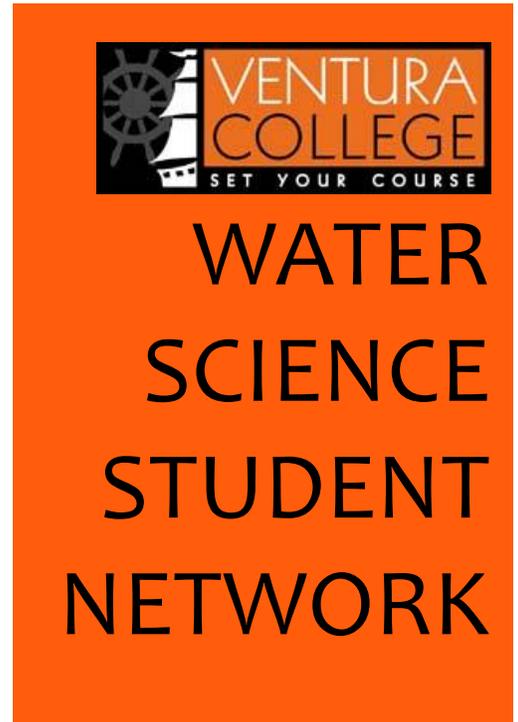




"BRINGING STUDENTS INTO THE WATER INDUSTRY"



Internships and Conferences

Standing out as a Professional Student Network in the Water Industry

This 2015-16 school year has been a significant stepping stone, needless to say a busy one. Our accomplishments expand out locally as well as regionally, from creating collaborative paid internships on campus to educational excursions in our State Capitol. Ventura College has helped pave the way for motivated students to stand out as professionals in the booming water industry.

The Diatomaceous Earth Project

The Rotary Club of Lompoc recruited Ventura College's Water Science department to investigate the effectiveness of Marine Diatomaceous Earth in removing coliform bacteria from raw water sources. Five of our top students are working in the lab engineering a DE filtration system, and conducting water quality testing with top of the line lab equipment.

AWWA "Building a Sustainable Future" Spring Conference

During Spring Break, four students attended the Spring Conference in Sacramento, California on Sustainability. Here students were able to network with professionals, join the Young Professionals Committee and attend technical sessions to expand their

knowledge of Water Treatment, Distribution and Sustainable Wastewater Treatment practices.

AWAVC Membership and Annual Water Symposium

The Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County recently debuted the Ventura College Water Science Student Network as the newest member of the AWAVC.

The AWAVC holds educational breakfast and luncheons, and offers continued educational units (CEUs) for operator licenses. In April of 2016, 5 students were granted "Sponsorships" to attend the Annual Water Symposium, where companies pledged donations for students to attend this local conference for free.

This is a huge accomplishment for Ventura College and the Water Science department to get recognition from such a locally renowned organization of water purveyors and companies. Much of this couldn't have been possible without the unending support from Kelle Pistone, Managing Director with the AWAVC. Thank You Kelle!

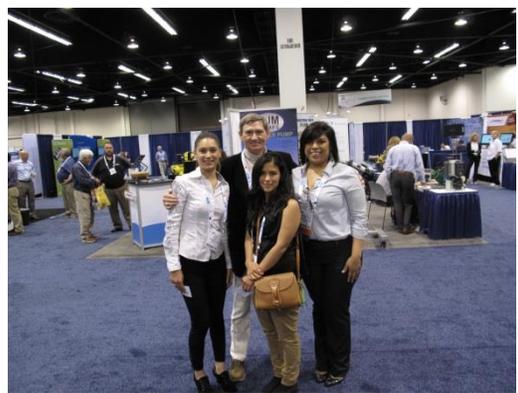
IN THIS ISSUE...



The Diatomaceous Earth Project

Student Interns work in the Water Science Lab at Ventura College.

See more on Page 2



AWWA CA-NV: Building a Sustainable Future Conference

Dr. Forde and 4 Students Attended the Regional Conference in Sacramento.

See more on Page 3

AWAVC Memberships for VC Students

The **Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County** has granted Ventura College's Water Science Student Network an opportunity for student-wide membership. The AWAVC has connected water purveyors, engineering firms, other industry professionals, and concerned citizens to exchange information regarding regional and local water issues and projects since 1976. They host educational events regarding water related issues, solutions and innovations on a monthly basis.

Now any student attending water science classes at Ventura College and an interest in going to an AWAVC event, can go at a discounted membership rate. This is where a student can learn about the current events, issues and projects happening within Ventura County, and these experiences into real world scenarios.

Attending AWA events are also a great opportunity to network and meet local industry professionals, receive guidance about school, careers, and get a better understanding of where they want to go in the water industry.

AWA offered five "Sponsorships" to VC Students to attend their Annual Water Symposium, happening on April 21st for free! (\$200+ value!) AWA reached out to several Water Agencies which gave donations for our students to attend.



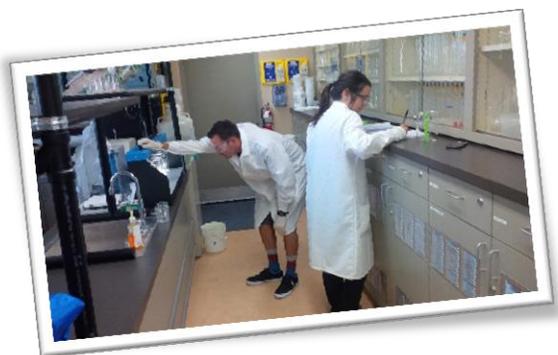
AWAVC 2015 END OF YEAR
NETWORKING SOCIAL

Student Officers Brianna Ruiz, Garrett Russiel and Domanique Madrid meet Brad Milner, President of Milner Villa Consulting, and Mauricio Guardado Jr., the General Manager at United Water Conservation District.

