



PRESIDENT'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

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



GOAL 1
ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO STUDENT ACCESS & SUCCESS.

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

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

GOAL 4
ENSURE FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & SUSTAINABILITY.



SummerFest '23 Brings Community to Campus

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

SummerFest 2023 brought over 3,000 visitors to the SBVC campus to enjoy a variety of vendors, food trucks, live music and a firework show.

"We hope this is a tradition that continues well into the future. San Bernardino Valley College is a cultural centerpiece of the community and we love serving our local residents in that role."

-Dr. Linda Fontanilla, Interim President

SummerFest 2023 was a spectacular evening of food, music, fireworks and fun.

This annual partnership between San Bernardino Valley College and the San Bernardino Symphony to celebrate Independence Day was held on July 1, and brought thousands of people out to the SBVC football field to enjoy the festivities.

"SummerFest is a wonderful way to get the community together to celebrate the season and enjoy a night of music and fireworks," SBVC Interim President Dr. Linda Fontanilla said. "It also allows us to further strengthen our partnership with the San Bernardino Symphony and show what amazing outcomes can come from collaborations with our partners."

To cap off the night, the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra performed its summer concert, "America, the Beautiful." The finale, Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, concluded the evening with a dazzling fireworks show that lit up the sky.

"We hope this is a tradition that continues well into the future," Fontanilla said. "San Bernardino Valley College is a cultural centerpiece of the community and we love serving our local residents in that role."



From left to right: Interim President Dr. Linda Fontanilla, San Bernardino Mayor Helen Tran, and SBCCD Chancellor Diana Z. Rodriguez at SummerFest 2023.



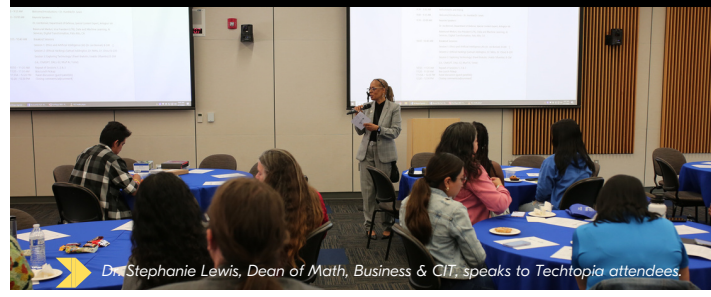
SBVC's First Tectopia Brings Cutting-Edge Tech to Campus

(Left to Right) Tectopia keynote speaker Dr. Joseph T. Bonivel Jr. from the US Department of Defense and Computer Science & Computer Technology Department Chair Dr. Reginald Metu.

The inaugural Tectopia conference was held at SBVC on May 11, where artificial intelligence (AI) and cybersecurity were in the spotlight. Organized by the faculty in the STEM-MESA and computer science departments, the first-of-its-kind event for the campus brought together students, faculty, and community members for a full day of hands-on workshops and enlightening sessions, showcasing the remarkable potential of technology in shaping the world of tomorrow. The conference aimed to prepare attendees for the major transformations on the horizon, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in the tech-driven world. It featured an impressive lineup of speakers and experts, including science and technology policy advocate Dr. Joseph Bonivel, Jr. and technology executive Bala Meduri of LTK, who discussed the latest advancements in AI and cybersecurity, highlighting their applications in various sectors, and offering a glimpse of the exciting possibilities that lie ahead in their industries. The event concluded with a Q&A panel that included SBVC director of campus technology, Uvaldo Sifuentes, and SBVC professional expert Jose Munoz, who discussed the many ways they are already using cybersecurity and AI technologies in their daily computer science and creative work.



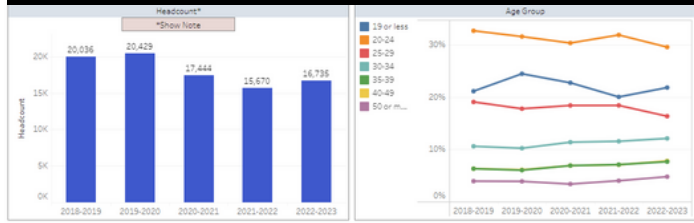
GOAL 1: ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO STUDENT ACCESS & SUCCESS.



Dr. Stephanie Lewis, Dean of Math, Business & CIT, speaks to Tectopia attendees.



GOAL 1: ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO STUDENT ACCESS & SUCCESS.



Enrollment trends demonstrate growth during the 2022-2023 academic year.

