

# HORIZON

OUR DISTRICT. OUR FUTURE.

A quarterly newsletter from the office of Chancellor Kathleen F. Burke, Ed.D.

January to March 2019



## “Going Red” for Women’s Health

**T**he American Heart Association promoted cardiovascular health for women with its “Go Red” campaign in February. Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women and increasing awareness of this threat and the adoption of healthy alternatives can save lives. District Services showed their support for a heart-healthy lifestyle by wearing red on Wednesday, Feb. 20.

In a recent survey, only 20 percent of women knew that heart disease is their greatest health threat. A common



Employees in District Services joined Chancellor Burke in wearing red to bring attention to the threat of heart disease.

misnomer is that heart attacks are mainly a male concern. Because women are not aware of their susceptibility to heart attack, they are less likely to call for emergency services when they have one. Making women aware of cardiovascular disease, will help them pay attention to symptoms and adopt a more heart-healthy diet and lifestyle. To learn more, please visit the American Heart Association site for tips on preventing heart disease and the signs of heart attack:

**American Heart Association**



**2** New employee newsletter launches



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**5** Irvine Valley College update



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**SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

## The Courage to Remember

**M**arch 11 marked the opening night of the Museum of Tolerance's "Courage to Remember" exhibit housed at Irvine Valley College's Performing Arts Theatre. I was proud to attend and lend my support to such a meaningful exhibit. This exhibit, open to the public, provided an opportunity to remember and honor the victims of the Holocaust – an unparalleled crime against humanity.

It also provided an opportunity to mourn the loss of so many and so much. We have a duty to remember the Holocaust's systematic attempt to eliminate the Jewish, political dissident, LGBTQ communities, and mentally-disabled people. It was an attempt to reject diversity, reject our differences, and reject the core fibers of humanity. Learning more about this dark time in history can help connect us, so that together we may create greatness, innovation, and compassion in global society. This exhibit reminds us that the Holocaust did not occur in a vacuum. Step by step, social order broke down and a portion of society lost its morality. We must never forget the facts of the Holocaust. We must never lose sight of what went wrong. As we bear

witness to a growing divide in our society, we must guard against xenophobia, discrimination, and hate.

Our shared challenge is to ensure that our work



Opening night of the exhibit. Pictured below, IVC President Glenn Roque—more delivering opening remarks.



advances people to do good. Community colleges serve as points of access for the development of every member of our community. Our ability to connect people across racial, gender, economic, and generational divides is part of our mission's ongoing focus.



I firmly believe that exhibits such as this are perfectly situated at institutions like IVC because the environment on our campuses has the potential to create unity and peaceful coexistence – while the rigor of critical thought challenges our assumptions and biases.

## New Employee Newsletter "Rise" Takes Off



**T**he District Public Affairs department launched a new employee newsletter called "Rise" in February. The quarterly newsletter features short profiles on employees, starting with some of the more recent hires in District Services. Additionally, Rise contains news about the District, including awards and

accolades about employees or departments. For instance, in the last few months, three members of District Services received state-wide awards or commission appointments. Rise will go on to feature how SOCCCD employees are engaged across the entire California Community College System. One of the goals of

the newsletter is to increase the feeling of community amongst staff. Learning about our co-workers can open up avenues of communication. Overall, "Rise" seeks to paint a more holistic picture of employees – making the workplace just a bit more rewarding. To read the first issue go to: **Rise issue #1**



# District Leadership Attends CCLC Conference

In January, district leadership attended the Community College League of California's (CCLC) Annual Legislative Conference in Sacramento. The conference entailed days of engaging workshops which provided an opportunity to discuss legislative priorities, learn about strategies to address issues, and how to successfully advocate for community colleges. The conference culminated with several visits to local legislators in the capitol. Trustees Jemal and Milchiker, Chancellor Burke, SC President Stern, and Gov. Relations Director Clark visited Senator Pat Bates and Senator John Moorlach, Assembly Member Cottie Petrie-Norris and Steven Choi, and the staff of Assembly Member William Brough. They discussed with them capital outlay projects in our district – advocating for the Saddleback Gateway Project to remain in the governor's budget and for the IVC Fine Arts Project to be included in the budget through the May revise.



