

PLANETARIUM

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE

# ANNUAL REPORT

2017~2018



ORANGE  
COAST  
COLLEGE



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Dear Friends,

After nine remarkable years leading Orange Coast College as president, I will be retiring at the end of the Fall 2018 semester. This decision is bittersweet: from the very first day of my tenure at Coast, the campus and community have been welcoming and supportive of myself and my family, and in many ways OCC has become my home.

OCC's 70th anniversary celebration has given us the opportunity to celebrate our rich history and past accomplishments while looking to the future with promise and innovation. I have been proud of the gains in student success that we have made at OCC during my time as president, as well as our commitment to creating an inclusive and equitable learning environment where each student can reach their goals.

Along with many of you, I have also been fortunate to witness the College undergo a tremendous transformation during my time at the helm, including the passage of bond Measure M which, together with its preceding bond, Measure C, represents an investment of nearly \$1 billion in Orange Coast College by the community. That investment has allowed for the completion of significant construction projects in my nine years at OCC, including the Allied Health Sciences, Biological Sciences and Consumer Sciences and Design Complex, Math, Business and Computing Center, the Recycling Center, and the highly-anticipated Planetarium (see story page 4).

Other projects – including the Adapted PE Facility, the Swimming Complex (page 12), the Literature and Languages and Social Science Building, the College Center and Student Life Building (page 11), the expansion of the Maritime Academy, and Student Housing (page 10) – are well on their way to being constructed, with some projects already having broken ground. While it's true that these projects were possible due to the visionary and courageous leadership of our College and District, they are also made possible in no small part by the support of our community.

I have been heartened to experience first-hand the support for our students at OCC, the leadership of the Foundation Board and a generous community. In my time at the College, the OCC Foundation has raised more than \$44 million dollars for student scholarships, resources and facility augmentation. This tremendous investment in the mission of OCC is a validation of what we do to promote student success.

Being the President of Orange Coast College has been a privilege over the past nine years as I have had the opportunity to collaborate with people who have become friends.

My wife Kim and I are excited to enter this new chapter in our lives spending time at our home in Alligator Point in Florida. I am deeply grateful for the experience of leading this outstanding College and I have full confidence that Orange Coast College will continue to reach even greater heights of excellence in the years to come.

I thank you all!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis R. Harkins".

Dennis R. Harkins, Ph.D.



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Dear Community Partners,

On behalf of the Coast Community College District, I want to offer congratulations to Orange Coast College for seven decades of success. Our students, alumni, community members, and employees can be proud of the high-quality, contemporary institution OCC has evolved into since its founding in 1947.

An important element of any college's success is the commitment from its leaders. This year, Dr. Dennis Harkins retired after nine years as president. Dennis leaves behind a legacy of accomplishment and contributions to OCC's academic and student support mission that has strengthened the College.

