

CITRUSVIEW

LATEST NEWS FROM CITRUS COLLEGE



Motivated to Excel

As COVID-19 has temporarily altered the way we work and live, finding inspiration while adjusting to these new conditions can be challenging. During this uncertain time, it is more important than ever to remember what motivates you, our dedicated and passionate employees, to continue pressing onward. As superintendent/president of Citrus College, one of my responsibilities is to help bring that motivation into focus.

Whenever I reflect on previous semesters or contemplate the future of the college, the answer is always clear: student success

and completion is the driving force behind what we do. It is both our guiding philosophy and our daily inspiration.

The May edition of this newsletter brings that reality into vivid detail. Faculty and staff have risen to the occasion and delivered high-quality instruction and support services through remote technology. We have launched a campaign to help students access the equipment they need, earned national awards for innovative communication, and witnessed members of the Citrus Community College Board of Trustees honored for years of dedication and service to this institution.

The stories featured in this newsletter demonstrate the remarkable work being performed by Citrus College employees on a day-to-day basis.

Citrus College has existed for over 100 years, and it was the unwavering commitment of selfless individuals who turned it into the award-winning, nationally recognized institution that it is today. I am confident that, after we surmount this challenge, we will look back at this chapter together and be proud that we did our best to serve our students and advance the legacy of Citrus College.

Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President

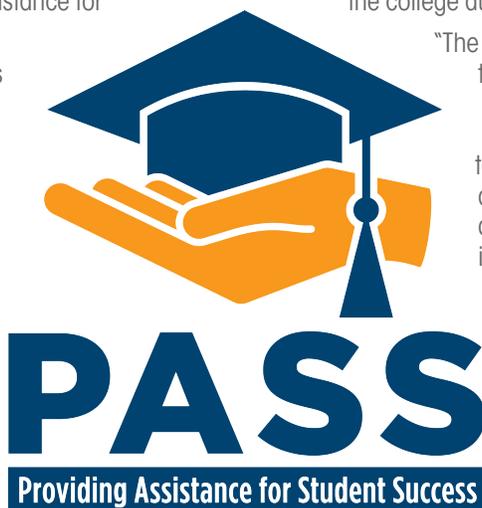
Citrus College Foundation Launches Student Support Campaign

As the nation continues to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, many Citrus College students have found themselves in need of assistance. For this reason, the Citrus College Foundation has committed an initial grant of \$100,000 to support the new Providing Assistance for Student Success (PASS) campaign.

Designed to provide resources and support to Citrus College students, the PASS campaign will help those individuals whose college educations may be affected by the current public health crisis.

"We understand that this sudden transition to a remote learning environment has created unexpected challenges for some students. For this reason, the college is eager to announce the launch of Citrus College PASS," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. "The goal of this campaign is to remove obstacles or barriers that may prevent students from completing their education. This collaborative effort is made possible by partners, supporters and friends of the Citrus College Foundation."

The Foundation is actively soliciting donors to help provide financial support for Citrus College PASS. In fact, the Foundation's board of directors meets regularly to organize and plan how to best address the needs of the college during the COVID-19 pandemic.



"The Foundation's initial response was to begin providing technology support to those students who rely heavily on the college's computer resources. However, we quickly realized that a lack of technology is only one challenge students are facing as a result of COVID-19," said Christina M. Garcia, director of the Citrus College Foundation. "Therefore, in partnership with the college's academic affairs and student services divisions, we have established Citrus College PASS as a means of financially supporting student needs during these difficult times."

For more information and to contribute to the Citrus College PASS campaign, email the Citrus College Foundation at foundation@citruscollege.edu or visit www.citruscollege.edu/pass.

The Citrus College campus is closed through June 12, 2020. Faculty and staff are working remotely. Visit www.citruscollege.edu/covid19 for information on remote services, as well as important COVID-19 updates.

Annual Report Recaps a Wonderful Year

At a meeting of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees on March 17, the college's 2018-2019 annual report officially became available to the public.

Aptly themed "Leading the Way," the publication details Citrus College's most significant achievements from the previous academic year, validating the efforts of faculty, staff and administrators to foster an environment where excellence flourishes.

"Whether it was Citrus College being recognized by the state for its AB 705 implementation, the progress the college has made in creating its Guided Pathways Career and Academic Pathways (CAPs), or the Citrus College Foundation continuing to fund the Citrus College Promise program, the college's commitment to student success was unparalleled in 2018-2019," said

Superintendent/President Perri. "As you read this report, you will find myriad examples of how Citrus College has positioned itself as a leader in higher education."