We were even gifted a table at exhibit hall to share our program details and educational material with others attending the symposium.

This is a **huge accomplishment for Ventura College** and the Water Science department to get recognition from such a locally renowned organization of water purveyors and companies. Much of this couldn't have been possible without the unending support from Kelle Pistone, Managing Director with the AWAVC.

Thank You Kelle!



Student Interns, Domanique Madrid and Garret Russeil analyzing jar tests in the lab, for the Diatomaceous Earth Project.

The Diatomaceous Earth Project

Students get Grant Funding for Paid Research on Campus

The Rotary Club of Lompoc recruited Ventura College's Water Science department to investigate the effectiveness of Marine Diatomaceous Earth in removing coliform bacteria from raw water sources through gravity fed filtration. If done successfully, simple and cost-effective filters could be assembled and provided to third-world countries that don't have basic access to clean drinking water. Five of our top students are working in the lab and conducting basic water quality testing with top of the line lab equipment, while collaborating together with the ultimate test of teamwork and project management.

The project gained momentum and funding from Grants with the help of Margaret Lau, through the Foundation of California Community Colleges; as the five student interns went from being volunteers to paid researchers. The interns working on the project are also part of the Student Network Leadership Committee; including Dawn Gottschault, Brianna Ruiz, Garrett Russiel, Tristan Anderson and Domanique Madrid. The research will conclude in May of 2016, and their findings will be announced to the public in the Fall.

This effort wouldn't have been possible without the unending support from Margaret Lau, the Director of Environmental Technology for the South Central Coast California Community Colleges and Alan Hancock College in Lompoc; Kathleen Schrader, the Dean of Career and Technical Education at Ventura College; and the guidance of Dr. Richard Forde, the Associate Professor of our Water Science department at Ventura College.
A HUGE Thank You to Margaret Lau, Kathleen Schrader and Richard Forde!
We couldn't have done this without any of you.

FOCUS GROUPS ON CAMPUS...



AWWA Student Chapter

Ventura College will be the second community college in California to have a Student Chapter with the American Water Works Association.



Online Water Blogging and Media Production

Students write and post water related articles and have the opportunity to document local treatment facility tours, or other experiences at local water related events to our website:

www.vcwaterscience.wordpress.com



Atmospheric Water Collection

Engineering and Design for an Atmospheric Water Collection device referred to as "The Fountain" on campus at Ventura College is in the works through the efforts of students and Dr. Richard Forde.

AWWA CA-NV Regional Conference: Building A Sustainable Future

by Domanique Madrid

Attending the "Building a Sustainable Future" conference hosted by the American Water Works Association, CA-NV Section in Sacramento was an incredible experience. I learned about the inner workings of AWWA committees, divisions, scholarships and how our students can become more involved student members and Young Professionals.

We put Ventura College on the map with Universities, and received guidance from other student chapters. Students from UC Davis and San Diego were interested in joining forces with us on some of our projects that are in the works, such as: on-campus atmospheric water collection devices, internship alliances with local water companies, and online water blogging. Making an impression on other University students helps Ventura College stand out amongst the rest, creating a reputation of excellence.

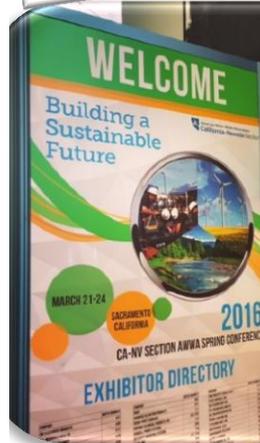
The Ventura College Water Science Student Network is now being viewed as a professional student organization, and students in our group are learning about the bigger opportunities available to them through becoming more involved with our network and student activities.

By attending conferences, students get an opportunity to learn about many different career avenues available within the water industry, inspiring students to reach for bigger goals than they thought possible. Interacting with environmental engineers, committee chairs, and section leaders can provide them invaluable encouragement for continuing their education beyond VC, or insights into which company they want to apply to after graduating.

"Four of my students were with me and left me totally impressed. They dressed like professionals, they had printed business cards and networked like professionals. They even impressed the students from UC Davis & Cal State Sacramento. I think this was one of my proudest moments."

- **Dr. Richard Forde**

Associate Professor of Water Science and Environmental Technology at Ventura College
Director of Carpinteria Valley Water District
Senator of VC Academic Senate



Kaia Perez and Jaime Green stand in front of a floor model for advanced UV disinfection treatment by Xylem.



Our students are the future operators, managers, law-makers, lab technicians, and innovative professionals in the Water Industry; now is the time to train them in safe and effective methods for treating clean drinking water and sustainable wastewater treatment practices .



“We need a global approach to this from all sides. We need to educate people, we need the scientists to create new technologies, we need the engineers to create the networks, we need every human being to be aware of how precious water is and save it. Everybody has to be involved in a very firm and assertive way.”

- Isabel Allende

Visit our website and water blog at :
www.vcwaterscience.wordpress.com

Email:
VCwatersci@gmail.com

Ventura College
4667 Telegraph Rd.
Ventura, California 93003

