



FROM THE PRESIDENT

OXNARD COLLEGE

November 23, 2015

Reaffirming Our College Commitment to Inclusivity and Respect

As educators, we should all be both saddened and alarmed by the student protests at the University of Missouri, Ithaca College, and other institutions across the country. Allegations of persistent race-based discrimination and retaliatory actions have led to the resignations of two Missouri executive administrators and demands for more inclusive curricula and services. As late as this morning (Monday, November 23) the daily newsletter “Inside Higher Education” reports that over the past two weeks, threats of race-based violence have been made at over a dozen college and university campuses.

To our students, our faculty, and our community, I wish to state unequivocally that Oxnard College is, and will continue to be, a learning environment in which we meet students where they are. We will celebrate and embrace every student’s background and history. We will do everything in our power to support every student’s educational goals. We will daily strive to ensure that we maintain an educational environment in which all students feel accepted and respected.

Our collective responsibility is to provide every student the opportunity to achieve his or her potential, and these efforts are blunted if students feel ostracized or marginalized. I ask each of you to ensure that your classroom or workplace embraces and welcomes every student. OC students—future teachers, business leaders, artists, social activists, caregivers, parents, and community advocates—deserve nothing less.

Therefore, please join me in reaffirming our College Philosophy (as presented on our website) and our commitment to full inclusivity regardless of ethnicity, religion, or gender:

Oxnard College is dedicated to the philosophy of providing educational programs that develop individual abilities, strengthen human relationships, enhance community life, and heighten global consciousness. We recognize that the process of education is a process of exploration that depends on mutual responsibility.

The College schedules programs that reflect changing local, national, and international needs. Dedicated professionals create an environment that stimulates intellectual curiosity, nurtures learning, and develops an understanding of society and how individuals can influence its workings. The students develop self-understanding, pursue educational objectives, and ultimately stand accountable for their own progress.

Oxnard College celebrates diversity and cultural understanding at all levels throughout the campus. Cultural and aesthetic activities are also relevant in today’s society and are to be fostered. The College strives to provide open-access to educational opportunities so that every adult, regardless of age, sex, race, disability, or ethnic, socioeconomic, cultural or educational background shall have the opportunity for appropriate education to fulfill his or her potential.

*Oxnard College looks to the past to understand the present in order to produce a more successful future. It strives to be innovative and responsive to the educational needs and demands of society in **an atmosphere of shared governance, mutual respect, and trust.** Oxnard College is responsive not only to community needs but also to the needs of our larger society.*

If you are aware of or witness any conduct or action that detracts from our ability to provide a supportive learning environment, I encourage you to report your concerns to your supervisor, to Dr. Cobian, or to me.

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

Congratulations, Linda Faasua! Latest Recipient of the Condor Spirit Citation



For our third peer-nominated Condor Spirit Citation, we are proud to recognize Linda Faa’sua, Director of Financial Aid. According to her nominator, “Linda is a true student-centered professional. She is always finding ways to help underserved students.” Linda is also fully engaged in the life of the community, the College, and the District; for example, “she conducted numerous high school presentations, managed the Welcome Center and trained all the student ambassadors, served on multiple college and district committee, provided workshops and support for OMEGA students, and worked with counselors to identify students with financial needs.”

Thank you, Linda, for personifying the mission of Oxnard College in your tireless dedication to our students.

Farewell to Lee Boicourt, Retired after over 30 years of service to the VCCCD

Earlier this month, Lee Boicourt retired from the District. Lee served as a custodian for 32 years, beginning his career at Moorpark and worked the past 12 years at OC. Lee is well respected by his peers as a custodian’s custodian. He openly shared his knowledge and experience with his co-workers. His experience and positive attitude was central to M&O rising to the budget challenge of cleaning more buildings with fewer custodians. We wish Lee the best in his well-deserved retirement.



OC Historians, We Need Your Help

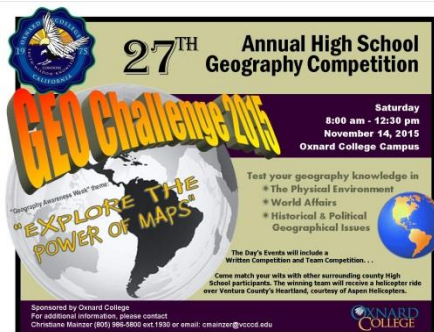


This painting has been in storage in M & O for several years. Some have said it was in the original president's office in Condor Hall. The painting has two small plaques affixed to the frame: "Stevenson Memorial Thayer" and "In Memory. Melissa Jaramillo Cauvel. August 3, 1970 – May 7, 1998."

