



8TH JUN 2017

# Oxnard College CAMPUS NEWS



## SOCIAL MEDIA LAUNCH COMMENCEMENT PHOTOS

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## COMMENCEMENT 2017 CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!



*Oxnard College held its 42nd Annual Commencement on Wednesday, May 17, 2017. 1,444 new degree-holders are now prepared to make their mark on the world, an increase of 10.5 percent over last year.*

A few facts of interest about our Oxnard College Class of 2017:

- For the current academic year, there are 853 individuals who have earned an associate degree and 591 have earned a certificate of achievement. Of this group, 213 graduates are transferring to the California State University, Channel Islands, and 38 to California State University, Northridge. Others are transferring to University of California campuses, to our local partner California Lutheran University, and to other institutions throughout the state.

- Many students who have completed their certificates or degrees in occupational programs have already secured jobs or advanced in their current jobs; 32 percent of Oxnard College's Fire Academy Battalion 47 have been hired or are in the process of being hired in public safety. 100 percent of all Dental Hygiene program graduates passed all state and

national board licensure exams.

Commencement speaker Jillien Malott graduated with an associate degree in anthropology and a 4.0 grade-point average. She will transfer to UCLA in the fall to pursue her dream to become a trauma surgeon. "Many of us have had our dreams looked down upon because of where we come from or our cultural backgrounds," she said. "But today is the day we rip off our labels. This is what college is about ... learning to remove the labels that have sought to marginalize us so we can learn who we truly are," said Malott.

President Azari commended the graduates, "For many of you, you are the first in your family to attend college and to earn a degree or certificate - but you are not the last. You are a trailblazer and you set the example for others. Your brothers, sisters, cousins and other relatives will look up to you and follow in your footsteps."

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# WELCOME, DR. MARCELLA KLEIN WILLIAMS!



## Welcome: Dr. Marcella Klein Williams STEM Director - Project

*We are pleased to welcome educational leader Marcella Klein Williams, Ed.D. as Director of Project Acabado, an HSI Title III STEM grant initiative to enhance student participation, transfer articulation, and success in STEM disciplines.*

***Marcella Klein Williams joins Oxnard College as our Project Acabado, STEM Director. Dr. Klein Williams assumed her new position May 1, 2017.***

An accomplished leader, Dr. Klein Williams' strengths include organizational development, systems design, and strategic partnerships. She has led an impressive career in both teaching and administration within the P-20 California education system over the last 26 years. Previously, she served as Regional Director of the Ventura County Office of Education, as the Chief Education Officer for the California STEM Learning Network, as Director of Special Projects for Somis Union School District, and, most recently, as co-founder of and principal lead for Solve for Pattern, an educational consulting firm that links STEM teaching, learning and employment.

Dr. Klein Williams is known for artfully and innovatively building connections between classrooms and communities. She has a successful track record in leading collaborative projects with educators, entrepreneurs and civic partners. She is a founding member of the Ventura County STEM Regional Network and is the author of many successful grant proposals and publications, including the *Clinton Global Initiative's Commitment to Action: Ignition Points for the STEAM Generation*.

Dr. Klein Williams' academic credentials include a doctorate in Education Leadership from California Lutheran University, a Master of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from California State University, Northridge, and a bachelor of arts in Liberal Studies also from CSUN. She currently serves as the President of the Channel Islands Foundation and also sits on the board of Two Bit Circus Foundation, an entrepreneurial tech, design and engineering firm. Dr. Klein is a native of Ventura County and enjoys spending free time with her family. She has four children, all of whom work within STEM fields along the California coast (she hopes that one moves into teaching at some point!).

# CONGRATULATIONS, ASHLEY CHELONIS!

HONORED BY THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY  
COLLEGES BOARD OF GOVERNORS ~



*Ashley Chelonis* recognized as a 2017 California Community Colleges Classified Employee of the Year

Ashley Chelonis, an Instructional Technologist/Designer at Oxnard College, has been honored as a 2017 California Community Colleges Classified Employee of the Year. She was officially recognized by the California Community Colleges Board of Governors – which oversees the state's 113 community colleges and 72 districts – at their May 15 meeting in Sacramento. Ashley is one of four recipients selected for this prestigious commendation.

Ashley has worked for the Ventura County Community College District since 2010, and has served as the Instructional Technologist/Designer at Oxnard College since 2015. In these roles, she has provided workshops that ensure instructor readiness for online teaching and has measurably improved district and college-wide distance education services. Ashley is a significant contributor to the Oxnard College Distance Education Advisory Committee and also serves on the VCCCD Instructional Technology Committee where she collaborates with others to identify, develop, implement and evaluate areas in which technology can enhance teaching and learning. Through her work and poise, Ashley has fostered collaboration and created a culture of mutual support among her colleagues at other campuses within the district.

