

Citrus College's Legacy of College Completion

The year was 1915. Babe Ruth was a rookie pitcher for the Boston Red Sox, Albert Einstein had recently published his Theory of Relativity, and Citrus College became the first community college in Los Angeles County. While much has changed during the 100 years since we made our historic debut, one thing has remained constant: Our commitment to student success.

From the four associate degrees awarded to our first graduating class in 1917 to the record-breaking 2,119 associate degrees awarded during the 2014 Commencement Ceremony, Citrus College has perpetuated a tenet of college completion. In fulfilling their educational goals, our graduates have opened the doors to endless possibilities and brighter futures.

For one century, Citrus College students have regularly transferred to the colleges of their dreams, pursued impressive professional careers, and actively contributed to society. Because of these esteemed alumni, our communities have been transformed and our world has changed.

This legacy of college completion has earned Citrus College a stellar reputation throughout the nation. We are consistently ranked as a top associate degree producer by the publications *Community College Week* and *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education*. Citrus College has also been validated by *GI Jobs* magazine as a Military Friendly School[®] for five consecutive years.

At the state level, Citrus College has been recognized among the top three California community colleges in the number of Associate Degrees for Transfer awarded. And, closer to home, our outstanding reputation was confirmed when we were recently voted the "Best Community College" by the San Gabriel Valley Newsgroup's annual "Readers Choice" poll.

These impressive accomplishments bode well for our institutional future. As we continue to succeed with the collegewide effort to increase the number of students achieving their academic and career goals by completing their courses of study, Citrus College will break records and forge new pathways. Innovative programs, advanced services, and modern resources will continue to prepare our students for the careers of the 21st Century - and beyond.

At Citrus College, academic excellence is more than just a catchy tagline. It is ingrained in our institutional culture and evident throughout our past. This legacy would not be possible without the leadership of our Board of Trustees and the support of our faculty, staff, students, alumni, donors, and surrounding communities. Thank you for the important role you continue to play in making Citrus College a recognized leader in higher education.

Cheers to the next 100 years!

Sincerely,

Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President of Citrus College