## **Accreditation Updates**

The Accreditation and Outcomes Committee at SBVC is currently fully engaged in the development of the Midterm Accreditation Report, a pivotal document that serves as a snapshot of our institution's progress. This report not only showcases recent advancements and innovations but also offers a comprehensive update on our institutional performance in terms of student outcomes since the last comprehensive peer review.

SBVC's Midterm Report will spotlight our campus's dedication to equity initiatives, including the strides made in this area. It will outline the implementation of the new Program Review APSIRE process, aimed at enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of our academic programs and will also detail the integration of META for Program Review and Outcomes processes, illustrating our commitment to leveraging cutting-edge technology for continuous improvement.

The Midterm Report will address the campus's progress in addressing and implementing the Recommendations for Improvement received following the last accreditation visit, underscoring our commitment to addressing feedback and continuously enhancing our institutional practices.

As part of the development process, the draft of the Midterm Report will be sent to College Council and various campus constituency groups in March for their valuable feedback and input. This collaborative approach ensures that the final report reflects the collective efforts and perspectives of the entire SBVC community, further strengthening our commitment to excellence in accreditation and outcomes assessment.

## Office of Instruction Updates

The Office of Instruction is buzzing with anticipation as we gear up for the upcoming Summer and Fall terms. Alongside meticulously crafting schedules and enriching our curriculum with exciting updates, we're thrilled to announce plans for a celebratory tenure reception. Additionally, we're embarking on the testing phase for CourseDog and gearing up for a mock scheduling phase, providing Faculty Chairs and Deans with the opportunity to utilize the software and share their feedback. Furthermore, we're excited to announce the finalization of a new Faculty Handbook, now accessible on the Faculty Resource page of our website.

As we eagerly anticipate graduation, our dedication to ensuring the success of our students remains unwavering. We're committed to refining every aspect of their academic journey.





# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

SBVC Welcomes New Academic Senate President -Andrea Hecht!

San Bernardino Valley College is eagerly anticipating the arrival of our incoming Academic Senate President, Andrea Hecht, who will assume her role in Fall 2024. To acquaint ourselves with Andrea, we asked her the following inquiries:

#### Q: What motivated you to become a counselor at SBVC?

A: My journey into the education system was largely inspired by my own educational experiences. Unfortunately, I encountered a significant lack of support during my time in the K-12 system. This firsthand experience ignited within me a strong desire to become the advocate figure that I needed. I received my Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies with a minor in Sociology and then my multiple subject credential to teach in grades K-8. During this time, I felt like I could make a greater difference, ultimately leading me to pursue a Master of Science degree in Educational Counseling. I felt like the stars lined up for me when I was given the position at SBVC to a brand-new program First Year Experience and Dreamers Resource Center, as a counselor and everything started falling into place.

# Q: Can you share an example of a particularly rewarding moment you've experienced while at SBVC?

A: I must admit, there have been many rewarding moments in my career at SBVC. However, the most rewarding ones that drive me into leadership roles are our students. Recently, a student only wanted to meet with me to complete a graduation evaluation. She tried multiple times to make an appointment with me online, but I was never available. She then contacted the Counseling Department, specifically requesting an appointment with me. Despite my busy schedule, she persisted, and I was able to meet with her. What truly moved me was her request for only me to conduct her graduation evaluation. Typically, in General Counseling, students book appointments based on counselor availability.

Yet, this student consistently sought appointments exclusively with me throughout her time at SBVC. In our final appointment she emphasized how much my guidance and support meant to her, so she felt it was only right for me to complete her Graduation Evaluation. This is precisely why I entered the field of education: to make a difference in others' lives. It's immensely gratifying to have become the person I once needed. It's a privilege to offer support to students in such a significant capacity. I can only hope for the hiring of more tenured counselors to serve more of our students, as this undoubtedly contributes to retention. This experience certainly made my day, if not my entire year.