**District leaders in Sacramento on their way to advocate for the district.**

Advocacy for the support of AB 30 (Holden) was shared, which would repeal the sunset date to authorize districts to operate dual enrollment programs with K-12 education partners. Finally, the district leaders conveyed concerns about the clinical

placement issue impacting Saddleback's Nursing Program. The January CCLC conference and legislative visits help shape the legislative priorities for the board for the remainder of the legislative session.



**Trustee Jemal with Rep. Katie Porter of the 45th congressional district, which covers much of central Orange County.**

## Trustee Jemal Visits Orange County's Representatives

During a visit to Washington, D.C. in February, Trustee Jemal had an opportunity to stop by all of the Orange County congressional offices and personally met with Congresswoman Katie Porter, to discuss important issues relating to Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College. Also discussed, were matters pertaining to Medi-Cal reimbursement eligibility, to expand to physical and mental health services for students on campus.

Finally, Trustee Jemal extended an invitation to Congresswoman Porter to visit each campus in the District. Thanks to Trustee Jemal for engaging in meaningful advocacy work in Washington, D.C. and for conveying vital messages to our federal representatives.

# Dear Community Colleges... I Love You!

By Trustee Marcia Milchiker – Board member of the South Orange County Community College District



**M**ost associate the month of February with Valentine's Day and connect the day with public displays of affection, adoration, admiration and, of course, love.

As a trustee for the South Orange County Community College District, my love for community colleges is limitless. When I think about the value of education, the location of our colleges, the programs offered, and the bright future of the community college system, I have to think "what's not to love?" California's community college system is the largest higher education system in the U.S., with 115 colleges and 2.1 million students. One in every five community college students in the nation attends a California community college.

Our colleges – Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College – serve over 42,000 students in 26 communities. Classes are offered at three campuses in Irvine, Mission Viejo, and Tustin. One of my greatest sources of pride stems from the success of our Emeritus Institute, which is offered at 130 sites throughout our district. The goal of the Emeritus program is to promote lifelong learning by providing academically rigorous, mentally stimulating, socially engaging and health improving courses. Community colleges have a special place in my heart for more reasons than I can count, so this year I am making community colleges my special valentine and here's why:

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## 1. The Value

Attending a community college provides an opportunity for students to advance into higher education at an affordable rate. Since many students do not select a major as freshmen, the option to take general education classes at \$46 a unit before deciding to transfer is ideal. In-state tuition at Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College are less than \$1,500 per year for a full-time schedule. Someone who purchases a cup of coffee every day could pay more than a full-time education at Saddleback or IVC for one year.

There are also opportunities to cover the cost of tuition, books, and living expenses through scholarships and financial aid. Through the California College Promise Grant, eligible California residents can get enrollment fees waived. Thanks to the state legislature, funding has been provided for College Promise programs, which help community colleges align with K-12 districts and universities to provide clear pathways for students in order to achieve their education goals.

## 2. The Location

Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College are conveniently located in prime areas of south county. Each college is accessible to public transportation, shopping, restaurants, and large employers. Not to mention the beach and plenty of scenic activities along the coast. The South Orange County Community College District extends 350 square miles with a service area comprised of nearly one million residents.

## 3. The Programs

Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College offer two-year associate degrees in over 70 majors in the liberal arts and sciences, business sciences, social sciences, and technologies. Both colleges offer training for jobs through 60 career and technical programs. Did you know community colleges train the majority of California's nurses, firefighters, law enforcement personnel, and emergency medical technicians? It's true, and just another reason why I love community colleges.