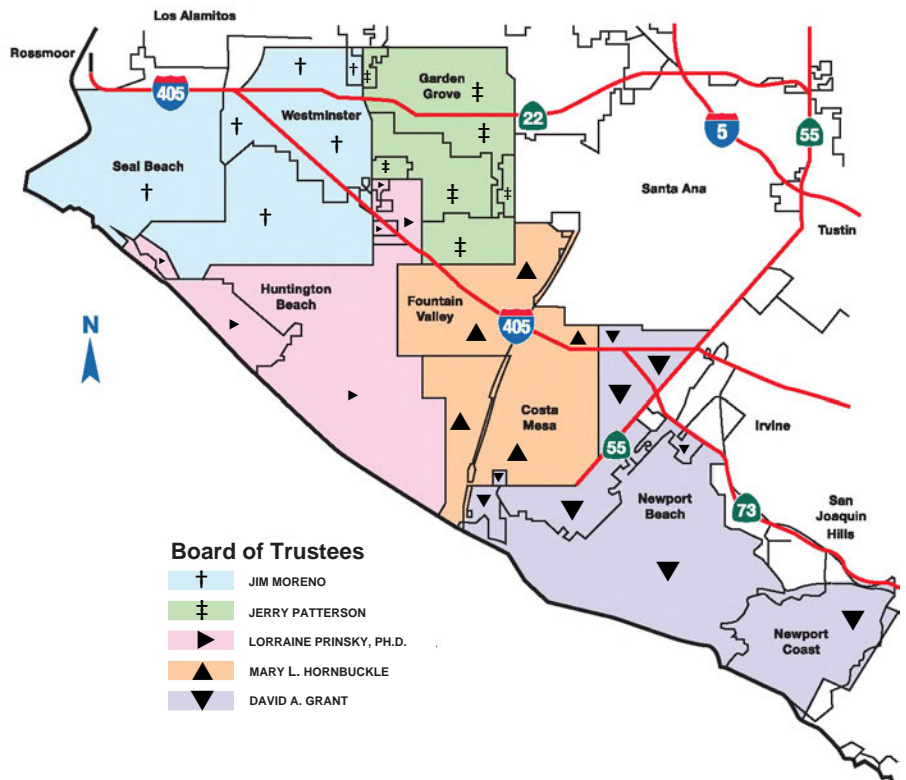
While a national search takes place for a new president, the Board of Trustees has appointed Kevin Ballinger as Interim President through July 2019. Kevin has been part of the OCC family for more than 30 years, beginning as a student before launching his career as a faculty member, department chair, dean, and then vice president of instruction. Kevin is well prepared to lead OCC during this transition, as the College navigates accreditation renewal, faculty hiring, and large-scale construction projects.

Meanwhile, the search for a new president has officially begun, with the composition of a committee that includes constituents from across the college community. Following a national search and consideration of qualified applicants, the committee will conduct interviews and forward finalists to the Board of Trustees for interviews in late Spring 2019. Following the selection and appointment of a successful candidate, OCC anticipates welcoming its new president in July 2019. I look forward to joining you in welcoming this new leader to the OCC campus.

Sincerely,

John Weispfenning, Ph.D.

## COAST COMMUNITY DISTRICT



# MEET OCC'S INTERIM PRESIDENT: KEVIN BALLINGER



Orange Coast College's interim president is longtime member of the Coast community, dating back to his time as a student in the 1970s.

On Nov. 7, the Coast Community College Board of Trustees appointed Vice President of Instruction Kevin Ballinger as interim president. He will serve in this capacity until the Coast Community College District's search for a permanent president is complete in Summer 2019.

Ballinger first arrived at OCC as a student in the fall of 1975, eventually earning an associate degree in neurodiagnostic technology. He was hired as a part-time faculty member in 1981 and became a full-time faculty member in 1985, before becoming an administrator as Dean of the Consumer and Health Sciences Division in 1996 and Vice President of Instruction in 2015.



He takes the helm at a critical time for OCC and will lead the College through its accreditation process, the implementation of a new statewide math and English placement model, and will help frame OCC's Guided Pathways Project. Ballinger also will lead the Costa Mesa campus as it undergoes a significant physical transformation, including opening a new \$24 million Planetarium in Spring 2019, and continued construction on both a new Student Union and Student Housing. Groundbreaking for a new Aquatic Center is also scheduled for early next year.

"I'm honored to serve Orange Coast College as interim president during this period of change," said Ballinger. "During the course of these next few months, the College will coordinate an accreditation site visit and finalize a transformational change in the way students are placed in math and English courses. OCC also will continue with significant facilities improvements using Measure M funds, state funds, foundation efforts, and private bonds."

Ballinger follows Dr. Dennis Harkins, who announced his retirement as president of Orange Coast College after nine years leading the campus. Harkins is the 10th — and third-longest-serving — president in OCC's 70-year history.

"I want to thank Dr. Harkins for everything he has done for OCC and congratulate him on his retirement," said Ballinger.

As Vice President of Instruction, Ballinger has taken an active leadership role in shared governance. He co-chairs the College's Instructional Planning Council, the Student Success and Enrollment Committee and chairs the Accreditation Coordination Committee.

He was awarded the OCC Manager of the year in 2005 and was a recipient of the "Hanging of the Orange" award in 2012 for exemplary service to the College.

Ballinger holds a bachelor's degree in vocational education from California State University, Long Beach and a master's of science in Educational Administration from National University.

