



Message in a Bottle

December 2018 Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

A Day of Community Building

January 4, 2019
8:30 am—3:45 pm
Wright Event Center

Happy Holidays

President's Message

We are now in finals week so thank you and congratulations for completing another successful semester at Ventura College! It is such a pleasure working with a highly talented group of faculty, staff, and administrators. You are helping our students realize their dreams in so many ways. When I talk to students they are so excited about what they are learning in class and all the possibilities in their future. They also talk to me about the person they remembered that visited their high school and the counselor they spoke with. Most of all they tell me how proud they are to be a Pirate! I attribute that to the hard work of all employees across the campus.

In last month's newsletter, I reminded you of our college wide theme, Building Community. I highlighted the following four areas that we would focus on this year: guided pathways, safety on campus, increase diversity among employees and expanding the offerings in the Santa Clara River Valley.

Guided Pathways -- We are making progress towards our guided pathways goals. We held two guided pathways workshops this semester. Next semester we will continue to work on the first two cardinal points: Simplify the Path and Assist with Entry.

Safety on Campus – We are in the final stages of updating the student conduct procedures and communication protocol. This information will be shared widely across campus during the semester. Classroom door locks will be added (see more about this later in the newsletter).

Increase diversity among employee groups – VC and the district remains committed to a diverse faculty, staff, and management that is comparable to the current student demographic.

Expand the educational offering in the Santa Clara River Valley – In spring 2019, VCEC is starting two new associate degree programs in Arts and Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences. This is only the beginning for VCEC. Ultimately, we would like for VCEC to receive center status by reaching 500 FTES.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!



Dear VC Pirates,

Together we have sailed to the end of yet another Fall semester. Again, this year has proven challenging at times, but our resolve and support for one another has persisted to shine through any storm clouds. We are VC strong!



With that said, there remains some business to attend to, such as a BIG CONGRATULATIONS to our **VC PIRATE FOOTBALL** team for securing the Southern California title and making it into the CCCAA State Finals against Laney College. The two sides met on December 8 and offered fans a thrilling game which saw the pirates make a spirited last push in the final seconds of the 4th—Laney went on to win the Championship for the first time in their colleges history: Congratulations to a worthy opponent! :)



The division of Academic Affairs is also excited to welcome **two new classified professionals** to our ranks: **Chet Sterling**—Athletic Equipment Manager, and **Alan Wood**—ILT Physics. A swashbuckling welcome from us all!

Congratulations to our **nursing students**—yet another cohort of bright successful minds, determined to embark on a career of care for others, received their nursing pins on the evening of December 17th!



Our Music Department offered a series of Winter Concerts to close out the year. I hope you enjoyed the holiday melodies!

Ventura College Performing Arts

Winter Concerts

* Free Event + Samba Drumming

CLASSICAL & JAZZ ENSEMBLES

WED, DEC 12

Miriam Schwab Memorial

CHAMBER MUSIC

THURS, DEC 13

Bevan Manson Director

VC JAZZ BAND

SAT, DEC 15 *

ALL SHOWS AT 7:30 PM

\$15 GENERAL ADMISSION
\$6 SENIORS/STAFF/STUDENTS

TICKETS AT VENTURACOLLEGE.OFFICIAL.EVENTBRITE.COM

Ventura College Performing Arts Center
Helen Yunker Auditorium
4700 Loma Vista Road
Ventura, CA 93003
805.289.6307
www.venturacollege.edu

Faculty, please also remember to **submit your final grades on time** as this is CRUCIAL for our students' success! Final grades impact pre-requisites, transfer, financial aid, job promotions and employee reimbursements/salary increases—**final grades must be posted by FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21st, 2018!** Thank you in advance for keeping our students' best interest at the forefront of everything we do.



Lastly, if you have **software adjustments, updates, etc...** and haven't done so already, PLEASE! contact the I.T. help desk at 805-289-6285 or submit an email work ticket to vchelpdesk@vccd.edu.



And a Happy New Year!!!!

FAST FACTS

1075

Admissions & Records has received 1075 Graduation Applications for Fall 2018.

627 Associate Degrees

448 Certificates/IGETC and CSU Certifications



The Career Center is off and running! With monthly workshops engaging up to 50 students and exciting and relevant workshops coming this Spring, coupled with our online job board, we're ready for the new year and looking forward to serving our students!



