



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

OXNARD COLLEGE

March 28, 2016

## **“Expectations Meet Reality”: A New Report on the Underprepared Student and Community Colleges**

The Center for Community College Student Engagement recently distributed its 2016 national report, “Expectations Meet Reality—The Underprepared Student and Community Colleges,” “dedicated to the two-thirds of community college students who enter our institutions every year underprepared and not ready for college-level work.” The report provides an overview of the national challenges facing community colleges as “a call for a culture of inquiry, evidence, and accountability has led over time to a thorough reexamination of developmental education.” Oxnard College’s programs to help underprepared students, as witnessed in the development of its Transitional Studies initiative, is a testament to the leadership of our faculty and staff in addressing student success and completion rates.

However, increasing the success rate of our underprepared students is not a task delegated solely to the committed faculty and staff of the Transitional Studies unit; rather, it is our collective responsibility to be sure that our educational environment is as supportive as possible. Therefore, as we take advantage of every opportunity to support our students who come to us underprepared—for example, through our recent application for special State funding through a grant for transformative basic skills programs—it is prudent to consider the questions that the Center for Community College Student Engagement pose as we work to find solutions that will increase completion rates. The following points are quoted directly from the 2016 report.

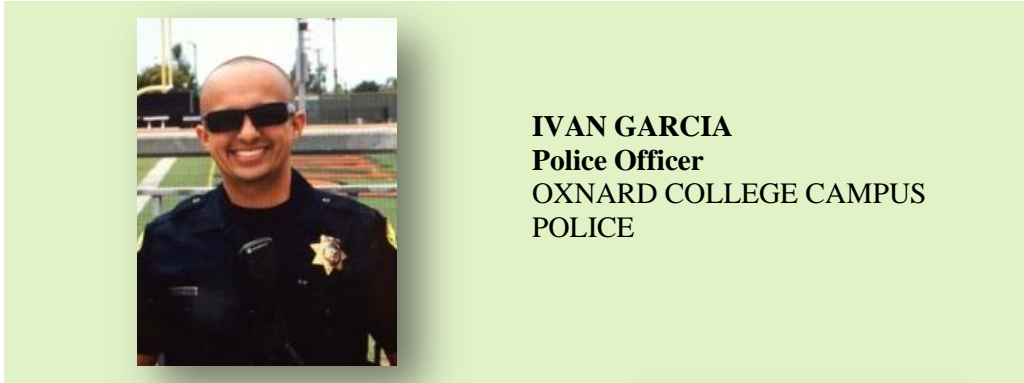
- **Advising for all.** Is your college making sure every student works with an advisor during the first term of enrollment to develop a course of study based on his or her academic goals? Is advising continuous? Is advising inescapable? It is part of coursework?
- **Assessment preparation.** How actively does your college encourage students to prepare for placement exams? What supports do you offer to help them?
- **Multiple measures for placement.** Is your college expanding the tools it uses for placement? Is your college using multiple measures —e.g., high school GPA, courses taken in high school, etc.—so placement decisions are based on a more complete picture?
- **Identification of students’ needs for support.** Does your college’s intake process include a system for identifying the types and level of academic and non-academic support each student will need to successfully complete college-level gatekeeper courses within his or her first year?
- **Courses that are aligned with students’ academic programs.** Does your college’s placement process account for students’ areas of study? For example, does your college differentiate math pathways, which can allow more students to complete appropriate math requirement while preparing them for their chosen careers or transfer?
- **Co-requisite courses.** Is your college offering students co-requisite courses, those in which students concurrently enroll in a development class and a higher-level class?
- **Accelerated development education.** Has your college implemented any models of accelerated development education so students can move more quickly to gateway courses?
- **Scaling up.** Is your college moving toward implementing successful pilot interventions at scale?
- **Faculty members’ role.** What type of early assessment are faculty members conducting, and what should they do when a student’s placement seems inappropriate? Does your college have a policy requiring faculty to recommend a higher or lower placement for students—or even a mechanism for doing so? Are faculty trained and empowered to talk with students about placement?

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

**Student-level data.** Is your college using data to track the progress of all students (part-time and full-time) to identify students who need more support? Does your institution measure the success of college-readiness efforts in terms of the number and percentage of entering students who successfully complete college-level gatekeeper courses within their first year?