# MESSAGE FROM BILL WOOD/ DOUG BENNETT



Dear Friends of Orange Coast College,

Since 1985, the Orange Coast College Foundation has built a legacy of providing support for programs and projects that benefit OCC students. We are particularly grateful to the generous donors acknowledged in this report.

Their gifts — totaling just over \$10 million from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 — have benefited students through funding for the new OCC Planetarium (page 4), a new AstroTurf baseball field (page 7), funds for student scholarships, support of the College’s performing and visual arts, gifts to the College’s nationally renowned School of Sailing and Seamanship, and myriad other programs and projects.

The past 12 months have been the most financially successful in the OCC Foundation’s 30-plus year history. Notable gifts include

- \$1 million OCC emeritus faculty member Mary McChesney to sponsor the Foucault Pendulum in the new OCC Planetarium.
- More than \$1.9 million from an anonymous donor to support the installation of an AstroTurf baseball field at Pirate Park.
- A gift of \$100,000 from retired OCC faculty member Betty Yost for student scholarships.
- Gifts valued at more than \$3.9 million to the nationally recognized OCC School of Sailing & Seamanship, including:
  - *Dover Girl* a Queenship 61 from the Cavanaugh Family Trust of Newport Beach
  - The Santa Cruz 70 Transpac racing sailboat *Holua* from Brack Duker
  - *Tranquilidad*, a Beneteau 57 from Jeremy & Hilda Anywyld

Other notable achievements supported by the generosity of donors to the OCC Foundation included the opening of the Pirates’ Cove Food Pantry and the awarding of \$584,698 in scholarship support at Honors Night in May. Now serving more than 400 students a week, the Pirates’ Cove offers fresh fruits, non-perishable items and basic necessities to help students who are food insecure fill their needs.

As we look ahead to 2019, the completion and grand opening of the new OCC Planetarium next spring is sure to be the highlight of the year. The Planetarium project, which was initiated by the OCC Foundation Board of Directors in 2008, will be a one-of-a-kind learning destination that will serve the campus and the Orange County community, both through college-level courses and field trips for elementary school students.

We hope that you enjoy reading about the new and exciting developments at Orange Coast College, many of which are made possible by the support of our many generous donors and their gifts that benefit the students at OCC.

Sincerely,

C. William “Bill” Wood  
Chair, Orange Coast College Foundation

Doug Bennett  
Executive Director, Orange Coast College Foundation



# PLANETARIUM UPDATE

Slightly behind schedule but racing toward the finish line, OCC's Community Planetarium is nearing completion and on track to open in the Spring 2019 semester.

All major construction has been completed, including installation of the Planetarium's dome and immersive theatre, glass-walled lobby, administrative offices, and tiled exterior. The Foucault Pendulum was installed in October, and the audio/visual equipment and theatre seating will be installed in the coming weeks.

"We hope to be able to occupy the building in January, to begin preparation and training so that we can officially open our doors in February 2019," says Planetarium Director Scott Mitchell. "We are planning to offer programs to the public on Friday nights and weekends, and we are working with the Orange County Department of Education to help get our field trip program up and running, with limited groups in the spring, and a full roll-out starting in September."

For more information on the Planetarium please call Scott Mitchell at (714) 432-5564.



# OC CHILDREN’S BOOK FESTIVAL IS ‘OUT OF THIS WORLD’

Storm Troopers marched throughout campus, a large red dog loomed tall, and children shrieked with equal joy and nervousness while petting giant snakes ... it was all par for the course as Orange Coast College welcomed thousands of book lovers to campus on Sept. 30 for the annual Orange County Children’s Book Festival.

The Book Festival - organized in partnership with OCC’s Foundation - brought more than 100 authors, illustrators and storytellers onto the College’s Costa Mesa campus, along with hundreds of vendors and community partners, such as the Mesa Water Department and Orange County Department of Education.

Those in attendance had a chance to meet favorite authors and artists, including comedian and actor Shawn Wayans who appeared alongside his sister Kim Wayans, author of the popular “Amy Hodgepodge” book series. Fashion designer and cultural icon

Paul Frank was also in attendance, debuting his first children’s book “She Loves Me,” which he co-wrote with Coast part-time faculty member Trevor McDonald (see story page 34).