Summer Enrollment Grows Driven by Free Tuition & Textbooks

Offering all students free tuition and textbooks at SBVC likely had a significant impact on student enrollment, as was witnessed firsthand this summer when total student headcount increased by 33% over the prior summer, from 5,680 in Summer 2022 to 7,551 in Summer 2023. Out of that number, 2,244 (or 29.7%) were first-time SBVC students. Overall, SBVC finished the 2022-2023 academic year with a 6.8% increase in headcount over 2021-22, putting the college on track to reversing an enrollment decline that pummeled most colleges nationwide during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

While it is well known that free tuition and textbooks remove financial barriers that may prevent students from enrolling in courses, covering these costs for students on a prolonged basis may not yet be sustainable for most colleges, especially community colleges, due to limitations in federal and state funding they receive.

SBVC will continue to offer free textbook rentals for all students in the Fall 2023 and Spring 2023 terms, which will save students hundreds of dollars as they continue to pursue their educational goals. "Our mission is to provide as much access to higher education as we can," said interim president Dr. Linda Fontanilla. "We hope that all students in our community are able to take advantage of this free textbook opportunity while it is available."

Dr. Linda Fontanilla Launches

Community Presentation Series

Throughout the summer, Interim President Dr. Linda Fontanilla conducted a presentation series for various influential community groups, including local chambers of commerce and rotary associations. The series allowed SBVC to reconnect with the community and share its mission statement, as well as keep community and business leaders connected with college leadership.

"Engaging local community leaders is paramount to fostering strong partnerships between our college and the community," said Dr. Fontanilla. "By collaboratively investing in our students' futures, we create a powerful support network that empowers them to achieve their aspirations and positively impacts the entire community. These connections ultimately pave the way for greater student success."



GOAL 3: BE A LEADER & PARTNER IN ADDRESSING REGIONAL ISSUES.

Summer Bridge Prepares Students for College Life



GOAL 1: ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO STUDENT ACCESS & SUCCESS.

Summer Bridge is one way for incoming Valley-Bound Commitment students to develop the skills necessary for a successful first year of college.

For two weeks in July, more than 200 Valley-Bound Commitment students came to SBVC for Summer Bridge and enrolled in the Orientation to College course, where they learned about the academic and vocation programs available and watched presentations from different departments. They also had the opportunity to meet staff members and explore the campus to become familiar with it before the first day of the fall semester.

"Students get to know their Valley-Bound Commitment peers and create new friendships while working together during the Summer Bridge program," Dr. Marina Serna Pulido, student services coordinator for the Valley-Bound Commitment Program, said. "They also create the types of connections and rapport with the Valley-Bound Commitment staff and counselors that reinforce their academic success as they begin their education at San Bernardino Valley College."

Summer Bridge has been offered for the last seven years and always makes a lasting impression on everyone who participates.

"The Summer Bridge program is an essential part of the Valley-Bound Commitment program's structure to create a foundation for academic success and personal growth for incoming students," Pulido said. "The Summer Bridge program is a time where these students can ease into this new educational chapter while also having the opportunity to create autonomy and establish their goals."



SBVC Nursing Alumna

Spreads Joy Through Sewing



Diana Ellsworth is a graduate of the SBVC Nursing Department.

Diana Ellsworth of Rialto was a stay-at-home mother for nearly 20 years before she pursued her dream of a career in nursing. Ellsworth, who is now a registered nurse in the telemetry department at Community Hospital of San Bernardino, was accepted into a scholarship program through the hospital while she was a nursing student at San Bernardino Valley College. After graduation, she accepted a position with Community Hospital, where she has worked ever since then.

“I was 52 when I finally became a nurse, and I’ve been here 11 years now,” Ellsworth said in a news release. “I’ll stay here until I retire, because I’m doing what I always wanted to do – helping people to get better.”

In addition to her work as a nurse, Ellsworth enjoys sewing, a skill she has used to help the hospital’s staff and patients. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she started making hats and face masks for co-workers out of scrubs that were no longer needed. Many offered to pay her, but she refused, according to the San Bernardino Sun article.

Diana has also sewn gifts for children in the hospital’s Children’s Subacute Center, including blankets and matching pillows for Christmas and stuffed animals during the pandemic.

“Diana spent hours of her personal time sewing 80 stuffed animals and blankets for every single child in our pediatric Subacute Center,” June Collison, the hospital’s president, said in the news release. “These stuffed animals brought the children joy and companionship during those times of isolation.”

“The kids live there, and if I can make something that can bring a smile to their faces and make them happy, that makes me feel good,” Ellsworth said.



EVENTS

Aug 11 | Fall 2023 Opening Day
9:00 AM | SBVC Auditorium

Aug 14 | Fall Semester Begins



@sbvalleycollege

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