*James L. Limbaugh*

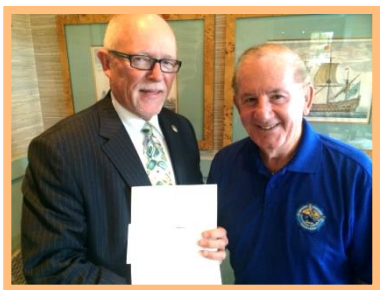
## Welcome New Employees



**VIRGINIA RYERSON**  
**Job Developer**  
EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE  
CENTER



## The Oxnard College Foundation Supports Bio/Chem Lab Renovations



Dr. James Limbaugh, Oxnard College President, accepts a check for \$80,000 from Tony Volante, Oxnard College Foundation President, signifying the first installment of their \$1 million gift to create a state-of-the-art general biology/chemistry lab. These funds will be used for development of the design and the cost estimate.

## Local Partnership Leads to Jobs



*Pictured above are three current Addictive Disorders Studies interns placed at Genesis to earn clinical hours. (From left to right: Alison Prestridge, Brandy Clemore, Francine Olivares)*

Genesis Programs, Inc., with offices in Ventura and Thousand Oaks, enjoys a mutually beneficial relationship with the Oxnard College Addictive Disorders Studies (ADS) program. Since they have been so pleased with the quality of the Oxnard College interns, Genesis has developed an internal training system that gives the unpaid student interns the opportunity for employment as they complete their ADS Certificate program at Oxnard College and become certified through the California Association for Alcohol/Drug Educators or the California Consortium of Addition Programs and Professionals. Genesis is proud to say that most of their current staff got their educational start at Oxnard College!

## Oxnard College Child Development Center Passes State Inspection

On the afternoon of March 15, the Oxnard College Child Development Center (CDC) received an unscheduled site visit by a child care licensing office representative. Despite having several key employees out sick, available staff had the required documentation and answers ready and passed inspection with flying colors. The site visit report resulted in no violations, which is licensing's testament that our center is fully compliant with all service, health and safety, personal rights, and recordkeeping requirements for the State of California. Praise is deserved by all the hard-working center staff, including the other classified teachers--Teresa de la Torre and Bertha Mendoza—and many wonderful student workers for keeping the CDC such a high quality program. *(submitted by Dr. Christina Tafoya)*



*(left to right) Nayelli Trujillo, CDC student worker; Noreen Berrington, CDC faculty coordinator; Stella Garcia, CDC classified teacher*

## Congratulations, Connie Campos, March 2016 Condor Spirit Citation Recipient

As you all know, Oxnard College's Condor Spirit Citation is awarded to those individuals nominated by OC staff and faculty who show their dedication to the College and its mission on a daily basis and in every interaction with our students and with other employees.

This month's awardee, CONNIE CAMPOS, exemplifies the essence of Condor Spirit because, according to her nominator, "Connie is a superwoman. She can answer almost every question and when she can't, she will find the answer for you. She is the main hub of the Liberal Studies division; the division could not run without her."

Chief among Connie's attributes, observes her nominator, is that "she is outgoing, friendly, hard-working, and a great overall communicator. She is truly one-of-a-kind. Seeing her smile every morning makes you have a better day. Connie is an absolute necessity in my everyday work." As an extra-added benefit, "she also makes sure there is chocolate close by at all times!"

Thank you, Connie, for your significant contributions to making Oxnard College such a great place to work and to learn.



## SOAR Week at Oxnard College

Oxnard College sponsored its annual SOAR Week (Student Orientation to Advising, and Registration) on March 21-24 for the following high schools: Oxnard, Channel Islands and Hueneme. Approximately 250 high school seniors participated in SOAR activities by completing assessment, orientation, and an educational plan with a counselor. These matriculated students will be eligible for priority registration as part of the college's student success plan. "SOAR is a great way for high school seniors to make a smooth transition to college. Most of our SOAR participants are the first in their families to attend college. Thus, a positive experience at the entry point is critical to their college success," stated Vice President Oscar Cobian.

SOAR week will continue the week of March 28-March 31, for all local high school seniors to matriculate to the college. High school seniors who miss SOAR week will be encouraged to attend multiple matriculation events scheduled for April.



