OC Foundation Presents the College with a $1 Million Donation for Biology/Chemistry Lab Renovations

At the April 12 meeting of the Ventura County Community College Board of Trustees, the Oxnard College Foundation formally presented a ceremonial check in an amount not to exceed $1 million for the establishment of a general-use chemistry/biology laboratory. This gift will aid immeasurably in our ability to meet the educational needs of growing numbers of STEM students.

The project is officially underway with the official request for qualifications for architects. The new laboratory space will be ready for occupancy for the fall 2017 semester.

Please join me in thanking the Oxnard College Foundation and its leadership for their ongoing commitment to our College and our students.

From The President

Oxnard College
April 18, 2016

(L-R) Oxnard College Foundation Community Development and Institutional Advancement Specialist Connie Owens; VCCCD Chancellor Bernard Luskin; VCCCD Trustee Dianne McKay; Mike Barber; VCCCD Board Chair Larry Kennedy; VCCCD Trustee Arturo Hernandez; Anthony Volante; VCCCD Trustee Stephen Blum; George Lautherbach; Oxnard College President James Limbaugh; VCCCD Student Trustee Ilse Maymes; and VCCCD Board Vice Chair Bernardo Perez
Our 40th Birthday Bash

On Wednesday, April 13, the College turned its attention to...itself. In celebrating our 40th anniversary, we reflected back on the origins of the College and renewed our sense of commitment to the next 40 years. The campus was resplendent in blue and green, and we all enjoyed excellent food from our Culinary and Restaurant Management students. In addition, we were treated to a series of excellent performances as part of our recognition of the many cultures that have combined to create the vibrant learning environment that is Oxnard College.

The event was clearly a success—according to Liz Burnett, over 600 (!) meals were served!

A sincere note of thanks is extended to Connie Owens and the Oxnard College Foundation for their provision of the 40th anniversary travel mugs and to the Associated Student Government for co-sponsoring the event. A group of dedicated employees made this entire event possible: Karla Banks, Connie Owens, Krista Mendelsohn, Jennifer Clark, Lisa Hopper, Liz Burnett, Darlene Inda, Bob Sube, and Mati Sanchez. Serving as the overall coordinator of the event was Gabbie Rodriguez, our Student Activities Specialist, who did a stellar job.
The College was proud to receive commendations from the offices of Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin, Congressman Julia Brownley, State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, and Assemblymember Das Williams
A sampling of some of the excellent performances that were the highlights of our 40th anniversary celebration!
As part of the 40th observance, the Associated Student Government created an Art Walk, highlighting the works of OC students.

A sampling of the reasons why Oxnard College is such a great place to work and to learn…
Ring Ceremony for OC Championship Soccer Team

In what can be termed a storybook ending to an amazing year for Oxnard College soccer, the members of our State Championship men’s soccer team were officially presented their championship rings at a ceremony on Thursday, April 14.

The rings—the first ever distributed in the history of the College—were designed by the players themselves. The letters “OC” are centered on a blue stone. Surrounding the stone are the words “State Champions 2015.” On one side of the ring are the words “Oxnard First in History,” “Champs #1” emblazoned over an image of California, and the initials CCCAA (for California Community College Athletic Association). The other side has the name of the individual player, a bas relief soccer ball, and the word “Juntos” (Together).
Ventura County Supervisors Recognize Oxnard College’s Anniversary

In celebration of its 40th anniversary, Oxnard College received special recognition from the County Supervisors at their recent meeting. Pictured, left to right, are Dean of Institutional Effectiveness Cynthia Herrera, County Supervisor John Zaragoza, Vice President of Business Services Michael Bush, President James Limbaugh, OCFA Assistant Dean Gail Warner, and Dean of Liberal Studies Art Sandford.

Clothesline Project

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Oxnard College held its first Clothesline Project on April 6. The Clothesline Project is a visual display of t-shirts with messages written by survivors of sexual assault and their loved ones. The project was supported by the Oxnard College Student Health Center, The Coalition for Family Harmony, Safe Harbor, and Ventura County Behavioral Health Department. Over 25 t-shirts were decorated with messages by students and staff.

Please click here to see the Ventura County Star Free Press article.
On Thursday, March 31, 2016, President Jim Limbaugh hosted the latest installment of the Oxnard College President’s Forum: African American Town Hall Assembly (AATHA). This year’s forum, “Sharing a Diverse Perspective of Education from Community Stakeholders,” featured a keynote presentation by Mr. Lawrence Edwards, Esq. and a panel discussion on various challenges African Americans face in today’s education and the workforce arenas. The forum was held from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM in the Oxnard College Performing Arts Auditorium. Dr. Limbaugh opened the program with a brief welcome and the day’s event was moderated by Mr. Perry Martin, Interim Executive Director of the Community Advocacy Coalition.

