



5TH MAY 2017

Oxnard College CAMPUS NEWS



You will be missed! Best wishes to our retirees ~

To our five 2017 retirees, thank you for your outstanding years of service and lasting impact. You will be missed! [Tomás Salinas](#), Professor, History (27 years full-time); [Marie Butler](#), Professor, Sociology (27 years); [Jim Merrill](#), Professor, English (32 years). Photo, bottom: [Shirley Gratner](#) (seated), Payroll (nearly 13 years). Not pictured: [Jan Straka](#), Instructional Lab Technician II (Sciences).

DANICA COBLE | PARALEGAL OC GRADUATE & PROGRAM SUCCESS



Paralegal Studies graduate Danica Coble gives thanks to Oxnard College Professor Jerry Lulejian for "opening the door to higher education and amazing career opportunities."

At the 2017 VC Innovates Pathfinder Award Luncheon on May 5th, Dr. Tiffany Morse, Executive Director of VC Innovates, opened the event with a story. She recounted asking a group of middle school boys earlier this year what they wanted to do career-wise. All of them replied, "Be a paralegal." They had heard of Oxnard College's Paralegal Studies Program – that students were securing high-pay jobs through OC... some at \$70,000 while still studying.

Danica Coble, pictured above, is one of those students. Her story, and those of others, has made an impression. Note-- it's a mark of

excellence when others herald your value (word of mouth is one of the most powerful forms of marketing). Superior faculty have made our program what it is: a notable, valuable place to be.

Danica is one of many recent Oxnard College alums eager to give thanks to Professor Jerry Lulejian. Jerry is known for opening doors of possibility, for helping students get to a rewarding place professionally.

Eight months into our paralegal program, Danica was offered an excellent position at a personal injury law firm in Ventura. Instead of putting

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Dr. Cynthia Herrera Honored as 2017 Ventura County Woman of the Year!

With great pride, we congratulate our Oxnard College Dean of Institutional Effectiveness **Dr. Cynthia Herrera**, who was honored as a **2017 Ventura County Woman of the Year** by California State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th District. This prestigious recognition celebrates four outstanding leaders in our region, women who have and continue to achieve excellence and success in their respective fields.

Dr. Herrera is known for her exemplary personal dedication, career achievements, and contributions to the community. She is a passionate advocate for education and is actively involved in civic affairs. She is a published writer, participates as a board member on multiple educational and business advisory committees, and is a dedicated volunteer in our community.

Professionally, Dr. Herrera offers a wealth of experience in organizational development, project management, institutional effectiveness and systems design. Prior to her current position, she served as the Director of Project Ascención, an initiative to enhance STEM educational programs and partnerships throughout the preschool to graduate level pipeline. She is a founding member of the Ventura County STEM Regional Network and has a successful track record in leading collaborative partnerships with non-profits, business and educational institutions. Over the last six years she has secured more than twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000 USD) in grant funds to enhance student success in STEM for Oxnard College and partners. Prior to joining college leadership, Dr. Herrera maintained a successful consulting business for over 23 years, working with large public and private sector organizations and educational institutions across the United States.

It is with celebration and respect that we thank Dr. Herrera for her outstanding contributions to our college, students and community.



Dr. Cynthia Herrera 2017 Ventura County Woman of the Year!

Congratulations, Dr. Herrera! Thank you for all that you do to positively impact the well-being of so many.



Dr. Tiffany Morse, Executive Director VC Innovates singles out Oxnard College Paralegal Studies program example pathways.

Note: More to come on this year's VC Innovates Pathfinder Award Luncheon (Marcelo Cabral awardee!).

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Danica Coble | Paralegal Studies

her studies on hold, Danica decided to keep her educational momentum going and finish her GE credits while working. In June of 2015 she transferred to California Lutheran University and secured another paralegal position that allowed her to continue to work while studying. In 2017 she graduated Magna Cum Laude from Cal Lutheran with a Bachelor's in Communication. She has since landed a position as Executive Assistant to the owner of Esperer Holdings, a \$500 million dollar company in Westlake Village. In this role, Danica is in charge of all memos, briefs, scheduling and personal interaction with clients and managers of smaller holdings.

In a recent email, she shared her accomplishments and gratitude, "I have Jerry Lulejian to thank for preparing me for a career that has opened so many doors. I would not have my BA now if I did not receive so much positive encouragement from him to keep going. Jerry's mentorship has opened the door to higher education and amazing job opportunities. I'm so thankful for him and for this program."

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 8-percent employment growth for paralegals between through 2024. Oxnard College offers comprehensive and practical training that prepares students for a career in the field. Paralegals are skilled in legal research, factual analysis, case preparation for civil litigation and criminal proceedings, preparation of legal documents and other forms, case schedule maintenance, law office administration and other responsibilities. Adds Danica, "All of Jerry's lessons on billing and keeping track of tasks REALLY pay off!"



