



FROM THE PRESIDENT

OXNARD COLLEGE

February 29 and March 7, 2016

Chronicle of Higher Education “2016 Trends Report”

As I was putting together the sections for this edition of “From the President,” Karla laid on my desk the “2016 Trends Report” from the Chronicle of Higher Education. Taking a break from writing, I scanned the publication, which focuses on the editors’ analysis of ten key shifts in higher education. Among these are four trends that, from my point of view, are particularly relevant to Oxnard College in the coming year, as quoted directly from the report:

- **Efforts by colleges to combat sexual assault by creating new cultural norms on the campus.** Under pressure to make sure their handling of sexual-assault cases will stand up under Title IX, some institutions are proactively educating students about the meaning of consent and the importance of intervening to prevent sexual violence.
- **A movement to overhaul the college transcript.** Some colleges are adding new types of information to transcripts to better reflect what students have learned and accomplished. An expanded and digitized transcript may lead to “the quantified student,” but it could also provide a powerful accountability metric that allows colleges to track graduates.
- **The rise of the instructional designer.** As online learning and new classroom technologies spread, the demand for instructional designers—who develop courses that others may teach—is growing.
- **A reliance on better marketing to survive enrollment challenges and create a stronger institutional identity.** The golden rule: Know who your students are, and figure out how best to serve them.

We continue to live in challenging and exciting times as educators...

James W. Hinshaw

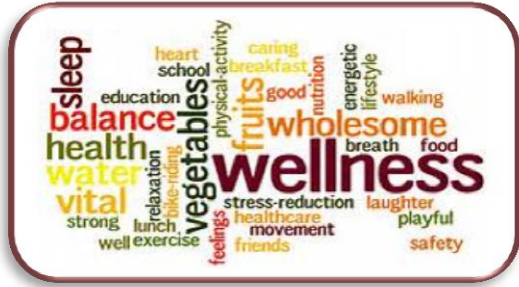
Welcome New Employee

Susan Nicholl
Administrative Assistant
INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS



Every Wednesday – SHOW YOUR CONDOR SPIRIT – Sport Your “Condor wear”!

Campus Health and Wellness a Continuing Priority



Dr. Deanna McFadden, Health Services Director, provides this update:

Oxnard College's Campus Health and Wellness Committee met for the first time on February 9, 2016 under the chairmanship of Dr. Oscar Cobian. Committee members includes Deanna McFadden, Gail Warner, Liz Burnett, Linda Martinez, Letty Mojica, Nelly Perez, and Karen Paxton as well as four student representatives. After reviewing data from the Oxnard College Fall 2014 health survey (n=1051), the committee has decided to initially focus on three Oxnard College student health concerns: mental health, obesity, and sexual assault.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death in 18-24 year olds, and very sadly we lost one of our students to suicide last semester. In response to this, safeTALK, a suicide alertness workshop will be offered at Oxnard College by Ventura County Behavioral Health on March 16, 2016. Attendance is limited to 35 participants and registration forms are available in the health center. Please encourage students to attend; they are our eyes and ears on the ground.

The committee is also planning a Clothesline event and celebration of Denim Day in April, more information will be forthcoming. Please contact Deanna McFadden (dmcfadden@vcccd.edu) with any questions, suggestions, or comments.

Catalog Revision Time Again

Krista Mendelsohn sends a "Thank you to the following individuals who were the **first** to send their 2016-17 OC Catalog revisions to Krista & Shannon [Davis]!"

- Classified – Connie Owens
- Faculty – Jerry Lulejian

Please remember that all catalog revisions are due to Krista & Shannon by **Monday, March 21**.



