



FROM THE PRESIDENT

OXNARD COLLEGE

November 2, 2015

When the “From the President...” newsletter began, it had a modest goal: to keep the campus updated on events, issues, and accomplishments. Virtually all of the content came from my own experiences out and around campus.

Now, with this issue, FtP reflects an expanded environment for communication, in that the greatest majority of the stories are provided by and written by you. I am also learning that this communique is being read beyond the borders of our campus, thus sharing our achievements with new and old friends alike.

This newsletter belongs to the OC community, so please continue to send information to either Karla Banks or myself. Our informal deadline is the close of business on Wednesdays in order to make a loose publication deadline of Mondays.

Thank you for all that you do, for without your commitment and dedication, this newsletter wouldn't exist.

Go Condors!

Students Work to Beautify the OC Campus



Oxnard College Art students Julio Almaraz, Adriana Velázquez, Florence Toralba and Taydé Luévano have been hard at work on the current mural project that will grace North Hall 7's wall facing the gardens. The mural, designed by Art Club president Monica Sánchez, was approved by the Campus Use, Development and Safety Committee (CUDS) in late Spring 2015. The Art Club's intent with the mural is to help beautify the campus while also celebrating Oxnard's cultural history and recognizing one of its largest commodities, agriculture. The mural was presented on Tuesday, November 3rd, during the fall STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math -- a student learning project between Art and Geography) Open House.



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

Associated Student Government Elects New President

[This report provided by Gaby Rodriguez, ASG Advisor.]

In preparation for a special election to fill a vacancy for a student-elected president, the officers and advisor of Associated Student Government hosted a candidates' forum on Tuesday, October 27.



Each candidate was able to share his platform to improve campus life, student activities and leadership development for Oxnard College students. The general student body was able to ask specific questions to either or both candidates. The voting

polls were open Wednesday evening and Thursday until mid-afternoon. Over 150 students came out to cast their vote, and Mario Ramirez was elected as our 2015-16 ASG president. We wish ASG and all Oxnard College students the best of luck and truly believe that under this new leadership many great activities will take place.

Updates: Air Conditioning and Emergency Event

(Mike Bush, Vice President for Business Services, offers an update on two important items: air conditioning and the emergency event last Tuesday.)

Classroom and Lab Air-Conditioning

In the past several weeks, we have received a lot of anecdotal evidence regarding the need to install air conditioning in labs and classrooms where it has been eliminated or not included in the original construction of several of our buildings. The need is certainly recognized and has been a discussion priority in Academic Senate, CUDS (Campus Use, Development, and Safety Committee), PBC (Planning and Budgeting Council), and the executive team (the president, vice presidents, and the dean of institutional effectiveness).

Therefore, Bob Sube, Director of Facilities, was asked to first survey the campus to conclusively identify the status of air conditioning in every building space. Once this information is compiled, we will select an engineering consultant to review the feasibility of installing air conditioning and develop specific installation costs. The resulting report will be shared with Academic Senate, CUDS, PBC, and President's Cabinet to see if there is consensus in amending the Facility Master Plan to establish air conditioning as a priority over other construction projects (e.g., additional classroom space, additional science laboratories, and dedicated space for the visual arts).

Details on Tuesday "Emergency Event"

On Monday October 26, we received notification of a personal safety lanyard being activated (the devices currently worn by staff in the Library and Learning Resources Center [LLRC], Student Services, and Administration buildings). Campus Police and cadets responded and implemented the emergency protocols professionally and according to plan. Fortunately, the tag's signal was sent mistakenly and the whole incident was resolved in about 15 minutes. At first, the tag gave a false positive as to the location of the staff member. During our debriefing, we discovered the false positive was caused by the employee entering with an activated tag from H parking lot to our covered area. The tag has been swapped out and is being evaluated. We trained with the manufacturer on how the system will behave with an activated tag exiting our covered area, but not entering our covered area. We now know we need more training and possibly additional equipment to better track tags in this scenario. Once the staff finishes with gathering solutions and manufacturer recommendations, we will have another debriefing to determine if procedures need to be changed.

Unfortunately, a rumor was started that the Administration Building and campus was on lock-down, which was not the case. A “lock down/ shelter in place” is used in the event of external threats – human, environmental, or weather. Please remember that communication would be sent through Blackboard Connect and the campus’s speaker notification system. Only the campus administrator in-charge or the incident commander will issue those messages. It is true – out of abundance of caution and to facilitate the search for the missing staff member – that during the incident, the incident response team asked several employees to go to their offices and shut doors until the scope of the perceived threat could be adequately assessed.