Ashley holds a Master of Public Policy from the University of Southern California and completed her undergraduate studies at the University of California, Berkeley. She comes from a family of California community college graduates and professionals. Her father, Dr. Jerald "Jerry" Rudmann, is featured on the California Community College Chancellor's website as a notable alumnus. Both of her parents are psychology faculty at Irvine Valley College, and her brother teaches history at Orange Coast College.

Outside of her professional responsibilities at Oxnard College, Ashley serves on the Executive Board of the Simi Valley Neighbourhood Council and was recently elected to the Soroptomist Simi Valley Board, an international club helping women excel. Starting this fall, she will run the club's female teen programs focused on empowerment, education and career. Ashley is a licensed foster parent, a youth leader and a Sunday school teacher. She and her family also rescue cats and dogs in the community.



***Congratulations to Oxnard College Registrar Joel Diaz (pictured above) and Career Technical Education Counselor Marcello Cabral (pictured right) on their recent awards.***

resource for the college community and other registrars and contributes to the operations of the financial aid, assessment and student services departments in the organization. A proponent of higher education, Diaz has emerged as a leader at the college and throughout the Ventura County Community College District. His knowledge and hard work impacts today's students and families and future generations.

The first of 10 children in his family to graduate from a four-year university, Diaz received a Bachelor of Arts in business administration from Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA.

**Joel Diaz, Latino Leadership Awards Recipient** -- Oxnard College Registrar Joel Diaz was honored by El Concilio Family Services as one of the recipients of the 28th annual Latino Leadership Awards. El Concilio Family Services, a non-profit community service organization in Oxnard, CA, provides assistance and educational programs to the underserved Latino community. This year's award theme "Making an Impact on Lives We Touch," resonated with Oxnard College Assistant Dean Leah Alarcon, Student Success and Support, who nominated Diaz for the honor.

"It gave me great joy to nominate my colleague, Joel Diaz, who makes an impact on our students' lives every day," said Alarcon. "He remains focused on doing what is in the best interest of students and on ways to help them succeed."

As Registrar, Diaz manages the admission and records processes for Oxnard College's diverse group of students. Following federal, state and District regulations, he serves as a



## REGIONAL RECOGNITION: OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

**Marcelo Cabral, VC Innovates Pathfinder** -- Oxnard College Career Counselor Marcelo Cabral was honored by VC Innovates – which partners with the Ventura County Office of Education and the Ventura County Community College District – as a 2017 VC Innovates Pathfinder of the Year honoree. Cabral is one of 25 recipients selected for commendation and officially recognized at the organization's annual award luncheon held May 4 at the Spanish Hills Country Club in Camarillo, CA. This esteemed local recognition celebrates talented leaders in education, business and community service who have made significant contributions in building pathways to employment for Ventura County students.

Cabral has served Oxnard College as a Career and Technical Education (CTE) counselor since April 2016. In this role, he works with the Ventura County Department of Education, high school partners, counselors, faculty and staff to ensure that CTE curricula align throughout the K-12/higher education levels and lead to employment or four-year transfer opportunities. Cabral is credited with establishing positive stakeholder relations, strengthening high school articulation agreements, aligning best practices in curriculum development, and establishing a new Oxnard College Career Center (set to launch in fall 2017), among other impactful job-readiness resources.

Cabral's academic credentials include a Masters in Educational Counseling with emphasis in multicultural and social justice from San Diego State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from California State University, San Bernardino. He is a native of Los Angeles, California.



*"Cabral brings energy and organization to Oxnard College's pathway efforts," said Oxnard College Dean of Career and Technical Education Christina Tafoya. "He has been instrumental in advancing our institutional work and initiatives that support student success,"*



## PHOTO GALLERIES: COMMECENMENT 2017

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Photos of the May 17 event posted online.  
Find them at [facebook.com/oxnard college!](https://www.facebook.com/oxnardcollege)

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT US.

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## SAVE THE DATE UPCOMING NOTES

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Please make a note of the following dates and share relevant information/events with our students:

- **Summer 2017 Session:**  
*Classes Still Available*  
June 19: 4, 6, 7 & 8-week Sessions Begin
- **Fall 2017 Semester:**  
*Fall 2017 Schedule of Classes Now Available*  
June 26: Begin Continuing Student Priority Registration  
July 10: Begin Returning Student Registration  
August 14: Fall 2017 Semester Begins
- **CondorFest**  
*Thursday, August 10 (8am – 1:30pm) -- Performing Arts Building*  
Questions? Please contact Luke Menchaca ([lmenchaca@vcccd.edu](mailto:lmenchaca@vcccd.edu))