LLRC Hosts Southern CA Writing Center Association's Director Meeting

via Luis Gonzalez, Dean, Transitional Studies -- On Friday April 28th the Oxnard College Library Learning Resource Center hosted the Southern California Writing Center Association's Directors Meeting. Over sixteen staff and faculty met to discuss current events, promising practices and participated in an interactive in-service. The Southern California Writing Centers Association provides a venue for collaboration and cooperation between the various community college and university Writing Centers of the Southern California region. The purpose of the Association is to further the theoretical, pedagogical, and political interests of writing center professionals and to encourage dialogue about writing centers and writing tutoring from all levels of public and private education.

STRATEGIC PLANNING CAMPUS CHARRETTE



*April 2017 Faculty & Staff
Strategic Planning Charrette*

Strategic Planning Continues -

On April 20th, a full house of Oxnard College faculty and staff gathered in the Black Box Theater to contribute to ongoing discussions about the college's institutional mission, vision and values. This forum was the second of three Strategic Planning Charrettes.

The input received will inform the development of an Institutional Strategic Plan, a blueprint for continued success and growth over the next five years. This document will be developed over the 2017-

2018 academic year. A diverse group of faculty, staff and leadership -- the *Strategic Planning Steering Committee*-- are overseeing this process. The final Strategic Plan will incorporate input both from this charrette and from broader outreach forums. This includes contributions from institutional partners, industry employers and civic leaders who participated in a February Oxnard College Community Charrette, as well as from students (who will participate in a Student Charrette this fall).

We are confident that these opportunities for discussion, feedback and goal-setting will strengthen our overall direction. Thank you to all who participated. Your input is highly valued!

via **Cassie Marcum**
3SP Outreach Update

Oxnard College has been all over Ventura County promoting our new and exciting campaigns and, of course, keeping up with students interested in our OC Fridays. We spent an entire day presenting to seniors at Hueneme High School and had 110 students sign-up to attend. We are also gearing up promotion of our newest campaign, *OC Nights*, which will allow students to come in and finish any SSSP requirements they may have missed, as well as take part in our in-person orientation. Please feel free to contact our outreach team if you would like more information or would like to help with any upcoming events on campus!

DEPARTMENT NEWS & GENERAL NOTES



via *District Information Technology*

Distance Education Canvas Implementation

We will be switching Distance Education platforms shortly, moving from Desire2Learn to Canvas this Summer 2017. There are many training resources to help all of the VCCCD instructors make a smooth transition. The DE website will be updated with information and training schedules. In the meantime, important information:

Deadlines:

June 30, 2017: Please make sure to download any course content you need from D2L by June 30, 2017.

July 1, 2017: We will begin to export student data from D2L into an archive.

From July 1 through July 14, D2L will be intermittently unavailable possibly for long periods.

July 15, 2017: D2L will be switched off. From this point forward, course content will no longer be available. Student data will be in an archive accessible only by District I.T. Requests for student activity (grade changes, etc.) must be made through Ashley Chelonis, Oxnard College Instructional Technologist / Designer.

If you have a short-term summer section (ends by June 30) and still wish to use D2L, contact Ashley. Fall 2017

via *Thomas Stough*

Academic Senate Officers

On April 24, 2017, the Academic Senate affirmed the following faculty members to fill uncontested offices for the 2017-2019 term in lieu of a balloted election:

- **Diane Eberhardy, President**
- **(Vacancy, Vice President)**
- **Amy Edwards, Secretary**
- **Della Newlow, Treasurer**
- **Genneah Figueroa, Part-Time Representative At Large**

In addition, **Mike Abram** was approved to a one year appointment as Sabbatical Committee Chair (2017-2018).



Congratulations, Antonio Acosta!
OC Art Student Breaks Guinness World Record! The VC Reporter [wrote a fantastic summary](#) of the trials and setbacks in lead-up to this incredible feat.

Via Christine Morla-- On Sunday, April 9, Oxnard College Art student **Antonio Acosta** broke the Guinness Book of World Records for the longest painting marathon. It was his second attempt. The previous record holder was Roland Palmaerts, a Belgian artist who painted for 60 consecutive hours in Arches, France in 2013. Acosta broke the prior record by seven hours, clocking-in at 67 total hours. The event took place at the Corner Pocket Billiards in Oxnard. Acosta will be exhibiting paintings from the marathon in the McNish Gallery Annual Student Art Show on display through May 15. Above, a panoramic view of Antonio at work, and (thumbnail) of Antonio in his 59th hour of painting (looking incredibly zen and rested!)



