

VVC FACTS

- The formation of Victor Valley College was approved by voters in 1960.
- The first classes were held in 1961 on the Victor Valley High School campus in Victorville.
- VVC is now in its 55th year of service to the community.
- Today, VVC's main campus serves an area encompassing roughly 2,200 square miles and is located on a 253-acre campus
- VVC also features a 13-acre Regional Public Safety Training Center in Apple Valley
- VVC serves a population base of approximately 400,000 and has over 20 feeder high schools and diploma granting institutions.
- VVC now offers Associate in Science and Associate in Arts degrees in 23 different disciplines plus more than 100 certificates.
- I am one of six members of the Board of Trustees five that are elected at large and one elected by the students. The Board is charged with maintaining the quality, integrity and financial stability of the College through its policy-setting function.
- Enrollment for 2017/2018 – Over 16,000 unduplicated head counts for the year and roughly 9600 – FTEs (a fulltime equivalent student is a person taking more than 12 credit units or three part-time students taking a 4-credit class all year).
- Over 1,050 Employee partners
- Tuition Costs \$46 per unit
- 2016/17 Degrees conferred – more than 1,280 Associate Degrees, Associate Degrees of Transfer and Certificates of Completion
- Representative Programs -Nursing, Liberal Arts, Science and Math, and other Transfer Courses - 16 Career Technology Programs such as (Computer Aided Design, Airframe and Power Plant Technology, Fire Technology, Administration of Justice, Digital Animation, Respiratory Technology, Paramedics, Construction Technologies, etc.)

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Accreditation

- On March 29, 2016 the ACCJC approved a substantive change which will allow the college to increase access and offer more classes and programs at the Regional Public Safety Training Center (RPSTC) in Apple Valley
- Victor Valley College's accreditation status was reaffirmed on June 23, 2017 from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) with no sanctions.
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Superintendent/President

Contract extended for Dr. Roger Wagner. July 1, 2014 - Jun 30, 2018

A Few Programs of note:

New Transfer Degrees

Victor Valley College has received approval from the Chancellor's Office to offer six new transfer degrees to California State Universities, bringing the total to (10). Currently, VVC offers an Associate in Science

for Transfer in Administration of Justice, An Associate in Science for Transfer in Mathematics, an Associate in Arts for Transfer in Sociology, an Associate in Arts for Transfer in Communication Studies, an Associate in Arts for Transfer in History, and an Associate in Arts for Transfer in Early Childhood Education.

VVC has an Award Winning Associated Student Body (ASB)

The VVC's Associate Student Body has twice received the honor as "Campus of the Year" from the American Student Association of Community Colleges in Washington, D.C.

Honors Program

VVC offers Honors courses that are more extensive and intensive in terms of research, depth of discussion, and material covered. They are designed to promote a deeper, more comprehensive understanding of the material and the connectedness of disciplines while preparing students to excel later in advanced degree preparation. They offer opportunities for independent and focused study. Students participate in advanced seminars, intensive research, and course work.

Nursing Program

VVC Nursing students achieve top NCLEX Pass Rates each year across VVC's popular Nursing Program continues to draw hundreds of students each year. This program provides instruction and training to produce competent, knowledgeable, graduate nurses that provide quality nursing care to the public. This program enables students to take the NCLEX exam in order to become a licensed registered nurse.

The nursing graduate is prepared to practice nursing at any entry level in a variety of settings, including: medical/surgical; psychiatric, and maternal/child; perioperative; geriatric; critical care; and oncology.

VVC holds partnerships with the area's hospital to ensure students receive real-life training opportunities.

Nursing students have three new opportunities to affordably obtain their Bachelor of Science from Cal Baptist, Azusa Pacific, and Grand Canyon University. In addition, VVC Students can now take on campus classes with Park University. The University offers degrees as part of a 2 + 2 programs.

Study Abroad Program

The Study Abroad Program, under the guidance of a faculty facilitator, prepares the college community for the complex and interdependent world of the 21st century.

One example is the Costa Rica Study Abroad program led by VVC professor Neville Slade. The 14-day summer trip allows students to discover why Costa Rica is a global leader in sustainability. Students meet with local farmers, tribal natives, and various professionals resulting in an earned certificate in sustainability.

Dr. Hinrich Kaiser's Tropical Research Initiative, begun in 2008, in the war-torn nation of East Timor has gained student interest and industry attention. Student teams sift through rocks, tide pools, and rice paddies then wade through tropical forests to find and preserve amphibians and reptiles. By summer 2011, Dr. Kaiser and his students had discovered more than 20 new species of reptiles and amphibians. This year's expedition by Victor Valley College students to Timor-Leste has received a rare and high honor: it will be an official Flag Expedition of the venerable Explorers Club of New York. Under the leadership of Drs. Hinrich Kaiser (VVC) and Mark O'Shea (University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom) students will conduct amphibian and reptile surveys to assess the biodiversity of the Oecusse District, the most remote part of Asia's newest country.