Fifteen **MESA** students joined VC's Engineering Society and explored Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). They visited the Command Center and saw the lab of the Mars Rover 2020. The VC MESA students also joined The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (MESA's industry partner) meeting and met industry engineers and learned about upcoming opportunities for professional development.



ASVC has been busy during the month of December with multiple events that support VC students. The association celebrated the opening of the new **Feed A Pirate Food Pantry**, coordinated a successful end of semester event at East Campus and had a "de-stress", stress free Finals Jam. To kick off the Spring semester, they will be hosting Welcome Back Days, on the first two days of the Spring Semester, January 7th and 8th. For more information please contact Libby Fatta at lfatta@vcccd.edu.



VC Financial Aid Office – all about outreach!

Fall 2018: 35 visits to 16 schools | **Dreamers Set Your Course** went out into the community | 18 events for VC students and faculty | **Cash for College**: 260 visitors in October, next dates February 2019 | **WELCOME**: Yesika Hernandez, newest Financial Aid Specialist.

GETTING TO KNOW FM&O

Jay Moore, Director: Earned an MBA as well as a Master of Architecture. Licensed architect and general contractor. On the Pirate ship since 2010.

Joe Esquivel, Custodial Supervisor: VC alum, Bachelor's in Business Administration, certified project manager. At VC since 2009.

Victor Lopez, Grounds Supervisor: VC alum, degree in Ornamental Horticulture from Cal Poly SLO, at VC for 10 years.

Martin Navarro, Maintenance Supervisor: VC alum, started as a student worker. You do the math.



MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS (L to R)

Hector Ayala, David Esquivel, Sal Galaviz, Hilda Ruiz, David Kramer, Brian Stimson, Jay Moore (retired), Martin Navarro, Christian Lopez (student), Dora Gomez (provisional), Jerry Chilcott, Anton Bartsch, Maune Coburn



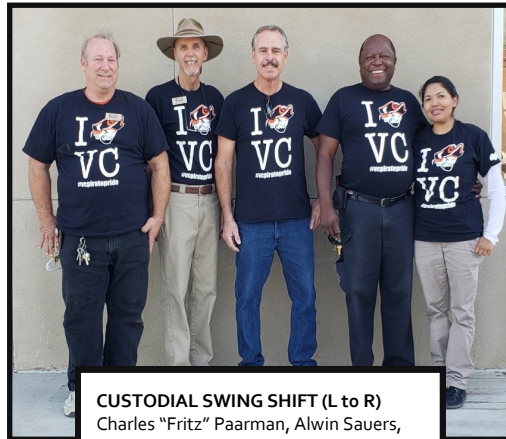
CUSTODIAL DAY CREW (L to R)

Markell Garner, Manuel Cervantes, Jesus Ruiz, Jose Mejia, Mitch Cervantes, Manny Laboriante (on knee, retiring), David Sanchez, Sergio Palestina (retired), Joe Esquivel



GROUND'S CREW (L to R)

Back row: Nery "Ed" Santos, Joaquin Garcia, Martin Martello, Wally Hernandez, Mike Mariscal
Front row: Edgar Posadas (student), Tyler Esquivel (student), Victor Lopez



CUSTODIAL SWING SHIFT (L to R)

Charles "Fritz" Paarman, Alwin Sauers, Lance Hull, Richard Talbert, Maria Garcia

SAFETY UPDATES

★ Last month, Mary Jones and Chief Joel Justice presented an Active Shooter Drill in ASC 150. Approximately 150 students, faculty and classified professionals participated. If you would like to bring this important training to your classroom or department, please contact [Mary Jones](#) directly at extension 6147.

★ **BEGINNING IN JANUARY - ALL CLASSROOM DOOR LOCKS WILL BE RETROFITTED SO THAT THEY CAN BE SECURED FROM THE INSIDE OF THE ROOM.** The new locks will either be pushbutton or indicator bolts (depending on the current mechanism). We expect that this project will be completed by the end of the Spring semester.

GET PREPARED - CERT Training on Campus

- Four consecutive Fridays - January 11, 18, 25, and February 1 - 9am until 5pm
- Participants must commit to attending all sessions
- Contact [Mary Jones](#) to sign up today!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CAMPUS-WIDE EVACUATION DRILL

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30TH at 9:30AM