Art Excursions -- Art Club members (pictured) and advisor, Christine Morla, took a field trip to Otis College Art Center and attended College Night at the Los Angeles Getty Museum on Monday, April 24th. At Otis, students toured the campus, studios, art galleries and dorms. They then went to the Getty's Los Angeles location for an exclusive event, in which they joined other college students for life drawing workshops, exhibits, architectural overviews and garden tours.

CAMPUS NOTES: ORGS; VETERANS

Society of Hispanic Engineers, Associated Student Government & Veterans Services



Oxnard College hosted the traveling military exhibit *The Eyes of Freedom* in Condor Hall April 3-6, 2017. This memorial event visits locations around the nation to raise awareness and pay tribute to the hundreds of thousands of men and women who have served in the Middle East over nearly three decades of U.S. military engagement in the region. The exhibit includes 23 impactful, life-size portraits of American service members, and is organized by Ohio-based Lima Company 3/25, one of the most heavily engaged units of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Via Gabriela Rodriguez-- Thanks to sponsorship from the Inter Organizational Council (IOC), eight Oxnard College students (pictured above) joined hundreds of other California community college and four-year university STEM majors for the annual **Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)** Regional Leadership Conference on April 22, 2017 at UC San Diego. In addition to peer networking opportunities, the event featured workshops for professional development, personal growth and academic success. Students also participated in a high-profile career fair and spoke with recruiters from Google, Intel, the U.S. military and other top employers.





APRIL RECAP: SHOWS & SPEAKERS

Ballet Folklorico Mestizo & A Conversation with Reyna Grande

Our esteemed *Ballet Folklorico Mestizo* wrapped-up their annual two-night, full house performance on Saturday, April 22. Established in 1981 by Director Matilde Sánchez and students, the Oxnard College BF Mestizo has captured the spirit and diversity of Mexican culture through music and dance for 36 years. This spring's celebration continued the tradition -- bringing artistic expression, cultural celebration and festivity to our campus and larger community.

On April 18, celebrated author *Reyna Grande* spoke of education, perseverance and possibility. Reyna is the author of three critically-acclaimed publications. She came to the U.S. at the age of nine as an undocumented immigrant and was the first in her family to receive a higher education (she is an alumna of Pasadena City College and UC Santa Cruz). Her story is one of resonance and inspiration.



Condor Café: Delectables Get Discovered (via Elizabeth Burnett, Instructional Lab Technician CRM)

-- On April 17, Oxnard College's Culinary Arts & Restaurant Management (CRM) program hosted a distinguished guest. Chef Andrew Feldman, Director of the Culinary Arts Program for Glendale College, visited to observe our Condor Café in action. Since our CRM program not only trains students for an exciting career in the Hospitality industry, but also serves the college community by providing food for grateful students and employees, other colleges are taking note. (Pictured, left: Chef Feldman snaps pics of our famous \$5 Condor Café lunch and chats with a happy CRM student, Martin Manza-Rincon. (Photos courtesy of Liz Burnett).

First Annual FYE Professional Etiquette and Networking Event (via Dr. Eliseo Gonzalez, Title V Grant Director)

-- Have you ever sat down to a formal meal and wondered, "What are all of these forks and spoons for?" Or attended a networking conference and thought, "What do I do? or Who do I talk to?" or "What do I talk about? Wishing I had learned professional etiquette and networking while in college, I approached Professor Robert Cabral to figure out how we could provide our students with these types of life skills. We decided to organize a workshop where our students would learn the skills needed to network and know the etiquette of fine dining.

Students from the Title V Grant First Year Experience (FYE) program and Professor Cabral's BUS R100 Entrepreneur course attended a mandatory workshop where they received instruction on networking and etiquette by renowned event planner and business owner John Daly. Some of the topics covered included: How to confidently enter a





FYE PROFESSIONAL ETIQUETTE & NETWORKING EVENT



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room full of strangers, how to introduce yourself properly and shake hands, how to make small talk while networking, and how to use utensils and dishes correctly.

Once the students learned these skills, we reserved Oxnard College's Bistro Cafe and hosted a fine dining/networking event. To put the students' new skills to work, Robert and I invited a diverse group of professionals from Ventura County and Oxnard College administration to make the experience more authentic. The evening started with a "cocktail hour" and was followed by a fabulous five-course meal, prepared and served by Oxnard College's own culinary arts students. The evening concluded with many smiles, handshakes and improved confidence for networking, etiquette and personal ease.



via Dr. Oscar Cobian -- Oxnard College, CSUCI, and Oxnard Union High School District will enter into STEMPacts with Students

With their families by their sides, 70 high school and middle school students will gather at the Oxnard Performing Arts Building on May 11 to enter into a pact with Oxnard College and/or CSU Channel Islands (CSUCI).