In addition to highlighting noteworthy accomplishments, such as Citrus College winning the American Association of Community Colleges 2019 Award of Excellence in the Student Success category, the report also includes profiles of last year's Distinguished Alumni Award and Distinguished Faculty Award recipients, as well as student population data featuring stunning infographics.

"Reading the 2018-2019 annual report will cause any member of the college community to experience a great sense of pride," said Dr. Patricia A. Rasmussen, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees.



The cover of the 2018-2019 annual report features students proudly displaying pennants from the universities to which they would soon transfer.

"The content is wonderful, the design is striking and the format is easy to navigate. I highly recommend reading this report!"

To download a PDF of the 2018-2019 annual report, visit www.citruscollege.edu/info/reports.

Students and Staff Rise to the Occasion



Pictured (L-R): Daniel Eastmond, Jessica López Jiménez and Eileen Sin each have success stories to share with the college community.

Since the Citrus College campus closed on March 18, students, faculty and staff have experienced a surge of positivity and progress in receiving (and delivering) remote instruction and student support services.

A perfect example occurred in adjunct faculty member Daniel Eastmond's geology class. His students performed well on their lab work and scored highly on virtual exams.

According to Mr. Eastmond, "I told the whole group that I've never worked with a more self-disciplined class. Two students will be completing the course from Japan. I haven't had to resolve a single complaint, and I'm observing feats of resilience I would not have anticipated two weeks ago."

Mr. Eastmond credits Dr. Eric Rabitoy, dean, and the entire Citrus College Natural, Physical and

Health Sciences Division for their coordination and team spirit, which helped to establish a regular, productive routine for students by the time classes went online.

The situation in the honors transfer program is equally remarkable. Eileen Sin, honors transfer program counselor, recently hosted a livestream Q&A session on Canvas for more than 20 students. They asked questions about submitting graduation applications via email and requesting transcripts for fall transfer. Brian Waddington, honors transfer program coordinator, and Olivia Canales, administrative clerk III, also participated to help provide a sense of community.

For students who are preparing to transfer, Jessica López Jiménez, director of student support services, scheduled over 20 online

workshops for the months of April, May and June. The workshops are hosted by Citrus College counselors and university representatives, who will discuss important information and share upcoming deadlines to ensure that students experience a smooth transition to universities in the fall.

Ms. López Jiménez and her team are currently partnering with the Veterans Success Center, disabled student programs and services, and student life and leadership development to host career and transfer workshops for student veterans, ASCC officers, students with disabilities and other student populations.

If you have a success story to share, we'd love to hear it! To submit, email Doug Schultz, communications supervisor, at dschultz@citruscollege.edu.

Board Members Honored for Years of Service

Two members of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees have been presented with Fulfilling the Trust awards from the Community College League of California (CCLC).

Designed to recognize the enduring dedication and service of California's community colleges trustees, Fulfilling the Trust honors are given to those trustees who have achieved 20 years of service or reached other trusteeship milestones at California community colleges. Susan M. Keith, board vice president, and Dr. Edward C. Ortell, board member, are two of 10 individuals being honored by the CCLC this month.



Susan M. Keith and Dr. Edward C. Ortell have been recognized for their work with Citrus College.

First elected to serve as Claremont's representative on Citrus College's governing board in 1999, Trustee Keith was honored by the CCLC for her 20 years of service. In addition to her work with Citrus College, Trustee Keith was elected twice by her peers across the state to serve on the board of the California Community College Trustees (CCCT). She also served as a resource team member for the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative established by the California Community Colleges Chancellor to assist colleges with accreditation.

Trustee Ortell was recognized by the CCLC for being the longest-serving community college trustee in California. First elected to Citrus College's governing board in 1969, he has served the college and his community for more than 50 years. In addition to his work with Citrus College, Trustee Ortell has served on a variety of other boards and associations, including the California Community College Trustees State Board, the California Master Plan for Education Task Force and the Los Angeles County School Trustees Association.

"On behalf of the entire college community, I congratulate Trustee Keith and Trustee Ortell on receiving these milestone awards," said Superintendent/President Perri. "Their passion for education and commitment to serving the community have benefitted Citrus College and its students greatly, and we thank them for their many years of service."

Student Performers Shine in Performing Arts Series



Click the image above to watch the Citrus Singers perform "We Sing." [Click this link](#) to watch Night Shift perform "Twenty-Five Miles." Each student performer recorded themselves on their phones, and that footage was edited together by staff in the Citrus College Visual and Performing Arts Division.