Cadets in Action



TAMI CRUDO
Professor, Fire Technology

Gail Warner, Director of Fire Technology, reports that “Captain Tami Crudo, full-time faculty, is responsible for training our future rescuers. Above, her Battalion 44 cadets practiced Low Angle Rope Rescue Operations this month. This comprehensive three day state-certified course is conducted onsite at our Camarillo site. Students utilize a six-story tower and a dirt mound called the ‘trench prop’. The exercise necessitates that cadets work together as a team of emergency responders at the scene of an ‘over-the-side’ rescue. The cadets get to utilize their newly acquired knowledge of mechanical advantage, knot tying ability and rope rescue system assembly skills. The training is a phenomenal experience that Tami arranges for each cohort.”

OC Foundation Board Member Recognized for Community Service

Irma Lopez, a long-time member of the Board of Directors of the Oxnard College Foundation, and her husband, Manual Lopez, were recently recognized by the Mexican American Bar Association as recipients of the Alice McGrath Warriors for Justice Award for lifetime achievements and dedication to community. Irma is the director of the Rebozo Festival, an event that promotes the cultural richness and diversity of the Latino community in Ventura County, with profits donated to various community non-profit organizations. She is also a founding member of the Women’s Legacy Fund and the Destino Hispanic Legacy Fund. A former City of Oxnard Woman of the Year, Irma has been recognized for her humanitarian achievements on the local and national level.

Manual, an optometrist by training, began his government career in 1965, serving on the Oxnard Community Relations Commission, Oxnard Planning Commission, Oxnard Housing Authority, and Oxnard Redevelopment Agency. He served on the Oxnard City Council from 1978, where he was mayor from 1992 until 2004. His support for Oxnard College is recognized in a campus structure named in his honor: the Dr. Lopez Tower.

OC Opens Foster Youth Center

[This report is provided by Debbie Flowers, Foster Care Project Specialist.]

The new **Guardian Scholars Foster Youth Center** (JCC-3A) at Oxnard College is now open. It is available to all current or former foster students. Foster youth students are welcome to come enjoy a comfortable, quiet and safe place to meet up and hang out, work on homework, get support, find resources, or just relax.



The Center is continually evolving as it is open to student design and decoration. Currently there are comfy couches, two new computers (and free printing!), free school supplies, free snacks, and access to funds for textbooks. Within the first week of school, 15 students were awarded \$350 vouchers from the John Burton Book Fund to use towards textbooks. Also, several students have entered a John Burton essay contest to win a free laptop.

The Center was started through a grant from the Stuart Foundation, awarded to VCCCD in 2014. This grant created a framework to create a district-wide Guardian Scholars Program for foster youth, and recommendations were made for the establishment of foster youth centers on each of the three campuses. Data was collected about the foster youth student population at each campus, and foster youth students were asked to provide input about the need to establish foster youth centers.

Now that the Center has been established, Student Equity Funds are also being integrated to increase the services available to our foster youth students. In addition, now that they have a space, students are working on establishing a Foster Youth Club. The center has been approved for FOODSHARE, so that students will be able to receive fresh produce and groceries on a weekly basis. In the future, there are plans to offer trainings and workshops, as well as have a 'textbook swap' center.

Contact person: Debbie Flowers, Foster Care Project Specialist, via telephone at (805)986-5800, ext. 2018 or email at debbiefowers@vcccd.edu.

The Latest from the Oxnard College Marine Center and Aquarium

(This information provided by Dean Carolyn Inouye)

Every semester, Shannon Newby and Tom O’Neil lead a field trip to the Channel Islands. On a recent trip to Santa Cruz Island, 90 Oceanography and Marine Biology students observed marine wildlife including humpback whales, dolphins, and sea lions. In addition, students enjoyed a moderately challenging three-mile hike through several plant communities studying the biogeography and geology of Santa Cruz Island. During the hike students observed the endemic island fox and scrub jay.

This past week, VC instructor Jennifer Garner brought her Marine Biology lab to our OC Marine Center. Her class had the unique opportunity, furnished by the marine aquarium and lab, to study both live and preserved specimens of local marine life.

In addition, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s RESTOR Project conducts teacher training workshops every year at the Marine Center. During the past two weekends, they again utilized both the lab classroom and the aquarium exhibits.

We have just set up an additional 300 gallon display tank. The tank contains examples of local marine life including kelp bass, blennies, anemones, and bat stars.

The Oxnard College Marine Center has an extensive collection of preserved marine vertebrate and invertebrate specimens. The collection began over thirty years ago and now consists of over 300 specimens. Because of the age of the collection, we are in the process of replacing 150 gallons of preservative and updating the labeling of the specimen jars. This collection is used extensively in our lab and outreach programs.

Photograph of a group of students hiking with Tom O’Neil at Pelican Bay, Santa Cruz Island, October 23, 2015.



For November, we have several activities scheduled at the Marine Center.

- On November 6th, David Haynes will bring 70 students from the Channel Islands High School Marine Science Academy to the OC Marine Center. David brings his Academy students every year to experience hands-on labs with marine vertebrates and invertebrates.
- On November 12th, Jennifer Marsh will bring her VC Marine Biology class for a “live” lab to study hermit crab behavior.
- On November 19th, Kari Tudman will bring her OC English R095 day and evening classes to the Marine Center.

