



April 27, 2026

Board of Trustees Resolution

Honoring 2026 Irvine Valley College Classified Professional of the Year Desiree Ortiz

Whereas, Desiree Ortiz is a dedicated classified professional at Irvine Valley College (IVC) with more than 21 years of service across the South Orange County Community College District (SOCCCD), contributing to five departments including 17 years in Financial Aid and her current role in Police Services, where she continues to champion student success, equity, and a culture of care; and

Whereas, in every position she has held, Desiree has worked tirelessly to remove barriers and ensure all students feel supported, valued, and empowered, demonstrating a steadfast commitment to creating an inclusive and equitable learning environment; and

Whereas, Desiree is a respected and collaborative leader, having served as IVC Classified Senate President and currently serving as California School Employees Association (CSEA) President for SOCCCD, where she advocates for classified professionals as essential partners in student success; and

Whereas, Desiree has played a key role in advancing IVC's Caring Campus culture, including establishing the "warm handoff" practice to connect students with critical support services, ensuring they receive the guidance and resources necessary to thrive academically and personally; and

Whereas, Desiree's influence extends beyond IVC through her statewide involvement on professional resource teams, mentoring staff from eight colleges across California through the 4Cs mentoring program, and contributing to the creation of a statewide handbook designed to help community colleges cultivate supportive and inclusive environments; and

Continued on Page 2



April 27, 2026

Page 2

Board of Trustees Resolution

Honoring 2026 Irvine Valley College Classified Professional of the Year Desiree Ortiz

Whereas, Desiree has been recognized for her expertise and leadership on panels and podcasts highlighting the vital role of classified professionals in shaping community college culture and advocating for marginalized student populations; and

Whereas, Desiree exemplifies integrity, empathy, and unwavering commitment, serving as a model of care, service, and advocacy, and demonstrating how classified professionals are essential partners in student success across the district and the state; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor of the South Orange County Community College District do hereby commend and congratulate Desiree Ortiz for her exemplary contributions as the Classified Professional of the Year at Irvine Valley College. Her dedication to students, staff, and the broader community reflects the highest ideals of service, leadership, and excellence.

Carolyn Inmon, President

T.J. Prendergast III, Clerk

Timothy Jemal, Member

Terri Rydell, EdD, Member

Julianna M. Asperin Barnes, EdD, Chancellor

Ryan Dack, Vice President

Lisa A. Bartlett, Member

Marcia Milchiker, Member

Blake Leonard, Student Member