# Q: What resources or support services do you typically recommend to new students at Valley?

A: One of the remarkable aspects of SBVC is the abundance of resources and support services available to our students. Often, I encourage students to join cohorts, such as Puente, Umoja, and recently APIA learning committees. These programs provide invaluable support to first-time students, pairing them with the same counselor and instructional faculty throughout their first year at SBVC. Additionally, I prioritize the well-being of our students, taking a holistic approach as a counselor. Contrary to the misconception that counseling solely revolves around education plans, my role encompasses comprehensive support, which includes referring students to the Student Health Services, Valley 360 Resource Center, Library, clubs, specialized counseling programs, and much more. I have even developed a Canvas shell for our students, serving as a centralized hub to acquaint them with everything SBVC has to offer. Moreover, it serves as a useful introduction to Canvas for students before they embark on online courses. I ask everyone to please check it out, by going to the SBVC General Counseling webpage, click on Stay Connected, and then Virtual Counseling Hub.

# Q: Looking ahead, what are you most excited for in the upcoming academic year? A: I am thrilled to embark on my new journey as the

A: I am thrilled to embark on my new journey as the Academic Senate President 2024-2026. It is a genuine honor to have been elected by my faculty colleagues to support and represent their voice. My primary objectives are to advocate for student-centered and evidence-based decision -making and amplify the faculty's voice to cultivate meaningful change.

#### **Curriculum Corner**

During the spring 2024 semester, the AB 928 Steering Committee has worked collegially across campus to receive faculty feedback and input on the recent Title 5 updates that govern the requirements for a local associate degree and general education. On Monday, March 25, 2024, the Curriculum Committee will vote on the updated local associate degree GE framework that will become effective in the 2024-2025 academic year.

#### **Outcomes Compass**

Happy Spring! As Spring Break arrives, I hope that you will be renewed and refreshed to continue the semester. Spring can also be a time to reflect on the work accomplished. This time marks the middle of the term; a time for short-term classes to close and for others to begin. Considering SLO assessment data and the student successes achieved as well as the adjustments needed to be made can help make your courses successful. Thank you for utilizing the SLO Cloud as a way to energize and enliven your classes to bring new life to student goals.

# Congratulations to our Tenure Recipients!

Alexander Cruz - Automotive Technology and

## Maria Notarangelo - Library

Join us in celebrating Alexander and Maria at our Tenure Reception in April.





### Empowering Aviation Maintenance: San Bernardino Valley College Secures Nearly Half-Million Dollar Grant from FAA

San Bernardino Valley College has been awarded a substantial grant of \$498,555 through the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Aviation Maintenance Technical Workers Workforce Development program. This funding injection is poised to significantly bolster the pipeline of skilled maintenance professionals within the aviation sector. The grant offers a myriad of avenues for utilization, including the establishment of new programs tailored to aviation maintenance, provision of scholarships and apprenticeships, implementation of extensive outreach initiatives to promote careers in aviation maintenance, facilitation of diverse educational opportunities pertinent to this field. Through this support, San Bernardino Valley College aims to fortify the workforce and contribute to the sustained excellence of the aviation maintenance industry.

# SBVC Spring Celebrations: Embracing Diversity and Heritage

Join us in celebrating the rich tapestry of our cultures! This spring, SBVC proudly honors our diverse heritages with an array of exciting events on campus. From commemorating Black History Month in February to paying tribute to Women's History Month in March, and highlighting AAPI Heritage Month in May, we embrace the depth and breadth of our collective experiences. Also in May, we further our commitment by raising awareness for Mental Health Awareness Month. Explore the <u>SBVC Calendar</u> for a list of events, and join us in these vibrant celebrations!

## **Spring 2024 Important Dates**

- 03/18/24 03/23/2024 Spring Break
- 04/08/24 Summer & Fall Registration Begins
- 04/26/24 Tenure Reception
- 05/06/24 Curriculum Deadline
- 05/21/24 Commencement
- 05/27/24 Memorial Day