Oxnard Union High School District students will sign a STEMPact, which requires the student to keep up his or her grades, start researching career choices in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) and completing college preparatory work, among other promises.

Middle school students will commit to one of the STEM academies at Hueneme or Channel Islands High School. Channel Islands has the Marine Science Academy and Mechatronics Engineering Academy and Hueneme has the Academy of Engineering and Design. They will also commit to STEMPact once they enter high school.

In return, CSUCI and Oxnard College will guarantee entry into one or both institutions, provided students meet the minimum admission criteria. In January 2017, Oxnard College started its new Promise Program to pay the tuition for local area high school students, including placement in support program such as the First Year Experience. The institutions will provide a wide-ranging support network, undergraduate mentors, information about financial aid and other academic and emotional guidance to help the student successfully enter and complete college.

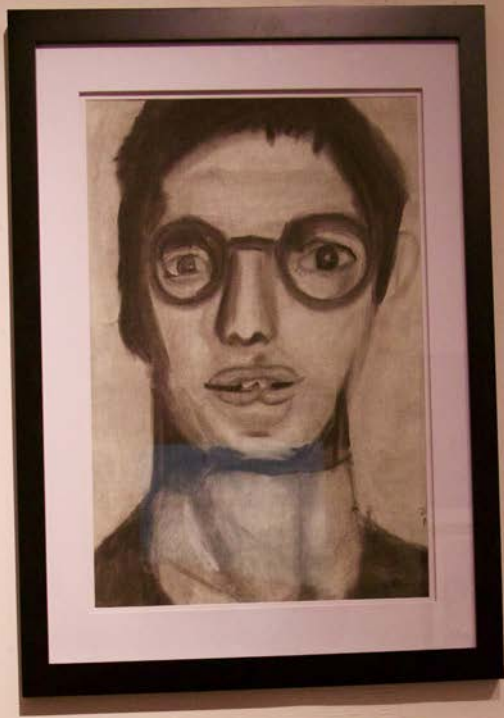
The idea behind STEMPact is to create a college-going mentality and provide a clear pathway to college for the high school and middle school students. Designed for underrepresented minorities, the STEMPact program is the result of a collaboration with CSUCI, Oxnard College, Oxnard Union High School District and the Ventura County P-20 Council.

“Oxnard College and CSUCI are committed to building new pathways to higher education. I am excited that CSU Channel Islands and Oxnard College are partnering with area middle and high schools on this collaboration that will allow more students to achieve their dreams of a college degree” wrote Oscar Cobian, Vice President of Student Development at Oxnard College.

With STEMPact, the students will agree to embark on one of three pathways to college: 1) Enrolling in Oxnard College's Promise Program and transferring to CSUCI; 2) Enrolling in Oxnard College Promise and transferring to UC/Private universities; or 3) Enrolling in CSUCI directly as a freshman. The hope is to inform students of opportunities in STEM through enriched activities and programs. However, students do not have to be STEM majors to enroll at OC as part of the Promise Program.

Middle school students will participate in a formal ceremony with their parents/guardians where they have a personalized STEMPact contract signed by representatives of CSUCI (Vice President for Business & Financial Affairs Ysabel Trinidad), Oxnard College (President Cynthia Azari), Oxnard Union High School District (Superintendent Penelope DeLeon, Ph.D.), and superintendents for each student's middle school.

The STEMPact event will begin at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 11, at the Oxnard College Performing Arts Building at 4000 South Rose Ave. Oxnard, California 93033.



Portrait of a Man
by [Name]
[Date]



Portrait of a Man
by [Name]
[Date]



Portrait of a Woman
by [Name]
[Date]

CALENDAR SPECIAL: 13TH ANNUAL STUDENT ART SHOW

Please visit the McNish Gallery for the 13th Annual Student Art Exhibition on display through Friday, May 12. The exhibition is juried by Paul Benavidez, professional artist & arts educator.

SAVE THE DATE UPCOMING NOTES

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

- ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING**
Monday, May 8 (2-4pm) -- LLRC-101
Questions? Contact Diane Eberhardy (deberhardy@vcccd.edu)
- ANNUAL TRANSFER CELEBRATION**
Wednesday, May 10 (1-4pm) -- Café
Questions? Contact Letty Mojica (lmojica@vcccd.edu)
- CANVAS TRAINING & PERKINS PLANNING MEETING**
Friday, May 12 (9-11am) -- OE-2 & OE-3
Questions? Contact Ashley Chelonis (achelonis@vcccd.edu)
- SUMMER REGISTRATION: Begins MAY 1**
FINAL EXAMS: MAY 15-19
COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY: MAY 17, 6:00 PM



FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT US.

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