



FROM THE PRESIDENT

OXNARD COLLEGE

Weeks of September 7, 2015
& September 14, 2015

Friends,

This edition of "From the President..." is a "double issue," providing news and updates from both last week and this week due to the scope of activities and accomplishments being reported.



JEFF HIBEN: 1st Recipient of the Condor Spirit Citation Award

This week we presented our first Condor Spirit Citation, based on your nominations of members of the OC community who truly exemplify the spirit of our campus. Jeff Hiben, Instructional Assistant in our Auto Tech program, was surprised on Wednesday, September 16, at 2:00 p.m., during his AT-R010-*Fundamentals of Automotive Technology* class. Jeff was presented with a Spirit Citation, cookies for the class, balloons, and a gift card provided through the generosity of the Oxnard College Bookstore. Also participating in the event were Ken Sherwood, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Christina Tafoya, Dean of CTE and Jennifer Clark, Classified Senate President.

In suggesting Jeff for this award, his nominator notes that "Jeff is an indispensable asset to Oxnard College. Without him, our Auto Repair and Auto Body programs would not be what they are. He not only teaches our Fundamentals classes, but also keeps our tool room and facility operating smoothly on a day to day basis. Our programs have high safety standards and Jeff is a main reason. When a student needs help, whether it's for tools, registration for class or advice on what classes to take, Jeff is always there for them. He is a driving force with regards to students persisting in our programs.

"He is always available for attendance at the local High School Career Fairs, and thoroughly enjoys talking to the high school students. During these functions he not only promotes our program but promotes all programs at Oxnard College as well as district-wide. During just one year, Jeff has been invited to speak to high school English classes, woodshop class and other subjects not directly related to Auto Repair/Auto Body. That's because Jeff is a great speaker, engaging, warm and fun. He works with enthusiasm and is a positive example to all of us. He brings that same enthusiasm to his work in participatory governance, having served ably on Planning and Budget Council. Jeff has been working overtime for years because he knows that at OC, there is a need."

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



Air conditioning units and controls in Alan's teaching lab in the OE building.

GOING THE EXTRA MILE: Alan Ainsworth

Ever since my arrival on campus, I have been impressed by the level of dedication exhibited on a daily basis to our mission, our students, and our community of educators.

For Alan Ainsworth, Assistant Professor of Environmental Control Technology in Career and Technical Education (CTE), his commitment prompted him to undertake a special summer project: personally building a custom laboratory of air conditioning/ventilation equipment to provide an educational environment that replicates the working world.

To ensure students get the best training possible, the Environment Control Technology (HVAC) program needed access to both old and new systems. With support from OC staff, the CREATE consortium grant, Dave Teasdale (Prop 39 grant) and colleagues, Alan was able to build a state of the art lab including 90%+ high efficiency furnaces, residential air conditioning systems with SEER* ratings of 13 and higher, variable speed/variable volume air conditioning units that currently are the highest rated efficiency units commonly sold today (SEER 26+) and many new tools and electronic instruments needed to properly service these new, highly technical systems.

These new systems and tools make it possible for students to be taught to "tune" systems to achieve maximum energy efficiency. We are also the only college in several area counties to offer training in energy auditing through Alan's Automation & Control Systems program.

Alan's exceptional work has modernized the program and ensures that we are able to train our students for today's job industry.....today. Thank you, Alan, for such a tangible demonstration of your passion for our students.

Condor Days Celebrates the Vitality of OC Student Life

We conservatively estimate that over 200 students visited displays and booths at this week's Condor Day to learn more about academic programs, student services, and co-curricular opportunities. Our thanks go to Marcos Lupian and Linda Webb for their efforts in organizing this annual event.



The 44th Battalion of the Oxnard College Regional Fire Academy heading to Condor Day

OC Blue and green prevail as students learn more about OC student organizations and campus support services.



Representatives of OC's Associated Student Government welcome students and recruit those interested in contributing to campus life as a senator or officer.



Chancellor Harris Visits OC for the Statewide Chancellor's Circle Luncheon

Dr. Brice Harris, Chancellor of the California Community College System, hosted a Statewide Chancellor's Circle Luncheon on OC's campus. Over 70 guests, representing faculty, staff, and community leaders from across the region, experienced our OC spirit with pre-luncheon tours of the Student Services Building and the Library/Learning Resources Center.

Lunch displayed the talents of our Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management students and served a dual purpose: the menu itself and its preparation and service was literally a classroom assignment and "in-the-field" experience as well as an excellent meal.

Dr. Harris' remarks focused on two fundamental goals for California community colleges: increasing access (especially in light of the numbers of students who could not be admitted during the recession) and ensuring student success. He cited our transitional studies in math as an excellent example of the combination of faculty leadership and technology to provide students the knowledge and the confidence they need to succeed in mathematics courses. In closing, Dr. Harris observed that now is the best time in recent history for California community colleges, both in terms of funding and opportunities to create transformative learning experiences.

This event truly highlighted Oxnard College: its people, its spirit, and its focus on service to our community.

Chancellor Harris greeting and thanking our CRM students.



Dr. Brice Harris, Chancellor,
California Community College System
and

Dr. Bernard Luskin, Chancellor,
Ventura County Community College District



The Black Box Theater, transformed into
a beautiful dining area.



Guests were treated to a special performance by members of the Oxnard College Ballet Folklórico Mestizo, including one of our own staff members: Anjelica Ramos-Navarro, Educational Assistance Center.

Highlights of Board of Trustees Meeting, September 8

Here is an overview of actions taken by the Board of Trustees at their regular monthly meeting, held Tuesday evening, September 8:

1. Approved Board Policy 2431, establishing practices to be observed regarding the recruitment and selection of the Chancellor;
2. Voted affirmatively to contract with an external recruitment firm to facilitate and lead a national search process for the position of Chancellor;
3. Approved revisions to Administrative Policy 7120-A regarding procedures to be followed in hiring vice chancellors;
4. Announced its plans to conduct a Trustees workshop on Saturday, September 26;
5. Voted to accept its Performance Goals for 2015-2016 which, according to the agenda, “incorporate potential areas of improvement” identified as the result of their annual self-evaluation and the input of the Consultation Council;
6. Adopted the VCCCD Strategic Technology Plan for the period 2015-2018;
7. Adopted the District budget for 2015-2016 (full details will be provided in the next newsletter);

8. Approved the establishment of two new positions (Executive Assistant to the to-be-established Vice Chancellor for Educational Services and an Instructional Lab Technician-Nursing at Moorpark College);
9. Approved the reclassification of positions currently designated as Instructional Design Specialist and Instructional Technologist as part of a restructuring of the classification plan.

Three OC items were approved as part of the Board’s consent agenda: A contract with Key Club LLC to provide leadership in integrating curriculum into the freshman and senior-level Health Sciences classes at Hueneme High School as part of OC’s STEM grant; the extension of a contractual agreement for project inspection services at the Dental Hygiene building; and a partnership agreement with Ventura Fleet Operations to establish a School-to-Work program for students in our Auto Tech program.

Trustee Blum reported on his work as a member of the Statewide Accreditation Task Force, charged by Chancellor Harris to evaluate the current processes and issues surrounding institutional accreditation for all California community colleges. This report, which will generate significant conversation in the months to come, recommends that the CCC system search for a new accrediting organization. The Chancellor announced that this report would be made available via a link on the VCCCD website for all interested in reviewing its contents.

Oxnard College Holds Annual 9/11 Observance Ceremony