## 4. The Future

This is an exciting time for community colleges, as we have seen an increased level of support and interest over the years in our mission to serve all students with a quality education. At the state level, Chancellor Eloy Oakley launched the Vision for Success, which harkens back to our longstanding policy of full and open access and the idea that higher education should be available to everyone. With six goals in mind, community colleges across the state will strive to address the higher education and workforce development needs of California by 2022. Together we will:

- Increase by at least 20 percent the number of CCC students annually who acquire associates degrees, credentials, certificates, or specific skill sets that prepare them for an in-demand job.
- Increase by 35 percent the number of CCC students transferring annually to a UC or CSU.
- Decrease the average number of units accumulated by CCC students earning associates degrees.
- Increase the percent of exiting CTE students who report being employed in their field of study.
- Reduce equity gaps across all of the above measures through faster improvements among underrepresented student groups.
- Reduce regional achievement gaps across all of the above measures through faster improvements among colleges located in regions with the lowest educational attainment of adults.

In addition to the value, the location, the programs and the bright future for the community colleges in our district, the main attraction of our colleges is the "community" part.

We are the local, public choice for any member of our community. From the cradle, to the end of career, community colleges have something to offer everyone. Learn more about Saddleback College or Irvine Valley College by visiting a campus near you and I am confident that you will join me in a love affair for community colleges.







Board President Prendergast addresses hundreds of young inventors who gathered at IVC to compete for certificates and \$10,000 in prize money.

## Astounding Inventions Huge Success

**O**n January 26, approximately 2,000 people came to Irvine Valley College (IVC) to participate in the 32nd Annual Astounding Inventions student invention competition presented by Cox Communications and sponsored by Knobbe Martens. Students from both the Irvine and Tustin Unified School Districts competed for prizes in this elaborate science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) competition that fosters student entrepreneurship and creative thinking. Students could either submit a traditional poster or create a video to describe their project. In addition to the invention competition, Edwards Lifesciences hosted the Innovation Village Center with hands-on STEAM activities that were free and open to all.

During fall 2018, nearly 4,000 students representing 58 schools in the Irvine and Tustin Unified School Districts submitted their inventions for judging at their schools. From these submissions, approximately 350 finalists were chosen to compete. At the event, students competed for

\$10,000 in cash prizes, as well as certificates of achievement and ribbons. More than fifty-two judges representing the scientific, education, civic and business communities determined the winners.

