



FROM THE PRESIDENT

OXNARD COLLEGE

Week of September 21, 2015

Thanks for all the positive feedback we've received for our weekly "From the President..." (FTP) communiques. Based on what we've learned from your comments, we have changed our schedule. FTP is now a Monday morning publication, effective with this issue.



Fire Cadets Construct Training Rack

Under the leadership of the Oxnard College Fire Academy coordinator, Captain Tami Crudo, the cadets of Battalion 44 constructed a knot rack as a class project for them to use as an instructional tool in learning how to tie the required knots for their Firefighter 1 eligible certification. The knot rack will provide an additional training/practice prop for the many skills they must learn that involve ropes and knots. The cadets appreciate projects such as these because it gives them a chance to learn new skills or hone a skill they learned prior to entering the academy and pass along something of use to the next battalion. Eventually, a sign noting the contributions of Battalion 44 will be posted adjacent to the rack. *(Thanks to Gail Warner for providing this information)*

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

VCCCD Recognized Nationally for Programs and Achievements

As reported by Chancellor Luskin, the August 31st edition of **Community College Week** lists of top tier community colleges in the nation based on their achievements in specific categories as compiled by the U.S. Department of Education.



Oxnard College: 1 category

- **84th** of top 100 for Hispanic students receiving Associate Degrees across all disciplines.



MOORPARK COLLEGE

Moorpark College: 3 categories

- **18th** of top 100 for students receiving Associate Degrees in Communication, Journalism, & Related Programs.
- **35th** of the top 50 for students receiving Associate Degrees in Agriculture, Agricultural Operations, & Related Sciences.
- **23th** of the top 50 for students receiving Associate Degrees in Parks, Recreation, Leisure & Fitness Studies.



Ventura College: 4 categories

- **99th** of top 100 for two-year certificates across all disciplines.
- **72nd** of top 100 for minority students receiving Associate Degrees across all disciplines.
- **37th** of top 100 for Hispanic students receiving Associate Degrees across all disciplines.
- **43th** of the top 50 for students receiving Associate Degrees in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies.

Budget Update

Fiscal Year 2016 is shaping up to be a good year, not only for Oxnard College, but for the District and for community college education in California. To give you an overview, Mike Bush, OC's Vice President for Business Services, is serving as a "guest essayist" to elaborate on the budget and its local impact.

Partially due to phenomenal growth over the past two years and an improved State Budget, Oxnard College is enjoying an outstanding budget this year. General fund revenues are up \$2.8 million, an 11% increase over last year, which has enabled us to maintain contractual obligations, restore lost positions, add new support staff, and increase the class schedule. The State Budget Act also included funding to convert part-time positions to fulltime positions that must be in place by the fall semester of 2016. As a result, we anticipate hiring an additional 7-9 fulltime faculty positions.



The State budget also promises substantial increase for Extended Opportunity Programs and Services, Student Equity, and the Student Success and Support Program, enabling these vital programs to expand services to our students. We anticipate receiving these award letters from the State by mid-October and will begin augmenting services shortly thereafter.

Given the multiple years of a positive economic growth, some folks are wondering when the “bottom is going to fall out,” and how will the College deal with the down turn. Certainly, it is not a question of “if” but “when” the economy cycle will spiral downward. Still, there are many indications that the State is not anticipating any downward movement next year.

For example, State tax revenues for the month of August are tracking at \$108 million above the budget forecast. The Department of Finance’s (DOF) September 2015 Finance Bulletin indicates that the “big three” taxes together are meeting the forecast, with the personal income tax up \$33 million (0.8%), the sales and use tax up \$42 million (2.1%), and the corporation tax down \$25 million (-20.3%). Regarding the latter, it is important to note that August is not a significant month for corporate tax payments, with only \$123 million expected.

The Finance Bulletin also notes that the state’s labor market continues to improve, with 80,600 jobs added in July. This increase was the sixth largest month-over-month gain in the last 25 years and accounted for one-third of the nation’s gains. Along with the added jobs, the state’s unemployment rate fell 0.1% to 6.2% in July; however, this is still higher than the U.S. unemployment rate of 5.3%.

Finally, the Department of Finance report notes that sales of existing single-family homes were up 12.7% from July 2014, and the median home price was up 5.4% to \$488,260 from year-ago levels.

Susan Yeager from the California Community College State Chancellor’s Office shared that the Californians for Quality Schools (CQS) ballot measure for a 2016 state general obligation bond has been certified for the November 2016 general election ballot. The voters will have the opportunity to approve a \$9 billion state school bond, including \$2 billion for community college facility projects and \$7 billion for K-12.

The Chancellor's Office is excited about a potential facilities bond after ten years without a significant infusion of capital outlay funds to the community college system. With a potential statewide bond, colleges will be able to leverage state funds with local bonds to meet facilities needs and create quality learning spaces for the state’s 2.1 million community college students.

While the Administration’s response to the ballot initiative remains uncertain, the Chancellor’s Office will continue to advocate that the capital outlay projects approved by the Board of Governors in the 2016-17 capital outlay spending plan be scheduled in the 2016-17 Governor’s budget contingent upon approval of the statewide bond.