The AATHAs are focused on presenting topics that are of paramount importance to all citizens with special emphasis on issues related to African-Americans and are designed to increase awareness, stimulate thought and discussion, and explore the implications for the community.
Campus Cooperation Leads to Improved Networking Program

Professor Alex Lynch is pictured above showing off the new upgraded Computer Networking and Information Technology (CNIT) lab (OE-4). This lab upgrade was sorely needed and thanks to the wonderful collaboration of Michael Alexander, Bob Sube, Mark Smith, Dave Gardner, Brian Akers, Jeff Erskin, Brian Giesler, Carl Hill, Johnny Pena, Lisa Sorensen, Alex Lynch, and many others, the overhaul is almost complete. What a difference the students saw when they returned from spring break--gone were the second hand desks, broken chairs, and scuffed floors. Instead the students returned to find beautifully polished floors, painted walls, and beautiful desks and chairs. The new configuration also allowed for some extra student stations, thus expanding the capacity of the often impacted CNIT program. OE-4 also serves as a Pearson Vue testing center for Oxnard College students, which, thanks to Professor Lynch’s tireless efforts, allows students to test at-cost for many computer certifications. The lab upgrades were funded by leveraging several special funding sources--CTE Enhancement Funds, Perkins, and VC Innovates. (submitted by CTE Dean Christina Tafoya)
Energy Efficiency Gets “Smart” with the Environmental Control Technology Program

The program formerly known as HVAC/R (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration) has come a long way! Thanks to the dedication and many, many extra hours of effort by Alan Ainsworth, the program now has much more than just a new name. Students are now learning cutting edge technology related to increasing energy efficiency. Shown below are Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) inside of a high efficiency commercial light fixture. Professor Ainsworth uses these to train students in Energy Auditing and Automation Control Systems (ACS), a new program within the revamped Environmental Control Technology (ENVT) program. These LED fixtures are equipped with “smart technology” so energy used can be regulated and controlled by an automated system. The energy auditing class also teaches students how using LED lights to reduce the energy needed to illuminate the space and reduces the building cooling requirements. This is because LEDs emit less heat than comparable fluorescents or incandescent lights, which ultimately reduces climate control needs (less air conditioning to off-set the emitted heat). One additional benefit…LED lights last approximately 6 times longer than fluorescent lights and 40 times longer than incandescent bulbs!

Is it cost effective to switch to LED lights? YES!!
Payback = Cost of light bulbs/ energy savings $
Electricity cost averages around $0.16 per kilowatt hour (KWH)
60 watt bulb 4 hours per day for 30 days = 7200 watts or 7.2KWH X 0.16 = $1.16 per month
An LED equivalent bulb uses 8.5 watts and can cost around $2.66 (often less!)
8.5 x 4 x 30 = 1020 watts or 1.02KWH x $0.16 = $0.17 per month
Energy savings per month = $0.99
$2.66/$0.99 = 2.69 months to pay for the bulb. This means that for more than 9 months in the first year you will be saving $0.99 each month for simply replacing 1 bulb! Then every year after that it will be $11.88 per year in savings….potentially more if electric rates go up! And……LED lights last 40 times longer than incandescent light bulbs and 6 times longer than compact fluorescent bulbs.

(submitted by CTE Dean Christina Tafoya)
Upcoming Events

- April 27, 2016
  OC L&L Series – Auschwitz: One Survivor’s Story

  Auschwitz: One Survivor’s Story
  
  In commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day, survivor Renee Firestone will share her story of imprisonment at age 20 in the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp during the last two years of WWII, the loss of her entire family, and her path to and beyond liberation.

  Renee Firestone was born in Tel Aviv, Israel, and was imprisoned in the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp for 23 months at age 20. Renee is a founding member of the Jewish Women’s Council’s Educational Outreach Program. She is a speaker, illustrator, and educator with Renee Firestone’s “Narratives of the Shoah Visual History Foundation” and was featured in the film “The Last Jews,” which received the 1996 Academy Award for Best Feature Length Documentary. She was also featured in the documentary film, “Surviving Auschwitz,” and appeared in a recent exhibit in San Antonio. Renee received the National Holocaust Remembrance Medal and the Guido Weiss Award and was named the 2010 honorary “Rabbi of the City” by the Jewish Federation of the Jewish Federation of the Greater Boston Diaspora. She was also honored by the University of California.

  Oxnard College
  Performing Arts Center
  4000 S Rose Ave
  Oxnard, CA 93030

  WEDNESDAY
  April 27, 2016
  1-2pm
  Free to the public. Parking $3
  For more information:
  Oxnard College, (805) 987-3185.

- April 27, 2016
  Denim Day

  The Skinny Jeans Defense Since the 1997 Italian Decision

  What happened in 1997 is still happening all over the world today.

  Korea, 2006: An Australian jury voted to acquit a 23-year-old man of rape. The perpetrator avoided conviction because the victim’s “skinny” jeans were found neatly folded by the bed and the victim had a medical record of depression. The court ignored the fact that the victim had endured 20 weeks of medical care as a result of jumping from the sixth-floor-room window in an attempt to escape her perpetuation.

  Australia, 2011: An Australian jury voted to acquit a 12-year-old man of rape. The perpetrator avoided conviction because the victim was wearing tight-fitting pants when the incident took place—pants that, according to the defense lawyer, would have been “difficult...to be taken off by someone else unless the wearer’s existing, collaborating or consenting.”

  Australia, 2016: A fancy dress party ended with a 17-year-old lesbian woman accusing a Christian man of rape. The events of that night have already been played out in the Sydney District Court. The jury returned a not-guilty verdict and for the second time in the past year, a “skinny jeans” defense was used in a sexual assault case.

  We cannot change what happened in the past, but you can help us CHANGE THE FUTURE.

  April 27, 2016
  Denim Day

  Dispose this rape myth:
  Wear DENIM on April 27, 2016 to raise AWARENESS through your knowledge about the connection between coercion, threats and violence. There is NO EXCUSE and NEVER AN INVITATION to RAPE.

- May 4, 2016
  Cinco de Mayo
May 9, 2016
OC Fire Academy Graduation Ceremony
Batallion 45