A Flag Expedition must further the cause of exploration and field science. There are currently 202 Explorers Club flags, many over 50 years old, and each has its own story, having been carried by several previous expeditions. This is the first time a research team from a Community College has been so honored.

Since its formation in 1904 the Explorers Club has been dedicated to the exploration and documentation of natural environments, conservation, and education. Although its base is in New York, the Club has chapters all over the United States and around the world. The Explorers Club has been sending out its flags with expeditions since 1918, to all corners of the world. Explorers Club members were the first to reach the North and South Poles, summit Mount Everest, dive to the deepest depths of the ocean, and set foot on the Moon.

Model United Nations Program award winning program

Victor Valley College's Model United Nations (MUN) Team successfully completed this year at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York. This is the largest Model United Nations Conference in the world, composed of over 200 competing universities throughout the world. At this particular conference, 3500 students from 54 countries represented UN delegations from 134 countries. The 13 Victor Valley College students did a remarkable job in representing their assigned Member State, the Republic of San Marino, in each of their seven respective committees. Acting as delegates for San Marino, Victor Valley College MUN Student's won the Distinguished Delegation Award. This places VVC in the top 30% of universities and colleges who participated in this conference. The conference was extremely competitive, as the students competed against Ivy League teams whose delegations win year after year. VVC delegates have been persistent leaders and exemplify models of diplomacy

and cooperation. This conference marks the 13th consecutive year that the VVC MUN team has won at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York.

Performing Arts Center

VVC's Performing Arts Center serves as the High Desert's Center of cultural offerings. Performing Arts Center, located just east of the lake, near the center of campus. Victor Valley College maintains a master calendar of events scheduled to take place in the

Performing Arts Center, and students and the public are invited to enjoy the events. Symphonies and other community-sponsored events such as film series, children's theatre, travel lecture programs, and workshops are open both to the community and to students at the College.

The Performing Arts Center houses a proscenium theatre, known as the Main Stage, that seats 493 people and a Black Box theatre that can seat up to 120 depending on the performance configuration. Both stages have computer-controlled lighting systems and new digital sound systems.

Planetarium

The VVC Planetarium features a state-of-the-art Zeiss Skymaster star projector. This visual system allows the planetarium to show thousands of stars on the dome and to include the outline of constellations and the locations of planets. Numerous special showings are held throughout the semester for the benefit of school children from the local public and private schools and for such groups as Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Evening programs are offered throughout the year for the general public.

Workforce Development

Victor Valley College (VVC) has always placed a high value on workforce development through the support of strong vocational or career/technical education (CTE) programs. These programs are critical to the community and to the local economy, as they provide entry level employees and incumbent workers with the skills necessary to both improve their own standard of living, and to contribute to the growth of local businesses and industries.

WC currently holds a 70.2 percent success rate for completion of credit vocational courses

CTE Programs include:

- o Administration of Justice
- o Agriculture and Natural Resources
- o Allied Health
- o Automotive Technology
- o Business Administration
- o Business Educational Technology
- o Child Development
- o Computer Information Systems

- o Computer Integrated Design and Graphics
- o Electronics and Computer Technology
- o EMS/Paramedic/EMT
- o Fire Technology
- o Media Arts
- o Phlebotomy
- o Registered Nursing
- o Respiratory Therapy
- o Restaurant Management
- o Welding Technology
- o Construction Manufacturing
- o Cooperative Education

In addition, VVC has developed formal partnerships with some of the area's largest employers to develop programs specific to their needs. A formal apprenticeship program was begun with General Atomics that included a new certificate program in Avionics. Other such partnerships are currently under development.

Aviation Program

In August of 2011, VVC took over the SCLA School of Aviation Technology from the City of Victorville. The program was developed and operated by local aviation industry leaders, airport officials, and local economic development interests. The program is approved by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Graduates are prepared to take the Airframe & Powerplant license exam. Entry level positions can earn approximately \$25 an hour.

The Victor Valley College Foundation was instrumental in the transfer of the program to the College. Currently there are approximately 72 students enrolled in the program.

Bridge Program

VVC's award winning Bridge Program assists high school students in their transition to colleges and universities. The program was created by longtime VVC adjunct professor Chris Piercy, who also teaches at Serrano High School. The program is a partnership among the Lewis Center, the Snowline School District, and Victor Valley College. Almost all of the high Desert Diploma granting institutions have incorporated the Bridge Program into their programs for juniors and senior. The program is now transforming to include students in junior high and grade schools. This program has been adopted by community colleges and high schools across the state.