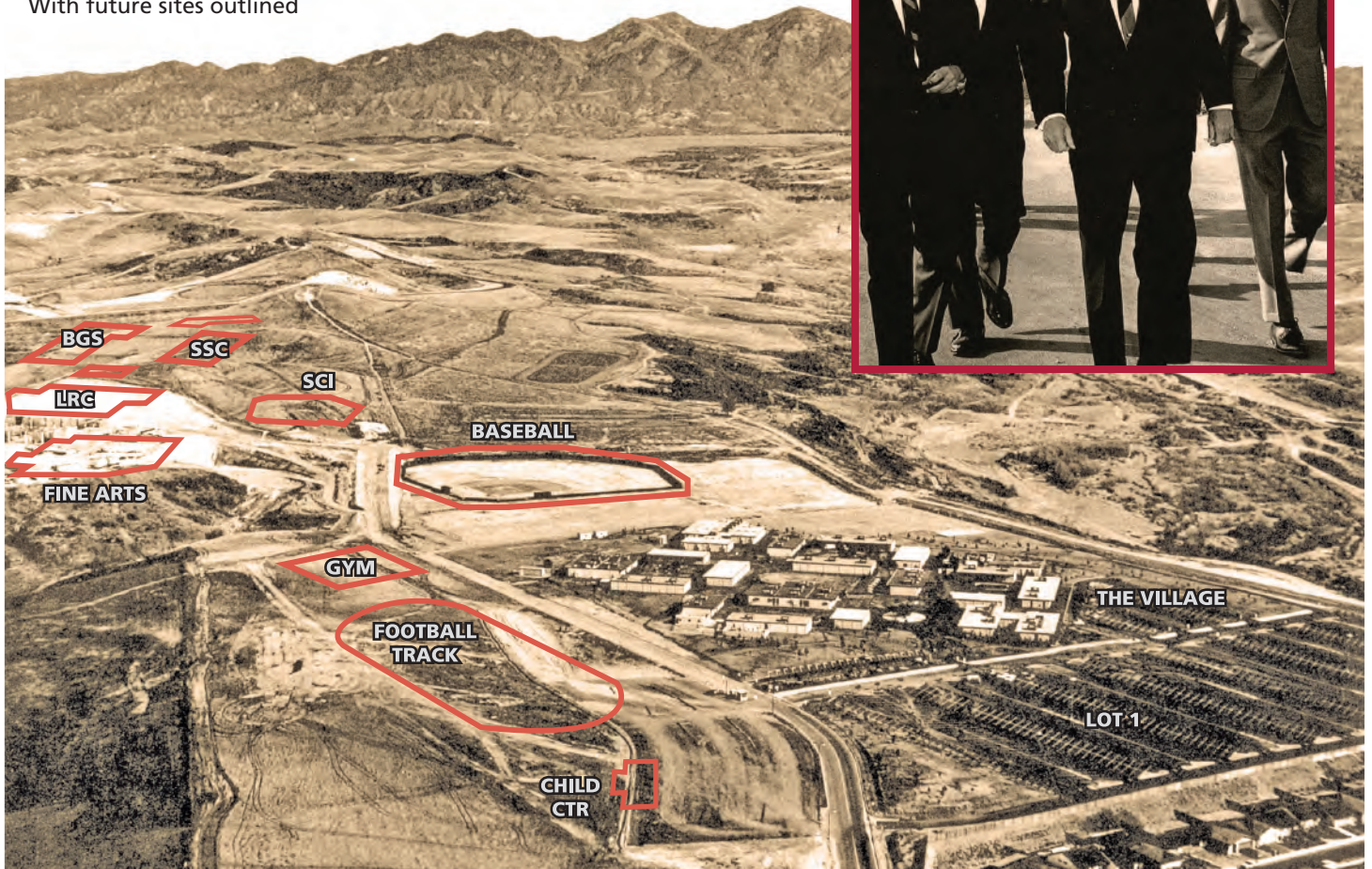
In addition, as part of its title sponsorship, Knobbe Martens selected two student inventions based on perceived patentability, and offered to conduct a pro bono prior art search and write a provisional patent application for the selected inventions. Students were recognized at an awards ceremony by IVC President Glenn Roquemore, South Orange County Community College Board of Trustees President T.J. Prendergast, Cox Business Director of Sales Michael Drennen, and Knobbe Martens Associate Sean Kim. Also in attendance for the ceremony, Lauren Brooks, Irvine Unified School District, President and Board Member Ira Glasky.

To read more about the event: [Young Inventors.](#)



## Saddleback College in the early 1970s

With future sites outlined



Aerial photo of the Saddleback College campus at the beginning of the 1970s. Top right photo, taken in 1968, shows Gov. Ronald Reagan walking with board of trustee members to the dedication ceremony for the college.

# Celebrating 50 Years of Service!

**A**s part of a year-long celebration commemorating its 50th anniversary since opening, Saddleback College has invited its more than 500,000 current and past students, alumni, faculty and staff to share their personal stories of their time at the college. Some of these accounts tell of the early years, when the campus was in temporary buildings and how a small faculty came together to overcome obstacles to conduct classes. They also share how students found inspiration and encouragement that took them to higher levels of education and career achievement. These stories can be found at [Saddleback College stories](#)



Trustees and the chancellor gathered to celebrate the kick off of the golden anniversary celebrations last fall.