Initial research has indicated that Ms. Cauvel was killed in an automobile accident. However, we've not yet been able to unearth any information as to the connection of any of the cited families—Stevenson, Thayer, Jaramillo, or Cauvel—to Oxnard College.

If anyone has any memories of this painting and its history or of how any of these families factor into OC's history, please drop an email to Karla Banks. We would like to again display the painting out of respect for the families.

GeoChallenge Holds Its 27th Annual Competition



On Saturday, November 14, Oxnard College hosted 29 high school teams from around the county to test their geography knowledge in the 27th annual GeoChallenge competition. This event has been a mainstay of OC's outreach to the high school community for almost three decades, the brainchild of Professor Christiane Mainzer. In the end, Oxnard High School was triumphant, winning the competition.

This will be Chris's last

official GeoChallenge as an OC faculty member, as she will be retiring in the spring. Please join me in thanking Chris for her dedication to her discipline, to Oxnard College, and to the students of Ventura County in creating and personally managing this important educational activity.

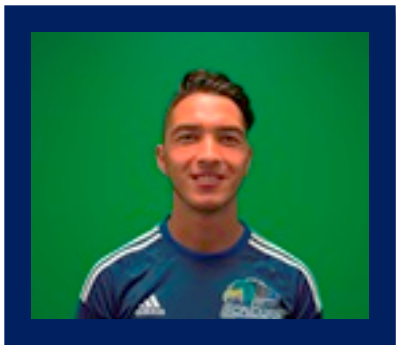


The Quintessential Bird's Eye View of OC



As a new resident of California, I love the experiences found in the contrast of fields and mountains, beaches and urban landscapes. However, seeing the Oxnard Plain and the adjacent ocean and mountains from the air reiterated for me how fortunate we all are to live in beautiful, vibrant Southern California. After the GeoChallenge, I had the opportunity to take my first helicopter ride with Jim McCrory, local helicopter pilot and long-time GeoChallenge volunteer. I hope you enjoy this view of our College, taken on a bright, clear Saturday afternoon. We have much of which to be proud.

Oxnard College Men's Soccer Prevails in Round 1



After securing the Western State Conference Championship for the fourth year in a row, without their top scorer Gustavo Navarro and midfielder Mario Sermeno, the Condors managed a gritty 2-1 victory over South Coast Conference Champion Long Beach CC in Round One of the playoffs.

Jerry Orozco (left) scored early for Oxnard off of a free kick by Jorge Jimenez in the first few minutes of the game. Oxnard played very well to stave off many good chances by the Vikings in the first half.

OC's Orozco hit the crossbar on three separate occasions, with the second looking like it crossed the goal line. It glanced off the top bar at an angle inside the goal, at the end of the first half, but the side judge ruled that it did not cross.

Long Beach gained momentum in the second half, with Lalo Garcia absorbing all the shots, and a huge body blow as well. The Condor's team captain lay motionless for several moments. He shook off the contact and continued his normal terrific defense of the home goal.

In the 85th minute, Long Beach was able to equalize the match.

The game continued in overtime, with the Condor's breaking through in 20th overtime minute. Raul Gonzalez finished strong lifting No. 6 Oxnard (15-4-3) past No. 11 LBCC for the second straight year.

OC will play Round Two on Tuesday at 2:00 PM against #14-ranked San Diego Mesa.

Oxnard College's President's Cabinet Proudly Sports the Condor Blue and Green



Our New Marquee Has Arrived!



Oxnard College accepted delivery of its new marquee on Monday, November 23, 2015. To the left, you can see contractors and staff hard at work on the installation of the unit. Once the unit is in place, concrete painted and landscaping is completed, the marquee will be ready for use.

Procedures and protocols for use of the marquee are in development. In the meantime, please refer any questions to Vice President of Business Services, Mike Bush, at mbush@vccd.edu.



Upcoming Campus Events: SAVE THE DATES

On Wednesday, November 25, 2015, the **Condor Café** will be serving a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for lunch from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, while supplies last. We hope to see you there!



\$5 Meal includes:

- Slow Roasted Turkey
- Stuffing
- Mashed Potatoes
- Turkey Gravy
- Corn and Peas
- Fresh Made Dinner Roll
- Slice of Pie



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@vcccd.edu.

The Oxnard College **Classified Senate's 2015 Holiday Luncheon** is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 9, 2015**, from **Noon-1:30 PM**, in the **Student Lounge**.

Questions or additional information, please contact Jennifer Clark, CS President, via telephone at (805) 986-5815 or via email at jjclark@vcccd.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!



Have a safe and joyous holiday!