Youngsters were delighted to meet astronaut and “SHE-ro” Nicole Stott, who showcased artwork she created while living aboard the International Space Station in 2009.

Several stages were set up throughout campus, including a S.T.E.M. stage, Entertainment stage, Illustrators stage, Animal and Nature stage, and more. There was also a live animal petting zoo.

“This year’s festival highlighted kindness,” says OC Book Festival Executive Director Pat Burns. “Things like getting along in school amongst peers, loving and discovering the fun in math, and how doing well in school can take you out of this world.”







## HOME RUN:

# OCC'S BASEBALL FIELD GETS A NEW LOOK IN 2018

**B**aseball players at Orange Coast College were in for a treat this past spring as the College unveiled a brand new AstroTurf® playing surface, courtesy of an anonymous donor.

The new field is completely covered in synthetic turf, a departure from traditional turf fields that have dirt cutouts around the bases and pitcher's mound. OCC also added new fencing and signage to the field, completing the transformation.

The new field is not only visually appealing, it's also eco-friendly, requiring little to no water to maintain. This was especially important at Coast, which prides itself in being a leader in sustainable practices in higher education.

Having a new field ignited a competitive spirit in OCC's baseball team this year, culminating in their second straight Orange Empire Conference title and taking them all the way to the State Final Four.



## SPECIAL VISITOR GIVES OCC BASEBALL PLAYERS A PEP TALK

The Orange Coast College baseball team received the surprise of their lives on May 24 when basketball legend and retired Laker Kobe Bryant stopped by the field to give them a pep talk two days before they were scheduled to compete in the state tournament.

Bryant - a friend of head coach John Altobelli - was there to tell the boys to keep their heads in the game, and let go of all the distractions from everyday life.

The 2018 Pirates Baseball team finished 34-15 and captured its second straight Orange Empire Conference title. Coast advanced to the State Final Four, where they were eliminated in one of the state semifinal matchups against Sacramento City College.



Ten players were recruited to continue their athletic careers at four-year universities, including Gus Culpo who is now attending University of Southern California, Cameron Jabara who attends the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, and Chris Ceballos who is pitching for Kansas State University.

## TEAM USA VISITS COAST!

Orange Coast College softball players were treated to a visit from two coaches and two players from Team USA this past summer.

USA Softball Head Coach Patti Gasso (currently the head coach for University of Oklahoma) visited OCC's players, along with two-time Olympic gold medalist Natasha Watley. Watley - an alumni of UCLA and a Honda Brodrick Cup Award winner - and Gasso are good friends of OCC Head Softball Coach Jodie Legaspi Kiaha.

Team USA players Paige Lowary and Carly Hoover also visited OCC's players, imparting words of wisdom for the Pirates to take into their upcoming spring season.

Last year's Coast softball team went 8-13 in the Orange Empire Conference. This year's roster is looking strong, with 12 returning players and an

aggressive training schedule that included the Pirates playing exhibition games this fall against four-year schools such as Cal State San Luis Obispo and Cal State East Bay. Coach Legaspi is optimistic that the team will be a powerhouse in the OEC in 2019.



# CYTOCAST: OCC ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS TAKE MAKER CULTURE TO LAB ANTI-MALL

In late November, Orange Coast College architecture students unveiled their latest masterpiece: an intricate, arched pavilion with a web-like design made of concrete.

The students, led by instructor Joseph Sarafian, designed the temporary structure in honor of the 25th anniversary celebrations for Costa Mesa's The LAB Anti-Mall. The pavilion, dubbed the "Cytocast," will serve as a bridge of sorts between The LAB's ARTery Gallery and the Bootlegger's Brewery.

"We based the design of the Cytocast pavilion on the concept of social media's influence on architecture, in that it bridges an organic form via new technologies, enhancing the experience of users," says Sarafian.