How does it work?

The program features an online system that offers assessment tests, career and College resources and various tutorials through personalized Web sites and now review courses for students to reexamine their skills. More than 40,000 students have participated in the program.

The Victor Valley College Foundation

The Foundation serves to make friends and develop resources that help Victor Valley College to serve our community. They raise money, write and secure grants for student programs, facilitate donations of goods, manage scholarships, and build partnerships.

The Foundation is set up to give all students, who want an education and are willing to work hard at learning, the opportunity to realize their educational and ultimately their career dreams. The Foundation helps student's dreams come true through donations from our generous community and alumni.

The Victor Valley Community College Foundation held its Annual Hall of Fame event on Saturday February 24, 2018.

This year, the **Distinguished Community Service** honor recognized the contributions of **Thurston "Smitty" Smith**. Smitty is a former Mayor and Council member for the City of Hesperia. His leadership, dedication and commitment to his community earned him the support of his constituents and the friendship of his peers. After relocating from Long Beach in 1988 with his wife and two sons, Smitty became involved in the community through coaching Little League. Years later, he still runs into kids that he coached. "When I see them in the market with their wives and kids and they acknowledge me as Coach Smitty, it truly warms my heart and brings back great memories," Smitty said of his time coaching. There is rarely an event which Smitty doesn't attend but he is not just another face in the audience, rather, he takes an active role for the betterment of the Valley. "I love the High Desert and I want to be involved," Smitty said. "I want my community to be the best it can be." Smitty's proudest accomplishments while serving on council include; the completion of the Hesperia Civic Plaza Park, the Rancho Underpass and the Rancho Bridge project. When asked about the award, Smitty said that he was both humbled and proud. "I am, and continue to be, a strong supporter of the Victor Valley College Foundation," Smitty added. "After the loss of our Son in 2007, the Foundation assisted my wife and I with setting up a scholarship in his honor, the Brandon E. Smith Memorial Scholarship. I am proud that this scholarship has helped many high desert college students and continues to this day." Although he is retired from his concrete pumping business and service to the council, Smitty is still a constant in the community. He can be found serving pancakes for the local high school wrestling team, staging entrants for local parades, chairing the Victor Valley Bicycle tour and serving on numerous non-profit boards. Currently, he serves on Mojave Water Agency's Board of Directors. It's a position he calls intriguing and important to our region. "Water is life and it is important that we have good quality for lasting generations," Smitty said.

Receiving the **Distinguished Education Service Award** was former VVC Administration of Justice Director and Department Chair, **Michael Visser**. Mike's career in law enforcement spans over three decades before retiring as an Assistant Chief of Police. During his long tenure, his background included teaching law enforcement at the Riverside Sheriff's Academy, San Bernardino Sheriff's Academy, University of Hawaii, National University, Imperial College and Fort Irwin. Early in his life, Mike learned the martial arts of Judo and Karate. It was an art he loved to share and pass on to others, especially his students. Over the years, he encouraged thousands of students to also focus on obtaining careers in law enforcement and suggested tips and pathways to achieve their goals. The award came as a shock after Mike was invited to breakfast by VVC Foundation Vice President Norm Hurst. "I was completely surprised when my family and several Foundation staff members entered the restaurant with balloons and a large sign with my name on it," Mike said of the experience. "I was and am, very humbled that the Victor Valley College Foundation would bestow upon me this coveted award when I know there are many other very qualified and deserving professors at this fine institution of learning." Some of his notable achievements include: being instrumental in helping Victor Valley College open the Regional Public Safety Training Center (RPSTC) in Apple Valley in 2012, assisted VVC Campus Police with obtaining new firearms and training and lent his support to help the campus with emergency drills such as "The Great Shakeout" and "Active Shooter Training". He passed the love of teaching to his son John, who is now an adjunct faculty member in the program. "People helped me when I was in community college as well as my peers when I entered law enforcement. I felt it was important to give back and help as many students as I could," recalled Mike.