## Oxnard College ASG's "Women's Appreciation Event" a Success



*Pictured above from left to right: Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard Mayor Pro Tem; Gabriela Rodriguez, ASG Advisor; and Joann Porras, Lighthouse for Women and Children representative.*

In honor of Women's History Month, the Oxnard College Associated Student Government (ASG) hosted a "Women's Appreciation Event" on March 30 at the Student Lounge on campus. The event, which was intended to commemorate the many contributions of women within our local community, featured comments by Oxnard Mayor Pro Tem Carmen Ramirez, Lighthouse for Women and Children representative Joann Porras, and ASG Advisor Gabriela Rodriguez. Several students, faculty and staff attended the event to enjoy the inspirational dialog, refreshments and other event activities. Congratulations to the ASG on another successful event!



*Event participants enjoy the messages from the event speakers.*

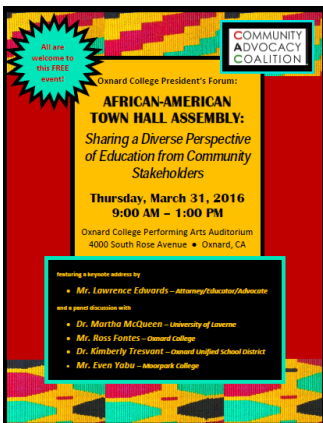
## Upcoming Events

### ❖ March 30, 2016

#### OC LA&L Series: “Roll Deep: Poems of Journey & Home”

On March 30, 1:00 PM in the Oxnard College Performing Arts Auditorium, 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.

### ❖ March 31, 2016



#### President’s Forum: “African American Town Hall Assembly”

On March 31, from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM in the Oxnard College Performing Arts Auditorium, there will be an African American Town Hall Assembly facilitating discussion on “Sharing a Diverse Perspective on Education from Community Stakeholders” featuring a keynote address by Mr. Lawrence Edwards, Esq. and panelists Dr. Martha McQueen, Mr. Ross Fontes, Dr. Kimberly Tresvant and Mr. Even Yabu.

### ❖ April 2, 2016

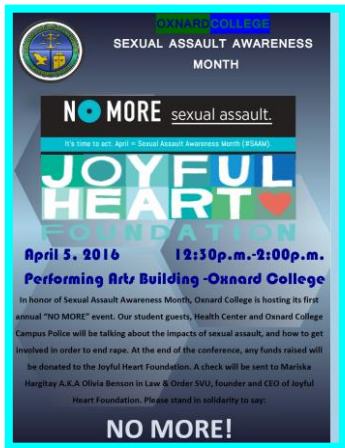
#### “Dreaming of You” – Soñando Contigo

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](mailto:alanandmary075@roadrunner.com).



### ❖ April 5, 2016

#### “No More” – A Sexual Assault Awareness Event

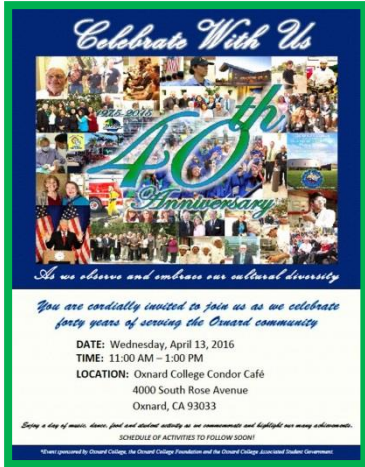


In honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Oxnard College is hosting its first annual “NO MORE” event. Our student guests, Health Center and Oxnard College Campus Police will be talking about the impacts of sexual assault, and how to get involved in order to end rape. At the end of the conference, any funds raised will be donated to the Joyful Heart Foundation. A check will be sent to Mariska Hargitay A.K.A Olivia Benson in Law & Order SVU, founder and CEO of Joyful Heart Foundation. Please stand in solidarity to say: NO MORE!

❖ **April 13, 2016**

**SAVE THE DATE – Oxnard College’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary / Multicultural Day Celebration**

Planning is underway for Oxnard College’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration to take place on April 13, 2016, from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the Condor Café. Please note that the Multicultural Day events will continue from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. More details to follow soon. Mark your calendars!



❖ **April 15, 2016**

**One Book, One Campus featuring Shyima Hall author of “Hidden Girl”**

Author Shyima Hall will be speaking about her book “Hidden Girl: A True Story of a Modern-Day Child Slave” at the Oxnard College Performing Arts Auditorium on Friday, April 15, 2016, from 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM. This is a FREE event. All are welcome!

