

PRESIDENT'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

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

April 2023

GOAL 1
ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO STUDENT ACCESS AND SUCCESS.

GOAL 2
BE A DIVERSE, EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, AND ANTI-RACIST INSTITUTION.

GOAL 3
BE A LEADER AND PARTNER IN ADDRESSING REGIONAL ISSUES.

GOAL 4
ENSURE FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY.



SBVC Nursing students celebrate the return of Club Rush on March 7, 2023

BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS
2022-2023

GOAL 2
BE A DIVERSE, EQUITABLE,
INCLUSIVE, AND
ANTI-RACIST INSTITUTION.



SBVC PARTNERS WITH SYMPHONY TO BRING BACK SUMMER CONCERT EXTRAVAGANZA

SummerFest 2023



Spring might have just begun, but plans for the summer are already underway, specifically for SummerFest 2023. San Bernardino Valley College is proud to continue this one-of-a-kind partnership with the San Bernardino Symphony that's becoming an annual tradition on campus in celebration of Independence Day.

This year's festivities and concert are being held on July 1st at the SBVC Football Field from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM, with the concert starting at 7:30 PM. The concert, titled "America, the Beautiful," is expected to bring thousands to campus this summer. The show ends with Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture and an exciting firework display.

Food vendors, face painters, games and more are expected at this year's SummerFest. You don't want to miss out!



Purchase concert tickets here:
[https://www.sanbernardinosymphony.org/
/july-1st-2023-concert](https://www.sanbernardinosymphony.org/july-1st-2023-concert)

More information about SummerFest:
valleycollege.edu/SummerFest

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS VISIT CAMPUS FOR COLLABORATIVE CONFERENCE

SBVC Hosts High School Counselors & Career Technicians Conference

As high school students prepare for graduation, the role of school counselors becomes crucial in guiding them towards a successful career path. Recently, a conference was held at San Bernardino Valley College that brought together 130 high school counselors and career technicians to discuss strategies for preparing students for the workforce.

The High School Counselors and Career Technicians Conference was organized by the SBVC Counseling Department as an opportunity to showcase programs at SBVC and provide updates for new incoming students to community partners. In the general session of the conference, updates were shared on the changes to ENGL; READ; and MATH courses on campus and the new CalGETC (UC/CSU combined general education pattern) that is coming in Fall 2025. A discussion on Guided Pathways was also shared by Guided Pathways Lead and Counselor Keenan Giles.

The conference included breakout sessions for the high school counselors and career technicians in attendance. During these sessions, they were able to learn more about various SBVC instructional and student services offerings, such as SBVC's Water Supply Technology program, Healthcare Pathways, Student Health Services, Valley Bound Commitment and Outreach & Recruitment.

SBVC Counselor Armando Garcia says plans are already underway for the next High School Counselors and Career Technicians Conference, which is to be held on March 8, 2024.

The conference provided a valuable forum for high school-based partners to gather information and share ideas about how to best prepare students for the workforce. By collaborating and staying current on the latest campus updates, these professionals can help ensure that students are equipped with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in their chosen careers.





DR. THAYER FEATURED ON HIGHER EDUCATION EQUITY ADVOCACY FORUM

Advocating for equity in higher education

Equity Chat is a weekly discussion held on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. PT with the Equity Avengers on Twitter. The Equity Avengers are Compton College President Dr. Keith Curry, Evergreen Valley College President Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson, and San Diego Mesa College President Emerita Dr. Pamela Luster. This forum provides a platform for educators and professionals to engage in meaningful conversations about equity, diversity and inclusion in higher education.

During the discussion, Thayer shared his experiences in Ghana and how it relates to the overall mission of community colleges, which strive to create greater accessibility to higher education. He said the summit was “a part of the vision of A2MEND from the first time we all met.”

“It was a homecoming; there was a sense of comfort and calm. I felt like I was attending a family reunion because everything felt so familiar,” Thayer tweeted of his experience in Ghana.

He emphasized the importance of empowering and supporting Black and African American students in higher education and the role that A2MEND plays in addressing the achievement gap. Thayer also discussed cultivating relationships and partnerships across institutions and communities to advance equity and inclusion.

“The education summit was a convening on the continent of educators, advocates and allies to reaffirm our commitment to supporting and serving our Black and African American students,” Thayer tweeted.

