

President's Update #7

January 18, 2012

Spring Semester Begins

The campus is once again filled with students and the start of the Spring Semester has been a smooth one so far. However, our headcount, as of last Friday, was 2,425 below the same period in Spring 2011 and FTES was 655 below last Spring. As classes progress over the next several days, we anticipate these numbers to change as more students are allowed into classes from the wait lists. Students on the Wait List are those who have attempted to add themselves to a course after the enrollment capacity was reached. Those students have been listed in the order that they were added to the Wait List. When considering the admittance of "crashers" to a course, faculty may use the Wait List to help prioritize which students are admitted.

Construction, Construction and More Construction

You may have noticed we have one more fence. The work taking place in front of the Administration building will be a new and improved student drop off area. Until it is complete, we will be directing students to the student drop off area located next to the bus area on the east end of campus. There is additional construction taking place in front of the gym (east of the 500 building). When this is completed, it will be a bus terminal for para-transit buses. As part of this project, we are improving the area located in front of the gym.



And, Speaking of Construction

I want to thank everyone involved in the Groundbreaking Ceremonies held on December 16 for our new CTE Building. It was a great success. Even the fact it was the last day of the fall semester and with blustery weather, it was great to see an almost overflow crowd from the community. Here is a link to the photos:

<http://gallery.imperial.edu/v/CTE+Building/CTE+Building+Groundbreaking/>. I want to especially thank Gabriel Gonzalez for his photography services, Jimmy Sanders for providing the visual displays, Nielsen Construction and Chips & Salsa for providing the refreshments, the Maintenance Crew for helping with the set-up, and Patty Robles for coordinating the event.

2012 Business Showcase

IVC was a major presence at the 14th Annual Imperial Valley Joint Chambers of Commerce Business Showcase on January 12. The purpose of this event is to promote and market businesses and services to our community. IVC participates by having a display booth, which allows us to present to the public all aspects of IVC programs and services. This event allows an opportunity for IVC faculty and staff to represent IVC to our community and show that we are here for them. I want to thank everyone who assisted in this important outreach.

Congratulations Rosalie Lopez!

I want to offer my sincere congratulations to Rosalie Lopez, Director of Upward Bound, for receiving one of three "I Have a Dream Awards" at a Martin Luther King Day celebration hosted by the Ballington Academy for the Arts and Sciences. I have had the privilege of working with her for over 30 years at Imperial Valley College. Here are some excerpts from my nomination of Rosalie for this honor. "During her tenure she has been a "catalyst" for representing and serving the needs of economically and educationally disadvantaged minority youths in pursuit of higher education. In her role as the Director of Upward Bound, the success of students from first generation college and economically/educationally disadvantaged families spans three generations, with many of the graduates from her program serving in professional careers such as Medicine, Law, Corporate CEOs, Educational Leaders and speakers both nationally and internationally. We, at Imperial Valley College, are fortunate to have someone of this caliber and "heart" that continues to be the inspiration behind the success of many. Year after year, many of her most accomplished students have returned to Imperial Valley to provide testimony to disadvantaged students to inspire and motivate them to pursue higher education and to involve themselves in service to their communities." This is a well-deserved honor.

IVUP Parents

Our precedent-setting partnership with San Diego State University, Calexico Campus, is off and running on solid footing with more than 100 applications from local students. On January 11, I participated in a parent orientation event that was well attended. It was conducted in English and Spanish and both IVC and San Diego State staff assisted in this effort. I want to thank everyone involved in making this Imperial Valley University Partnership a reality. It truly is a four-year university for our Valley.

*****End of Update*****