships to Assist Students



Students in the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program at SBVC have received additional support during the pandemic. Thanks to the partnerships facilitated over the years between SBVC and its local community partners, CalWORKs students were recently gifted 70 new laptops by the Great Harvest Community Center. "This type of donation is a tremendous weight off of their shoulders, knowing that they're going to have their own technology," said Shalita Tillman, CalWORKs & Workforce Development Manager. "I think the feeling of the ownership that they get from receiving these laptops is something that is going to elevate their education, and it was just phenomenal. You could just see the appreciation in the

students' faces. This donation represents empowerment to our students." Additionally, the CalWORKs students received Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including face masks, gloves and hand sanitizer from the San Bernardino branch of the Census Bureau. Furthermore, students were gifted gas cards from the CalWORKs program to assist with various transportation costs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 13
Faculty In-Service Day
No Classes

May 14
Spotlighting 2020-2021
Virtual • Time TBA