Institutional Effectiveness Visits Now Occurring

Being able to prove our effectiveness as an institution, through the collection and analysis of data, has become a cornerstone of such key institutional functions as maintaining institutional accreditation, building budgets that are data-informed, and demonstrating the effectiveness of our programs in Student Equity and SSSP. To further refine our efforts in this regard, Dr. Cynthia Herrera, as our Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, has already initiated the development of data portraits of OC that have been highlighted in recent newsletters. Further, she has begun meeting with departments and offices across campus to hold dialogues about "what questions to ask," how to collect data to provide responses to those questions, and how to develop the techniques of analysis that will contribute to developing a culture of analysis on our campus that can guide the maximization of our resources and, by extension, our support for students to help them achieve their academic goals.

Update on Institutional Accreditation Process

We are heading into the "home stretch" on our institutional accreditation self-study. This month, the draft will undergo review by our shared governance entities. After incorporating suggestions received through shared governance, initial drafts will be submitted April 21 for review by the District Council on Accreditation and Planning,

with the first reading by the Board of Trustees scheduled for the May meeting. A second reading will occur at the Board's June meeting, with the document being submitted to ACCJC by July 1.

“Treasures of Spain” a Highlight of the Literature, Arts, and Lectures Series



From left: *Janelle DeStefano, Wendy Castellanos, and Scott Wolf*

Oxnard College's own Scott Wolf, Professor of Music and active performer of both classical and flamenco guitar, anchored an outstanding performance on March 2 of flamenco-inspired Spanish songs as part of Oxnard College's Literature, Arts, and Lecture Series. A “packed house” enjoyed Scott's talents, along with those of mezzo-soprano Janelle DeStefano and flamenco dancer Wendy Castellanos, in a vibrant presentation combining guitar, singing, and dance to illustrate the themes and musical language of flamenco.

The next LA&L event—“Independent Publishing of Fiction, Memoir, and Poetry—is Wednesday, March 9, at 1 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center.

“El Bracero” Producer Presents Scholarship Check to Foundation

Miguel Orozco, producer of the mariachi opera “El Bracero,” co-sponsored by Oxnard College, reported to the Oxnard College Foundation (OCF) at its recent Board meeting about the success of the play, presenting three sold-out performances. Our students are the beneficiaries of Miguel's efforts to highlight the history of the Bracero movement, for the ticket sales allowed Miguel to present the OCF with a check for \$1,000 to support Oxnard College student scholarships. The Foundation will match their \$1,000 donation dollar-for-dollar to fund *OCF Performing Arts Scholarships*.

Thank you, Miguel, and all the volunteer performers who brought to life an important facet of the history of Oxnard.



From left: *Tony Volante, Oxnard College Foundation President, and Miguel Orozco, “El Bracero” producer*

Family Financial Well-Being Summit



Oxnard College's CARE Counselor, Everardo Rivera, was a presenter at the Family Financial Well-Being Summit on Wednesday, February 24. The event was sponsored by Ventura County Community Development Corporation. The purpose of the summit was to help improve the financial situation for families in Ventura County, narrow the gap between rich and poor, and increase the opportunity for all households to be financially well. There were over 70 participants in the event.

Cash for College Workshop a Success

More than 300 students attended the fourth annual Cash for College workshop on Saturday, Feb. 20, in the Student Services Building on the Oxnard College campus.



The event, sponsored by Oxnard College financial aid and the California Student Aid Commission, was open to the community to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California Dream Act application for the 2016-17 academic year. Priority deadline is March 2, 2016.

The mission of the Cash for College workshops is to help low-income and first-generation college students complete the financial aid application process for higher education and career or technical training beyond high school.

After walking into the Student Services Building as early as 8:30 p.m., high school seniors, Oxnard College students and some students attending other colleges were greeted by student ambassadors wearing bright orange T-shirts to sign in, get directions to a computer lab, get a survey and start the online FAFSA or California Dream Act application.

Computer labs in the Student Services Building lobby, assessment center and the Education Assistance Center were full most of the day. Student ambassadors and financial aid staff guided students step-by-step to create Federal Student Aid (FSA) Usernames and passwords, answered questions, retrieved tax information, explained the financial aid process and encouraged students to always have a “Plan B” by listing their local community college on FAFSAs and California Dream Act applications.