As a leading voice in promoting equity and access in higher education, Thayer’s participation in Equity Chat highlights the commitment of SBVC and A2MEND to promoting diversity, equity and inclusion in higher education.

A prestigious higher-education equity advocacy group recently featured San Bernardino Valley College Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Scott W. Thayer, during its weekly Twitter discussion.

Thayer, along with San Diego City College President Dr. Ricky Shabazz and Visiting Executive of Educational Excellence at the California Community College Chancellor’s Office Dr. Abdimalik Buul, was featured by the Equity Avengers, a trio of community college presidents, for its weekly Equity Chat on February 8, 2023. The discussion centered around African American Male Education Network and Development (A2MEND) and the group’s All-African Diaspora Summit held last year in Ghana. Thayer is the past President of A2MEND, Shabazz is a Board Member-at-large and Buul is Vice President.

For more information about Equity Chat, please visit the Equity Avengers Twitter page at @EquityAvengers or their website at equityavengers.com. To learn more about A2MEND and their work, please visit their website at www.a2mend.org.

SBVC FOUNDATION ON TRACK TO EXCEED FUNDRAISING GOALS

**Over \$582K
raised so far
in 2022-2023**

The SBVC Foundation is making significant progress in its goal of supporting the educational aspirations of deserving students through increasing the amount of scholarships to individual students.

The Foundation awarded over \$560,000 in student scholarships during the 2021-2022 academic year, which is a substantial increase from previous years. The Foundation expects to award at least \$450,000 in scholarships for the 2022-2023 academic year.

The Foundation has also been successful in securing important grant revenue for SBVC programs, with more than \$582,000 in grants obtained for the 2022-2023 academic year. This puts the Foundation on track to meet, or even exceed, its goal of \$750K in grant revenue by the end of June 2023.

The Finish Line Scholars Program, which is an initiative that provides scholarships and assistance to students close to finishing their degree, certificate, or transfer studies within two years, has awarded \$150K for scholarships during its fourth cycle of funding for SBVC.

Additionally, the Foundation has secured a new \$1.5 million grant from California Congressman Pete Aguilar through Community Project Funding (CPF). This grant is expected to be awarded in late 2023 or early 2024 and is a significant step towards the Foundation's \$500,000 annual scholarship goal.

"We are thrilled with the progress that we have made so far in our fundraising efforts," said Mike Layne, Director of the SBVC Foundation. "Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are able to make a significant impact in the lives of our students."

GOAL 3

BE A LEADER AND PARTNER
IN ADDRESSING REGIONAL
ISSUES.

HIGHLIGHTS

SBVC WORKS WITH OMNITRANS TO PROVIDE APPRENTICE TRAINING



San Bernardino Valley College and Omnitrans are joining forces for an apprenticeship program that will benefit Inland Empire students looking for first-rate mechanical training from expert instructors.

The program, in agreement with Teamsters Union 166, is now going through the approval process with the California Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS). Once the program is officially given the green light, apprenticeship students will enroll in SBVC's heavy/medium duty truck technology department. Upon completion, the students will be eligible to apply for positions at Omnitrans.

"Omnitrans is very pleased to be partnering with San Bernardino Valley College on a new apprenticeship program," Omnitrans Technical Services Manager Victoria Chesney said. "We look forward to complementing the academic experience local students receive at SBVC by providing hands on technological experience that will help them, and our agency, to prepare for the zero emissions bus fleets that represent the future of environmental sustainability in our region."

SBVC COUNSELING HOSTS GRAD CHECK FESTIVAL FOR THE CLASS OF 2023

The SBVC Counseling Department hosted a Grad Check Festival for the Class of 2023 at the Lois Carson Campus Center on February 21. The Festival was an opportunity for students to get a graduation check, apply for graduation with a counselor, sign up for additional graduation ceremonies and events, play games, and win graduation regalia and other prizes.

In an effort to reach as many students as possible, no appointments were required in order to meet with a counselor during the event. Students trickled in throughout the 4-hour Grad Check Fest, eager for a chance to sit down with a counselor to receive guidance on joining the graduating Class of 2023. Many students were unsure about how many credits they had, which classes they still needed to take, and whether they were on track to graduate on time. Each student was welcomed by a counselor who carefully looked over their transcripts, discussed their options, and offered advice to ensure their academic success.





BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS WORKPLACE MENTORING PROGRAM OFFERS SBVC STUDENTS A JUMPSTART ON PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS

On February 2, the Big Brothers Big Sisters' Workplace Mentoring Program of the Inland Empire held a lunch and learn event for SBVC students to learn about the benefits of its program for SBVC students, hosted in partnership with SBVC's Student Equity division. Through the mentoring program, students are partnered with skilled professionals with exposure to major corporations to develop the real-life skills necessary for future career success.

The program is open to students 18 and older, who live in the Inland Empire, attend SBVC or another local participating community college, and commit to attending monthly mentoring sessions. Participants are matched with mentors from local businesses who have similar interests and personalities. By working with students as they transition from school to the workforce, program mentors are helping them strengthen vital professional skills, build their resumes, and enhance their networking abilities. Students who attended the lunch shared positive feedback. One student, Giovanni, said he liked the idea of "having guidance from a mentor that has experience and knowledge that they can share."

"It is important that our students are exposed to our community partners in ways that they can connect and network," Sharaf Williams, associate dean of student support services, said. "In addition, it shines a spotlight on what is great in the Inland Empire, and that there are additional resources and support out there." After successful completion of the mentorship program, students will receive a reference letter from their mentor, a LinkedIn badge, and a certificate. The program provides the support and training necessary to help even more students succeed throughout their academic efforts and beyond.

CLUB RUSH SIGNALS THE RETURN OF STUDENT CLUBS TO THE SBVC CAMPUS

Club Rush celebrated the return of clubs to campus on March 7. With the return of student clubs to SBVC, students now have more opportunities to participate in activities that interest them, collaborate with like-minded individuals, and build a stronger connection within the campus community.

San Bernardino Valley College is taking steps to encourage more student involvement by bringing back student clubs to its campus. The idea behind reinstating these clubs is to give students the opportunity to engage in activities. The clubs aim to provide a sense of community amongst students, allowing them to meet people who share similar interests, and create long-lasting friendships. It also helps students develop leadership, teamwork, and communication skills, which are all essential skills that one can utilize in any field.

SBVC Interim President Dr. Linda Fontanilla believes that bringing back student clubs to campus will not only increase student engagement but also enhance each student's college experience. "Our goal is to create a supportive and inclusive environment for all students," she said. "Having student clubs on campus is one way to make this more attainable."



Student Spotlight | **NELVA & DYAMI RUIZ-MARTINEZ**

Whether it's advocating for student needs in Washington, D.C. or planning a campus-wide event, brother and sister Dyami Ruiz-Martinez and Nelva Ruiz-Martinez are happy to do it together. The siblings are in Associated Student Government leadership, with Nelva serving as president and Dyami as executive vice president.

"We really got to experience student life at its prime," Dyami said. "For a lot of new students, their whole college experience has simply been behind a screen. That was our motivation to get into student government — to kick start student life back." Nelva agrees, and has found "it's also been really rewarding to advocate for students. That's been our driving force."

The Ontario residents say that being in student government has strengthened their bond, making them an effective team. "We have a cohesive work environment, and that's one of the things that's helped us," Dyami said. "There has been a lot of critical thinking and problem solving, and it's good to have a wide range of diverse ideas."

Recently, Nelva and Dyami traveled to Washington, D.C., where they attended the Community College National Legislative Summit and visited the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities headquarters. While in D.C., they learned more about internship opportunities for SBVC students, made policy recommendations on streamlining the SNAP application process, and met with several California lawmakers, including California's United States Senator Alex Padilla and United States Representative Pete Aguilar.

Dyami and Nelva are both thankful to Chancellor Diana Z. Rodriguez, the Chancellor's Cabinet, and the Board of Trustees for funding the trip and extending the invitation to SBVC's student government. Both hope to inspire other students who have never been involved in student government to jump right in, and say being in leadership has helped sharpen their public speaking skills and helped them to interact with others in a more professional manner.



EVENTS

April 19

9:00 AM-2:00 PM

10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Grad Fair

LCCC Walkway

SBVC Employment Fair

B-100

May 24

9:00 AM

Commencement 2023

San Manuel Stadium

valleycollege.edu/commencement

July 1

5:00 PM-9:00 PM

SummerFest 2023

Football Field

valleycollege.edu/SummerFest



@sbvalleycollege

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