The **Presidents' Award** for 2018 recognized an organization for their impact on the College. This year, **Chief Executive Officer of Desert Valley Hospital/Desert Valley Medical Group, Fred Hunter** rose to the top of the list due to his personal investment in Victor Valley College's (VVC) Nursing Program. In 2016, Desert Valley Hospital brokered a contract with VVC to pay for 64 students to enter the nursing program, thus reducing the program's lengthy waitlist. As an additional benefit, the students are offered three-year employment contracts at Dr. Reddy's flagship hospital in the High Desert. Although his time is stretched thin, Fred goes above and beyond to ensure his students are making the grade. He not only personally checks in with every student but holds group study sessions to provide extra tutoring. "Dr. Reddy set the culture of giving back, and I knew I had the responsibility to uphold his legacy," said Fred. "I am very humbled to receive this recognition. I am doing what I think is the right thing for the students. I am all about their success and there are no words to express my gratitude." Fred was selected by a joint selection from the College's three presidents – VVC Superintendent/President Roger Wagner, Board of Trustees President Brandon Wood (during his 2017 term on the board) and the Foundation Board President Eric Schmidt. Fred currently serves as a Vice President on the Victor Valley College Foundation Board of Directors and is a strong supporter of many community events and non-profits throughout the High Desert. "Victor Valley College provides a great opportunity for students to attend higher education when life circumstances may not allow them to attend a 4-year school," Fred stated. "As the Vice President of the Victor Valley College Foundation Board of Directors, I have witnessed the passion that Victor Valley College has for their programs and success of their students. I am honored to be a part of this great organization."

The **Alumni Hall of Fame** inductee for 2018 was **Sid Hultquist**. Sid served as the Fire Chief for the Apple Valley Fire Protection District and is proud to have been a part of re-opening two of its closed fire stations. Together with a team of individuals, they successfully passed a tax measure in 2016 which secured permanent funding to add additional firefighters and reduce critical response times. "Improving the quality of life for the citizens of Apple Valley was one of the last and most important things I wanted to accomplish before I retired," said Sid. He graduated with his degree from Victor Valley College in 1993 but took his first EMT class ten years prior. "I think what really makes this special to me is that I have worked side by side with so many members of the Victor Valley College Foundation officers and directors and I have so much respect for what they contribute to our communities here in the High Desert," Sid said of the award. "This award coming from what I consider to be my peers will always be a highlight of my 38-year career." Sid says he considers VVC to be a big factor of his success in the fire service industry. "VVC plays an important role in giving citizens of all ages the opportunity to enrich their lives whether it's to pursue a degree, certification, a new skill or hobby or just make you a better employee," said Sid. "It gave me the tools I needed to be competitive and to advance in a career where public safety is on the line. VVC offers the ability for all of us to pursue our dreams."

Campus Updates

VVC students will have the benefit of a new interactive Student Orientation Video this Fall 2016

Victor Valley College, was selected as one of nine community college districts and 14 colleges to participate in the Education Planning Initiative (EPI). EPI is an innovative statewide project in the deployment of a new academic advising and planning platform. Community college students throughout California will soon have access to new technology that will help them identify their academic goals, develop structured personalized Ed Plans for success and make informed course choices about their education.

A Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Machine (NMR) was acquired by Victor Valley College, thanks to the WC Foundation, Mitsubishi Cement, Cemex, A Family Pharmacy, the Mojave Environmental Education Consortium (MEEC), Southern California Edison. The NMR is being

used for the first time in the 2016 spring semester for students in the upper level organic chemistry classes and will make a huge difference for students intending to transfer to the university system like Cal State San Bernardino. Until recently, CSUSB would only accept the theoretical work accomplished and not the practical work. Because of the investment of our industry partners, CSUSB will now accept both, alleviating a bottleneck in their system where hundreds of students are currently sitting on waitlists for Biology and Chemistry classes requiring a lab with the NMR.

The Victor Valley College Math Department this year embarked on several major changes to their program that could significantly increase college completion rates for area residents. Math has been a hurdle for many students who were previously required to take a multi-course sequence of remediation before accessing a degree-applicable course. In Fall 2016, new practices for placement will begin to allow the majority of students to enter the math sequence within one class of their degree requirements instead of the up to five that they previously encountered. Following proven models that have worked at other institutions including just-in-time remediation and a statistics-based alternative to algebra, WC expects significantly more students to successfully advance through math. Removing the barriers in math will make graduation a reality for more VVC students.

In 2014, Victor Valley College was awarded a grant to facilitate career pathways pipelines throughout the region in five key industries: Automotive, Aviation, Energy / Utilities Healthcare and Manufacturing. One goal of what has become known as the RAMP UP project is to maximize the input of employers by establishing advisory councils that include all local schools and Victor Valley College together rather than the previous practice of multiple

independent meetings at individual institutions. This work was initiated in 2015 and today nearly all targeted advisory councils have been identified or are in active development for the local area. This strategy is expected to help streamline curriculum allowing local students to complete training that meets employer needs faster.

