Five Areas of Emphasis 2015-2016

I’d like to reiterate my five areas of emphasis for Oxnard College for the coming year, as first introduced during my remarks at All College Day:

- Assuring a strong accreditation report that will lead to continued accreditation;
- Expanding opportunities for community partnerships;
- Continuing to implement OC’s transitional studies initiative;
- Exploring additional opportunities to establish integrated pathways to degrees and certificates; and
- Celebrating the achievements of our College, our faculty, our staff, and our students.

Each of these areas will be addressed in detail by the President’s Cabinet throughout the coming year, as well as through open forums and updates provided here.

Congratulations to Our 2015 Employee Award Recipients!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>AWARD</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>DEPT/DIV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armine Derdarian</td>
<td>Mark Dever Award</td>
<td>Dental Hygiene/Dental Assisting Coordinator</td>
<td>Dental Hygiene/Dental Assisting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolyn Inouye</td>
<td>Ed Robings Award</td>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>Math, Science, Health, PE, Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connie Owens</td>
<td>John Milton Award</td>
<td>Community Advancement</td>
<td>OC Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Rigsby</td>
<td>Joe Escobar Award</td>
<td>Faculty (PT)</td>
<td>Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everardo Rivera</td>
<td>Teresa Archuleta Award</td>
<td>Counselor</td>
<td>Student Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About This Newsletter

You’re reading the first in a series of weekly updates from my office, posted every Tuesday and designed to accomplish two goals:

1. To keep you informed about news at the campus, District, and State levels; and
2. To highlight our programs, our faculty, our staff, and our students.

This is designed as a “quick read document” so that you can easily scan the contents and stay up-to-date about issues, opportunities, challenges, and accomplishments.

You’re also welcome to ask any questions. Please send me an email with your inquiry, and I’ll post a response in the next issue.

It’s going to be a great year!

James M. Limbaugh

By the way, you can also follow me on Twitter: @OxnardPres
Annual Slow-Pitch Softball Game

Congratulations to Faculty on Their Win!

On All-College Day, I attended my first Faculty/Staff Baseball Game, with the faculty emerging victorious. Thanks to Trustee Stephen Blum for providing color commentary (and for coaxing me into leading a “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” singalong).

Summer Biotechnology Institute

Students Participate in OC STEM Grant Institute

A couple of weeks ago, I visited the students participating in the Oxnard College Summer Biotechnology Institute, funded by our HSI-STEM Grant. Their enthusiasm for their research was contagious and when asked what they liked best about the experience, their response was unanimous: the opportunity to work side-by-side with Dr. Jim Harber. Thanks, Jim, for creating such a positive learning environment.

OC Water Conservation Update

2014-2015 Water Consumption Analysis Completed

Dr. Bush just completed the water consumption analysis for the 2014-2015 academic year to evaluate how well Oxnard College is doing with water conservation in response to the ongoing drought. Under the leadership of Bob Sube, who implemented such practices as reducing the number of days and times we watered the grounds, campus consumption is down 37% from the previous year—a total savings of 23,000,000 gallons of water. Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen, with special appreciation to Bob.

In Other Maintenance & Operations News…

- The paving on North Campus Road is completed.
- The gym floor and dance studio were refinished.
- A classroom for studio art was remodeled, complete with a sink.
“Night in Oaxaca”
A Celebration of the Mixteco Culture

This past weekend, I had the privilege of attending the annual “Night in Oaxaca,” celebrating the Mixteco culture. Also representing Oxnard College were Ken Sherwood, Maria Flores, Marcos Lupian, and Evarardo Rivera. A particular pleasure was seeing and meeting OC students who received Tequio Scholarships for the coming academic year from MICOP (Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project).

Campus Renovation Projects
Progress on the New Dental Hygiene Building and Condor Hall

I recently had the opportunity to view the progress of the Dental Hygiene Building and the renovation of Condor Hall. Here’s a few pictures you might enjoy.

Dental Hygiene - Registration Desk

Dental Hygiene - Laboratory area for 22 new dental chairs
From the Condor Hall project (aka Old Library Building)…

Oxnard College’s OMEGA Initiative
The Oxnard Male Educational Goal Achievement Initiative

The Oxnard Male Educational Goal Achievement Initiative, one of the focal points of OC’s Student Equity Plan (SEP), addresses the success rates of male students in transfer level English courses after completing Basic Skill level English courses. The overall completion rates of our male students are at 42.2% which is below the state average of 45.3%. Consequently, the OMEGA Initiative hopes to address these issues and improve male student success rates through intensive, directed, and, in some cases, mandatory academic and personal support services. Currently, 40 students are enrolled, with additional recruitment initiatives planned at upcoming EOPS events and during the first week of school. Kudos to Dr. Luis Gonzalez and his staff for designing and implementing this important program.
Military Friendly
Oxnard College is Named a Military-Friendly School for 2015

This citation was based on OC’s ratings in such categories as academic credibility, campus support, admissions support, and tuition assistance. Many thanks to Joel Diaz and his staff for leading the College in achieving this distinction.

Oxnard College Celebrates 40 Years!
2015 marks the fortieth anniversary of Oxnard College.

Here’s the official graphic, designed by Karla Banks:

You’ll be hearing more about related activities in the weeks to come.