



12/05/2025

CAMPUS UPDATES

IVC Superintendent/President

Dr. Lennor Johnson



Greetings Campus Community:

I hope everyone is doing well. I wanted to share a brief update on a few important items as we wrap up the year and prepare for the new year.

Federal Update: Democratic attorneys general from 20 states and the District of Columbia, along with several school districts, are challenging the U.S. Department of Education's decision to transfer certain functions to other federal agencies through seven interagency agreements. At the same time, Congress has yet to pass nine remaining appropriations bills, including the major LHHS bill, raising concerns about limited progress before the upcoming recess. Lawmakers face a January 30, 2026, deadline to approve funding and prevent another shutdown. We continue to work closely with the Community College League of California and our SDICCCA partners to monitor these developments and advocate for stable funding, student affordability, and support for innovative programs.

Enrollment Update: Outstanding job, everyone, for closing the enrollment gap. Our Winter intersession numbers continue to shine. We are currently 7% over last year, with 720.01 FTES compared to 670.61 FTES. Woohoo! For Spring, we are still a little behind, pacing about 8% under last year with 2164.17 FTES compared to 2347.45 FTES. But I know our dynamic team will close that gap, just as you always do. Thank you for your continued hard work, creativity, and commitment to our students. Great job, everyone!

Participatory Governance and Brown Act Committees: As a reminder, our collective bargaining agreement requires all faculty to participate in a committee. After reviewing the current roster, it appears several individuals are not yet accounted for. Many of you may remember that ACCJC previously issued a warning on this matter, which is why committee participation was added to the contract.

If you are not currently assigned to a committee, please join one. Your engagement and voice matter, and this is one of the strongest ways to contribute to our shared work.

1. The current Standing Committee List for 2025–2026 is available [here](#); after selecting a committee of interest, contact your Academic Senate Executive Team to request an assignment.

Additionally, AP 2325: Teleconference Meeting will be updated during the Winter Session to comply with revisions to the Government Code regarding “just cause” or “emergency circumstances” for meeting attendance.

Vice President of Instruction Update: After an extensive five-month search, we have identified our next Vice President of Instruction, Dr. Jules Johnson, who will begin on January 1 pending board approval. The applicant pool for this position was exceptionally strong. After a comprehensive review process, including committee interviews, campus forums, and the President's Cabinet evaluation, Dr. Jules was selected based on their experience, qualifications, and demonstrated ability to fulfill the responsibilities of the role.

We look forward to welcoming Dr. Jules and engaging in a comprehensive onboarding process to fully align our work with Vision 2030 goals.

Please note that during the first two weeks of Dr. Jules' employment, they will be participating in a full orientation and will not be fully available for day-to-day meetings, approvals, or operational matters. It is important that they are onboarded properly and gain a strong understanding of IVC's processes, culture, and expectations before making critical decisions.



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During this initial orientation period, Vice President Villa will continue serving as the essential point of contact for all daily inquiries and approvals. After this period, she will continue to retain routing authority for documents — including TDX, NeoEd, Adobe, leave requests, and others — in consultation with Dr. Jules through February 12, the start of the spring semester, to ensure smooth and uninterrupted operations.

Also, please note to minimize confusing between us two, they will go by Dr. J.J. or Dr. Jules.

Faculty Prioritization Process: This year's faculty prioritization process was thoughtful, collaborative, and deeply student-centered. I want to thank the Instructional Council and the Academic Senate for your careful review, analysis, and recommendations. Your leadership throughout this process is greatly appreciated.

Although we made a few necessary adjustments, we made every effort to maintain the same order and priorities recommended by both groups. The rationale for those adjustments has been shared with the Academic Leadership.

We will move forward with the following prioritized list:

- Physics for Transfer
- English for Transfer
- Mathematics for Transfer
- Business
- Communication Studies
- Biology for Transfer
- Chemistry
- Computer Information Technology
- Emergency Medical Services
- Biology for Transfer
 - Alternate: Music (If there is a failed search above.)

Also, we plan to hire a few interim faculty positions, particularly Chicano studies and Music, as requested by the Senate.

Thank you again to the Instructional Council and the Academic Senate for your thoughtful work and for helping us align our hiring priorities with enrollment needs, transfer pathways, and our long-term Vision 2030 commitments.

Vision 2030 Regional Workshop: Several campus leaders attended the regional Vision 2030 workshop in San Diego on December 4 and 5 to strengthen our workforce development strategies. The workshop covered key topics including partnerships, apprenticeships, adult engagement and enrollment, and dual enrollment expansion.

A sincere thank you to Deans Houser, Silva, Torres, and Barron, Dr. Carrillo, Dr. Carr, Professors Epps and Sun, Vice President Villa and some of our regional community partners (IVEDC, SDICCCA) for representing IVC with excellence and commitment.

Campus Safety Update: Thank you to our Campus Safety Office for hosting another Active Assailant Training on Wednesday, December 3, as well as for the valuable session held in November. These trainings continue to strengthen our preparedness efforts and support a safer campus environment for students, employees, and visitors. We also look forward to next year's Campus Safety Update presentation, which will be shared during the February Board of Trustees meeting and the Academic Senate Spring meeting. These updates will provide an overview of ongoing initiatives, recent improvements, and future strategies to enhance campus safety districtwide.



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Bookstore Transition Update: The IVC Bookstore will officially move to a fully virtual model on January 10, 2026, with all textbooks, supplies, and spirit gear available online at www.ImperialValleyStore.com. A [Bookstore Transition Webpage](#) is now live with details on ordering materials, support resources, and FAQs. The page will be updated as new information becomes available. To support students on campus, the Bookstore Transition Taskforce is exploring a small spirit store in the library, where essential items such as blue books and Scantrons are expected to be available for in-person purchase. Visit the [Bookstore Transition Webpage](#) to stay informed.

First Fall Graduation Ceremony: We are excited to host our first-ever Fall Graduation Ceremony this Saturday, December 6, at 9 a.m. This ceremony reflects our commitment to helping students complete their educational journeys sooner rather than later, giving them momentum for transfer, careers, and new opportunities. I hope you will join us in celebrating this historic milestone.

Winter Recess Closure Reminder: As a reminder, the campus will be closed from December 12 at 5:00 p.m. through January 5, 2026 January 2, 2026, for scheduled maintenance on the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Water will be shut off during this period, and only essential personnel should be on site. Portable restrooms will be available on Friday, January 2, for approved employees working on campus. Managers and administrators should ensure their teams are informed about their work designation for January 2, including which staff members are approved for remote work and which employees are required on campus as essential personnel. If you have questions regarding the location of portable restrooms on January 2, please contact Cindy Morales, Executive Assistant to the VP of Administrative Services, at cindy.morales@imperial.edu

Final Thoughts: As we head into the winter break, I want to express my sincere appreciation. Thank you for another remarkable year of dedication and service to our students and our community. Your work is the backbone of Imperial Valley College, and you are the heart and soul of our mission.

Every day, you change lives. And you will be remembered for the students you supported, the futures you strengthened, and the impact you've had on our entire region.

This holiday season invites us to reflect on our blessings: family, home, colleagues, students, and our health and wellness. It also invites us to reconnect with our purpose. As I often say, I didn't choose a career in higher education, it chose me. And I believe many of you were called to this work in the same way.

As you take time to rest and recharge, think about the difference you make and take pride in your contributions. You deserve it. I'll see you next year!

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,
Lennor M. Johnson, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President