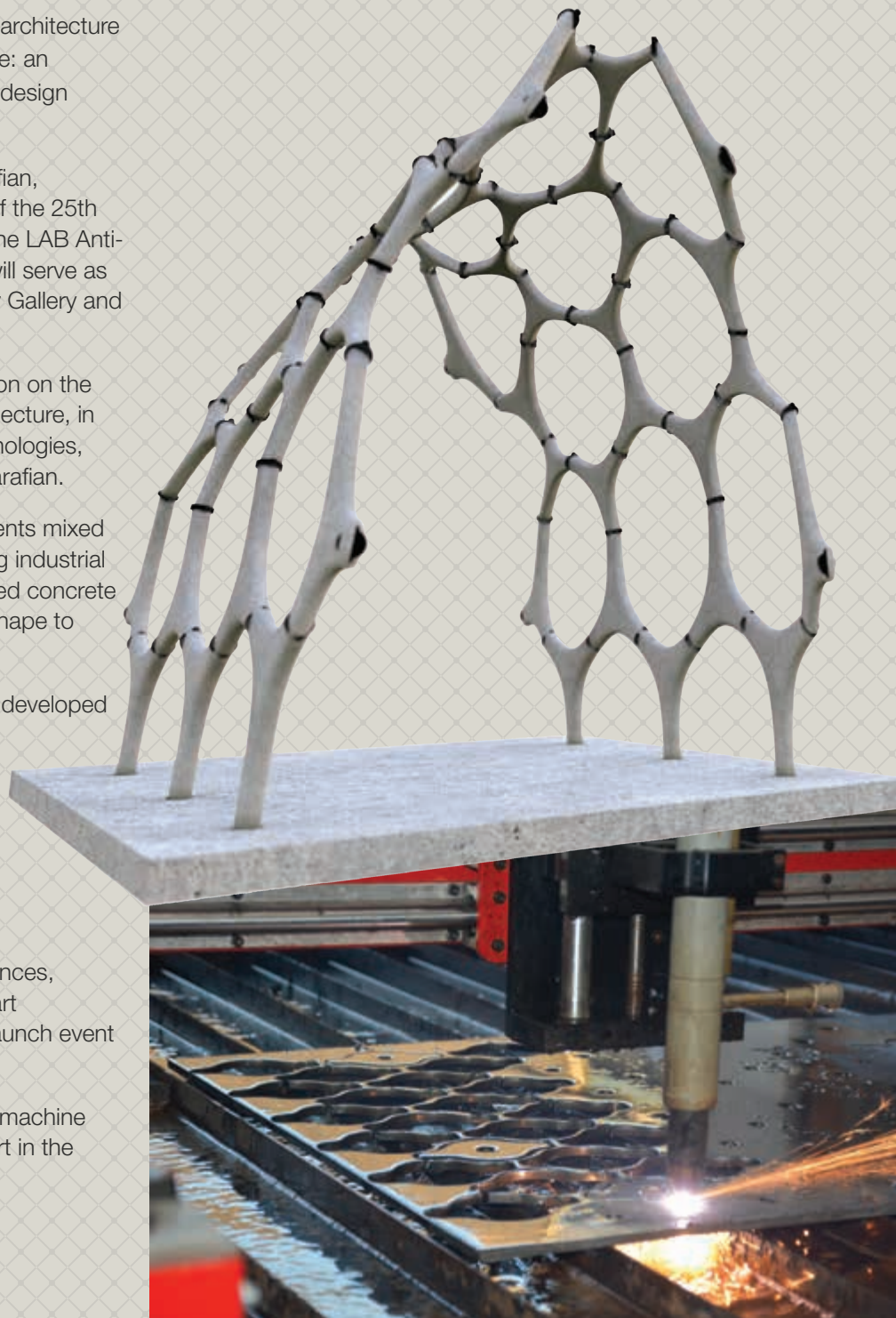
To build the structure, Sarafian and his students mixed and poured concrete into a fabric mold using industrial robots. After curing, several wishbone-shaped concrete pieces were bolted together into a vaulted shape to create an archway.

The unique concrete casting technique was developed by Sarafian and his business partner Ron Culver, who co-founded Form Found Design. Past projects include a "MARS Pavilion" commissioned by Amazon founder and CEO Jeff Bezos for his annual MARS Conference.

The LAB Anti-Mall's anniversary celebration included special music performances, communal dining experiences and rotating art installations throughout this past year. The launch event for "Cytocast" took place in late November.