While we are busy implementing the budget augmentations to our current budget, on September 21, 2015, the Board of Governors approved the California Community Colleges System Budget Request for the upcoming 2016-17 budget. They are requesting the following augmentations for California Community Colleges:

- \$175 million (3%) in growth/restoration funding;
- \$100 million (1.6%) for the statutory cost-of-living adjustment;
- \$250 million (just more than 4%) to augment base funding to address increasing pension contributions and other increasing operating expenses;
- \$80 million to hire additional full-time faculty;
- \$200 million to fund career technical education by implementing recommendations of the Task Force on Workforce, Job Creation, and a Strong Economy;
- \$55 million to restore categorical programs to pre-recession levels;
- \$50 million for the Student Success and Support Program and Student Equity Plans;

- \$22 million for the Telecommunications and Technology Infrastructure Program;
- \$20 million for basic skills;
- \$15 million for training and other activities through the Institutional Effectiveness Division of the Chancellor’s Office; and
- \$1.5 million for the I Can Afford College campaign.

The System Budget Request also suggests that, if there is one-time funding that becomes available, priority should be given to funding deferred maintenance, instructional equipment, and discretionary block grants. There is also a request for the state to further increase Cal Grant funding for 2016-17.

Lastly, there is a request for a guaranteed revenue backfill for local property tax and fee revenue shortfalls, as there is a commitment to backfill redevelopment agency funds and Education Protection Account funds.

The next step is to formally submit the System Budget Request to the Department of Finance, which will develop the Governor’s proposal for the entire State Budget for 2016-17 to be released in early January 2016.

Men’s and Women’s Soccer are “Doing Us Proud!”



Oxnard College Condors:
Men's Soccer Team



Oxnard College Lady Condors:
Women's Soccer Team

Consider for a moment what our student athletes are doing to represent Oxnard College, as reported by Jonas Crawford, OC Director of Athletics.

The Oxnard College Condor Men’s Soccer team has now won 34 straight Western State Conference games. Their last Conference loss was to Santa Monica College on September 17, 2013.

They defeated Citrus College on September 22, 2015, by a score of 3-0. The Condor defense, led by sophomore goalie Eduardo Garcia, has not allowed a goal in WSC play this season. They hope to continue the current trends, and claim the WSC crown for the fourth year in a row.

The Lady Condors have also started strong in 2015. They are undefeated in the young season at 4-0-3. They played LA Valley College to a tie on Tuesday afternoon, and have outscored their opponents 21-4. The OC Women's Soccer team has never won a WSC championship, and although the conference is as tough as ever, with four of the teams ranked in the top 25, the Condors have a great opportunity.

If you know any of these outstanding student athletes, please congratulate them on their achievements and thank them for being such good representatives for our OC community.

Official Oxnard Ties and Bowties – NOW AVAILABLE!



Ken Sherwood, Bernardo Perez (Board of Trustees), Mike Bush, Oscar Cobian, Jim Limbaugh, and Robert Cabral all proudly wear the new Oxnard College tie.

In continuing our celebration of Oxnard College, and through the generosity of the Oxnard College Foundation, official OC ties are now available. Also, please note that the second order of Condor Spirit Shirts has arrived! Thanks to the generous donations of our faculty and staff, the Oxnard College Foundation has raised over \$4,000 for scholarships funds since August 14!!! If you have not yet donated to the OCF Scholarship Fund and received your gift (shirt or tie), please stop by to see Connie Owens in the OC Foundation Office with your minimum \$25 donation payable by cash, check or payroll deduction. *Please note that shirts are available in sizes Men's S-3XL and Women's S-4XL.*

Remember to pick up your shirt or tie before next Wednesday's Spirt Day!

Enjoy This Healthy Recipe from Our Culinary & Restaurant Management Program

VERY VEGGIE VEGETABLE CURRY

YIELD 5-7 SERVINGS

*recipes from the
condor cafe*
LIZ BURNETT

This recipe is vegan and low sodium dish.

Ingredients

- Vegetable oil ½ oz
- Onions, thinly sliced ½ pound
- Garlic, minced 1 clove
- Celery or fennel, sliced 2 oz
- New Potatoes, raw, peeled, and cubed ½ pound
- Green Beans, blanched ½ pounds
- Green Onions, sliced ¼ bunch
- Curry Powder ½ oz
- Ground Cumin dash
- Ground Coriander ½ tsp
- Vegetable Stock 1 cup
- Tomato Paste (low Sodium) 2 oz
- Tomato Sauce (low Sodium) 2 oz



Method of Cooking;

In a sauce pan, heat oil. Add onions and garlic and saute until brown. Add celery, potatoes, and beans. Saute until veggies are tender. Add green onions, curry, cumin and coriander. Saute briefly. Add stock and tomato products and allow to simmer until veggies are tender.

Serve over couscous, basmati rice or barley pilaf. Garnish with fresh peas, pepper ring, and chopped tomatoes and onion.

FLU SHOTS Available at Oxnard College; Health Fair Coming Soon!

Save the date:

OC Health Fair October 7th
10 am - 1 pm
in our Student Quad area
Free HIV rapid test Clinic in
Student Health Center

Flu Shots

now available in Student
Health Center \$20 fee

Call for your
appointment