Morning fare included bagels and cream cheese, fruit, juice and water. PizzaMan Dan’s offered up pizza slices for the afternoon crowd.

Counseling, EOPS, matriculation and outreach guided participants to resources and talked to students and parents about the community experience, admissions applications and programs and services available at Oxnard College.

Prior to Saturday’s event, financial aid staff, student ambassadors and outreach assisted local high school students throughout January and February with FAFSA, California Dream Act applications and admissions applications.

Oxnard College participated in the following high school events (attendance noted):

- Hueneme High school financial aid night, 41 students, FAFSA and CA Dream Act (English/Spanish)
- Channel Islands High School, various dates, 192 students, FAFSA and CA Dream Act (English/Spanish)
- Pacifica High School, various dates, 90 students (English/Spanish)
- Oxnard High School, various dates, 167 students (English/Spanish)
- Rio Mesa High School financial aid night, 27 students (English/Spanish)
- ACE Charter school financial aid/open house night, 5 students (English/Spanish)
- Vista Real High School event, 8 (English/Spanish)

Thanks to all staff and volunteers whose unifying Condor spirit made Cash for College a soaring success. We had 313 students sign in and 212 students complete the California Student Aid Commission survey.

Southern California Writing Centers Association Annual Tutor Conference



Eleven tutors from the Oxnard College Writing and Reading Center and Tutoring Center along with the WRC Director attended the *Southern California Writing Centers Association Annual Tutor Conference* on Saturday, February 27 at Westmont College in Santa Barbara. The conference was attended by over 330 tutors from more than 40 colleges and universities in California, Utah and Nevada. The theme for this year's conference was "Believing and Doubting: Writing Center Ethics, People, and Practice." The tutors who attended the conference, most of whom are also students at Oxnard College, will be applying what they learned at the conference to their tutoring sessions to best meet the needs of our Oxnard College students by helping them to achieve success.

Upcoming Events

- ❖ **March 9, 2016**
OC LA&L Series: “Independent Publishing of Fiction, Memoir and Poetry”
 In celebration of International Women’s Day, editor and poet **Kate Gale** of Red Hen Press will discuss writing and publishing and how to find a direction from being a writer to being a published writer, followed by a short reading of her own poems, then a Q & A.
- ❖ **March 16, 2016**
OC LA&L Series: “Why Practice Yoga?”
 Yoga teacher and long-time practitioner **Nisahna Engel** will present a PowerPoint that will acquaint the audience with yoga’s origins, which include more than just postures, and will introduce yoga’s eight-fold path and a simple secret for recharging the body and brain.
- ❖ **March 30, 2016**
OC LA&L Series: “Roll Deep: Poems of Journey & Home”
 Award-winning Poet and Professor **Major Jackson** will read from his new collection, *Roll Deep*, and from previous books, *Holding Company*, *Hoops* and *Leaving Saturn* (National Book Critics Award Circle finalist) – all of which return to his African American roots – followed by a book signing.
- ❖ **April 2, 2016**
“Dreaming of You” – Soñando Contigo
 Oxnard College will be co-sponsoring this benefit concert with Susan Curtis Denham Memorial Scholarship Fund which will feature Las Divas Latinas Michelle Pina and Kat Monzon who will pay tribute to the music of Selena and other recording superstars. The event will take place on Saturday, April 2, 2016, at 7:00 PM in the Oxnard College Performing Arts Auditorium. The net proceeds will benefit the Oxnard College Foundation – Susan Curtis Denham Scholarship Fund which has provided 65 Dental Hygiene scholarships since its inception in 2005. Cost: \$40-VIP, \$30-General Admission (Student Discount \$10 OFF). To order tickets, please contact Alan Curtis at (805) 432-5942 or via email at alanandmary075@roadrunner.com.
- ❖ **April 13, 2016**
SAVE THE DATE – Oxnard College’s 40th Anniversary Celebration



Planning is underway for Oxnard College’s 40th Anniversary Celebration to take place on April 13, 2016, from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the Condor Café. More details to follow soon. Mark your calendars!