We invite you to come over to the Marine Center to take a tour and participate in our activities!



Congratulations, Linda Callaway!

When you see Linda on campus, please congratulate her on being selected by her peers as the recipient of the Classified Senate’s “Classy Classified” Award for her steadfast commitment to students and to Oxnard College.

Upcoming Campus Events: SAVE THE DATES



27TH Annual High School Geography Competition

GEO Challenge 2015

“EXPLORE THE POWER OF MAPS”

“Geography Awareness Week” theme:

**Saturday
8:00 am - 12:30 pm
November 14, 2015
Oxnard College Campus**

Test your geography knowledge in

- * The Physical Environment
- * World Affairs
- * Historical & Political Geographical Issues

The Day’s Events will include a Written Competition and Team Competition. . .

Come match your wits with other surrounding county High School participants. The winning team will receive a helicopter ride over Ventura County’s Heartland, courtesy of Aspen Helicopters.

Sponsored by Oxnard College
For additional information, please contact
Christiane Mainzer (805) 986-5800 ext.1930 or email: cmainzer@vcccd.edu

OXNARD COLLEGE

The **27th Annual Geo Challenge** is scheduled to take Saturday, **November 14, 2015, 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM**. The event is sponsored by Oxnard College. For additional details, please contact Christiane Mainzer at (805) 986-5800 ext. 1930 or via email at cmainzer@vcccd.edu.

Please join us **Wednesday November 11th, 2015** for our **Veterans Day Ceremony and celebration** beginning at **11am** at the **campus flag pole**. The Veterans Club will also be accepting unwrapped gifts in exchange for a food ticket for a combination plate from ConFusion or Oh My Gosh Hotdogs. Avoid the lines and drop your unwrapped toy off at OC Veterans Center located on the 2nd floor of the Student Services Building anytime between now and November 10th. Thank you for your support!!

Questions or additional information, please contact Amparo Medina, Administrative Assistant, via telephone at (805) 986-5800 ext. 7642 or via email at amparo_medina1@vccd.edu.

**OXNARD COLLEGE
VETERANS DAY**

WED. NOV. 11th
11am – 2pm

**COLORS &
OPENING
CEREMONY
11AM**

Campus Flag Pole
With Special Guests
Dr. James Limbaugh
(OC Interim President)
Chaplain Pat Coley

Followed by food
and music between
OC Bookstore &
Condor Cafe

**TOYS-FOR-TOTS
DRIVE
FREE FOOD**

Donate an
unwrapped gift to
Toys-For-Tots and
receive a free meal
ticket to one of the
food vendors:
ConFusion
Oh My Gosh Hotdogs

Veterans Day Celebration with *music, great food & good people*, honoring all those who served and those who continue to wear the uniform. Come out and show your support for the veteran community.

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OCVETSCLUB

*You are cordially
invited to attend the
President's
Holiday
Reception*

*Wednesday, December 2, 2015
from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
in the Condor Café*

This year's **President's Holiday Reception** is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 2, 2015, from 2:00 PM-4:00 PM, in the Condor Café.**

Questions or additional information, please contact Karla Banks, Executive Assistant, via telephone at (805) 986-5808 or via email at kbanks@vccd.edu.

COMING IN JANUARY 2016!

Oxnard College will be co-sponsoring **EL BRACERO: A Mariachi Opera**. The event is scheduled for **January 16, 2016, at 7:00 PM** in the **Oxnard College Performing Arts Auditorium**, and will feature performances by *Mariachi Aguilas de Oxnard* and Oxnard College's very own *Ballet Folklorico Mestizo*.

Look for more information on this event in our upcoming newsletters!

EL BRACERO
A Mariachi Opera
Written by: Rosalinda Verde

Oxnard Performance Arts Center: January 16, 2016 at 7 p.m.
Ventura Agriculture Museum, Santa Paula: January 17, 2016 at 2 p.m.

Set in the late 1940s at the height of the Bracero program, "El Bracero" is a dynamic one-act "Mariachi Opera" which fuses mariachi music, ballet folklorico, and powerful "opera"-style musical performances. Featured on NPR, Latino USA, "El Bracero" will be making its theater debut in Ventura County.

Featuring **Mariachi Aguilas de Oxnard** and **Ballet Folklorico Mestizo**

Directed by: Miguel Orozco and Rosalinda Verde
Musical Directors: Carlos Ozuna and Miguel Pasillas

Media Sponsors:

Teatro de las Americas, MUSEUM of VENTURA COUNTY, Nueva Vista Media, Oxnard College Foundation

Halloween at Oxnard College!



2015
Classified
Senate
Halloween
Luncheon
Meeting



President
Limbaugh
at the
CS Halloween
Luncheon



Library &
Learning
Resource
Center
(LLRC)
SPOOKtacular
Decor