Another goal of the RAMP UP project was to link schools and colleges together through technology allowing them to share classes and learning experiences with one another. In 2016, the installation of these classrooms was completed, system tests successfully conducted and the first multi-site connection allowed students at eight high schools to participate in a healthcare industry lecture last month. RAMP UP also includes linkages to the Antelope Valley, Barstow and San Bernardino where similar activities are in development.

Expanding its relationships with local high schools, the VVC embarked on a new partnership with Hesperia High School in Fall 2014. In the Fall of 2014, 53 students were enrolled in predominantly General Education classes delivered by VVCs department of Humanities, Arts, and Social Science (HASS) on the Hesperia High School campus. By the end of that semester, 98% of the students passed all classes with a "C" grade or better and a total of 414 college credits were earned in courses including English, Sociology, History, and Philosophy.

In the Fall of 2015, the cohorts grew to a total of 84 students enrolled with the results demonstrated that 95% of the cohort passed all classes with a "C" grade or better totaling 612 college credits earned.

The Hesperia High study also revealed that the pass rate in the Early College courses surpasses traditional Hesperia High courses by 20% (English) and 10% (History). It should be noted that these classes, where applicable, count toward the high school students' A-G high school graduation requirements.

VVC is hosting dual enrollment classes in ten of the districts largest high schools. The courses offered vary from school to school and are intended to give high schools students a jump start on a career or transfer program. The first year of the program yielded over 30 FTES and is expected to be nearly triple that number in the 2018/19 academic year.

Construction

Victor Valley College Main Campus and the Regional Public Safety Training Center are valuable community resources. The college offers relevant programs and services to help students prepare for transfer and address workforce needs through career technical education and basic skills instruction. Over the last seven years, Measure JJ Bond dollars have touched each of these areas: the Regional Public Safety Training Center in Apple Valley (Spring 2012), Music Building (Fall 2014) and the Dr. Prem Reddy Health and Sciences Building (Fall 2015).

In 2016 another Measure JJ project gets under way as we turn our attention to the remodel and expansion of our Vocational facilities. Groundbreaking takes place, May 16, and the new additions will be ready for student use Spring 2017. The project includes a new Automotive/Diesel Mechanics lab space, new Welding Lab, public restrooms and an additional; 6,240 ASF for lecture classrooms. Additional Automotive space will provide for a service writer program, machine shop and bay space for car lifts. Welding Technology will be equipped with an entirely new welding facility with state of the art equipment.

In July 2018 the Facilities Master Plan update was approved which identified a need for a new Student Services 'One Stop' Building sufficient to provide greater efficiency between related functions in serving our students, thereby freeing current space for reconversion to classrooms – solving the near term classroom shortage. In addition, a study was presented outlining a future Stadium and Conference Center that will seat 3,500 and 3,000 respectively.

- The expansion of the vocational complex will create a diesel facility and enhance classroom space for both automotive and welding. Cost is \$6.5 million. Completion is expected in 2014-15.

On June 21, 2018 a ground breaking ceremony was held at the site of the new 24,000 sq. ft. Student Services one-stop facility. The project is expected to be completed in the fall of 2019 and will be the new home for all of the colleges support services.

College safety

Notification system updates are being invested to assure timely and accurate delivery of information to staff and students. This includes mass/immediate text messaging, phone notifications, computer notifications, and Building Emergency Coordinators notification through radio contact to activate emergency drills depending on the emergency situation such as evacuation or lock down.

VVC hosted and sent five of its employees to the nationally recognized ALICE (Active shooter civilian response training). These employees are now trainers and will be conducting training seminars over the coming years until all employees have received this critically important training.

Sustainability or Green Projects lead to Savings in Costs - Meeting sustainability requirements (College and University Initiative).

- o Reduction of College carbon footprint.
- o Landscape efforts that reduce water needs and maintenance.
- o Solar installations that lead to reduction of energy costs by as much as 30%.
- o Create a training laboratory, curriculum, and preparing students for green careers.
- o Unique funding application - avoidance of Power Purchase agreements.

- o Federal and state incentives.
- o One Megawatt power production capability.
- o Sought and found a company with a high reliability and field durability product.
- o Low cost renewable energy with technology that maximizes energy yield/reduced system costs.
- o Rapid energy cost payback.
- o Water is only used for panel cleaning and maintenance – Water is recaptured.
- o Low noise emanation.
- o Overall low cost solution that could be used by the College.
- o Sustainable design utilizing 95% of recyclable materials.
- o Continuous long term return on investment.
- o Longterm maintenance package.
- o 5 year investment payback.
- o Solar Covered Parking.
Solar roof panels deliver 80% of electrical need for the VVCRPSTC.