A theater never goes dark. Instead, a single lightbulb illuminates an empty stage after a performance has ended and everyone has gone home. This longstanding tradition serves as the inspiration for a new virtual theater showcase coordinated by the Haugh Performing Arts Center.

The "Ghost Light Series" features recorded performances submitted by students, alumni and faculty from the Citrus College Visual and Performing Arts Division. Featured on the Haugh's Facebook page, these individual pieces represent many disciplines, including theater arts, dance, and vocal and instrumental music.

"Our season is on hold due to the efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19, so the Haugh is temporarily closed," said Tiina Mittler, director of the Haugh Performing Arts Center. "We created this series to provide Citrus College students with a stage during this uncertain time. Our original goal was to show them practicing their disciplines; however, this one idea has blossomed into a collaborative effort involving the entire division."

The Haugh has received a wide variety of submissions since the series was first launched on March 24, six days after Citrus College transitioned to a remote learning environment.

"Some faculty have chosen to utilize this series as a performance requirement for their classes. In many cases, the students are performing solo at home, in their cars

or at parks. The videos are mostly shot on cell phones and feature everything from songs to sonnets to dance pieces," Ms. Mittler said. "Students have learned the ukulele, challenged themselves to play new songs on the guitar, choreographed their own dance numbers and written their own songs. The creativity is inspiring!"

The "Ghost Light Series" has also paved the way for additional social media content. For example, "The Follow Spot" showcases performances with notable alumni and faculty, "Back Stage Pass" shows viewers a behind-the-scenes look at the Haugh scene shop, and "Under Work Lights" provides a glimpse of the college's emerging theatre technologies program.

"I think it is very important right now for everyone in the performing world to continue learning, studying and honing our skills," said Jillian Hurte, a second-year student in the Citrus Singers program who submitted a video to the series. "Every day, I try to play a few songs on my guitar. I taught myself, but it is something that I am working on and I am trying to use this time to grow in."

To view all the videos, visit www.facebook.com/haughpac.



Student Services Division Welcomes New Registrar

Familiarity with the California community colleges system and leadership experience in a college admissions setting have prepared Cinthya Arrieta well for her new role at Citrus College.

As the college's registrar, she oversees and directs student admissions and academic records, evaluates transcripts, and assists in the planning and organization of the class schedule.

Prior to arriving at Citrus College, Ms. Arrieta spent 12 years as the senior admissions and records supervisor at East Los Angeles College. Additional professional experience includes serving as the admissions and records interim supervisor for Los Angeles City College.

Ms. Arrieta holds a master's degree from Azusa Pacific University, a bachelor's degree from California State University, Los Angeles, and an associate degree from East Los Angeles College.

"After conducting some research, I found that Citrus College was rated one of the top degree-awarding institutions among minorities, and it was also ranked among the top 10 community colleges in California," Ms. Arrieta said. "Student support and success is my passion and top priority, so it is very exciting to be part of a team that has earned such impressive recognitions by helping students achieve their educational goals. I am happy to have joined a community that shares my values."



Cinthya Arrieta is the new Citrus College registrar.

College Instagram Receives National Award

The Citrus College Instagram account (www.instagram.com/citrus.college), managed by the Citrus College Communications and External Relations Office, was recently awarded second place in a nationwide contest.

Hosted by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations, the 2020 Paragon Awards honored outstanding achievement in design, communication and social media among marketing and public relations professionals at two-year colleges.

The staff in communications and external relations were eager to submit the college's Instagram account to the 2020 Paragon Awards due to a series of Instagram "stories" that were created in-house to promote the college's campus safety department, as well as the eye-catching imagery regularly featured on the page.

"Winning a national award is incredibly satisfying and a huge affirmation of the work produced by

this office," said Melissa Utsuki, executive director of communications and external relations. "I am excited to continue seeking new ways of promoting the many benefits Citrus College offers students, and I am grateful to do so with this wonderful team of multimedia professionals."

The college's Instagram account was one of 2,000 entries in 53 categories at the 2020 Paragon Awards. At the time the award was presented, Citrus College's Instagram account had 2,770 followers and 365 posts.

"I am exceptionally proud of the staff in communications and external relations for winning this prestigious award, as well as for their willingness to adopt new ways of sharing good news about the college," said Superintendent/President Perri. "I am confident that the college will continue to be promoted effectively due to their work ethic and innovative spirit."



The Citrus College Communications and External Relations Office consists of (L-R): Anthony Orona, Cerise Guerrero, Edson Yu, Stacy Armstrong, Melissa Utsuki, Doug Schultz and Genaro Gascón.

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