Students from OCC's architecture, welding, machine technology and fashion department took part in the project, as well as OCC's Makerspace and Architecture Club.

To learn more about Sarafian's work, visit [www.formfounddesign.com](http://www.formfounddesign.com)





## STUDENT HOUSING

Orange Coast College broke ground on student dormitories on Oct. 4, making it the first two-year college in Southern California to offer student housing when the dorms open in Fall 2020.

The housing project - which stemmed from research the College conducted that consistently showed students are struggling to find affordable housing in the area - will provide affordable and accessible housing for students from all walks of life including veterans, foster youth, single parents, international students, athletes and more. On-campus housing also will allow students at Coast to actively engage with the campus in meaningful ways, essentially transforming OCC into a 24-hour campus.

With more than 800 beds, the dorms will serve as a key economic driver in the region while reducing the need for students to bring vehicles to the area while they are attending Coast. The facility will be academically focused, and students who live there will need to be in good academic standing. Other convenient amenities include study rooms, kitchens, laundry, community rooms, professional staff support and bike parking.

The College is partnering with private firms for the project, with construction financed via \$123 million in tax-exempt bonds. Rents are expected to be below market rates, which currently stand at \$1,829 for a one-bedroom apartment in Costa Mesa.



# COLLEGE CENTER & STUDENT LIFE BUILDING

Less than a week after breaking ground on student housing, more than 125 students, employees and community supporters gathered on Oct. 12 as OCC broke ground on a new College Center and Student Life Building. The two buildings will replace the College's current Student Center, built in 1952.

The College Center and Student Life project are key components of OCC's Vision 2020 plan, which has the College transforming into a modern, state-of-the-art campus. The College Center includes space for culinary and hospitality programs at Coast, as well as a new

cafeteria, meeting and event space, and administrative offices.

Meanwhile, the Student Life building will house OCC's Associated Students, including student government and clubs.

The total budget for both buildings is \$89.9 million, with funding provided through Measure M.



# AQUATIC CENTER

OCC is preparing for the official groundbreaking on its new Adaptive Physical Education and Aquatics Center early in the Spring 2019 semester.

The facility will be part of the College’s kinesiology and athletics programs, and will include a new competition-sized pool, diving pool, adaptive pool for students with disabilities, as well as men’s and women’s locker rooms. The pool area will feature ample shade structures, paving the way for swim and water polo competitions at Coast.

OCC’s men’s and women’s swim teams captured the State title in May of this year, establishing the College as a swim powerhouse in California.



## FACULTY PROFILE:

# CREATIVE WRITING INSTRUCTOR SHARES HER COMIC VISION

*Part-time faculty & American Book Award recipient Rachele Cruz talks graphic novels*

Orange Coast College part-time English faculty member Rachele Cruz gave a book talk in OCC's Library in early November, reading from her new book "Experiencing Comics: A Guide to Reading, Discussing and Creating Comics" released in September 2018.

The talk - co-sponsored by OCC's Friends of the Library - coincided with an announcement that Cruz had been selected as an American Book Award recipient for her debut poetry collection, "God's Will for Monsters."

"As a poet and comics reader and fan, I'm really interested in the intersection between these two forms," says Cruz. "I wrote 'Experiencing Comics' because I longed for an accessible text for students new to comics and for avid comics fans alike that could help them to slow down their reading and deepen their critical thinking and writing skills."

"Experiencing Comics" is an introductory guide to comics that aims to teach readers how to "critically examine the craft and storytelling techniques found inside a graphic novel or comic" ([www.rachelecruz.com](http://www.rachelecruz.com)). The book can be used in a number of humanities or social science disciplines, including creative writing, comparative literature, gender or ethnic studies and sexuality courses.

"Comics are appealing because they're fun to read (which is important) but it's also way too tempting to 'binge-read' them without engaging craft techniques," explains Cruz. "It's important to me to spotlight the groundbreaking work by contemporary creators and scholars from underrepresented and diverse backgrounds, from John Jennings and Damian Duffy,



whose recent adaptation of Octavia Butler's speculative fiction classic 'Kindred' won several comics awards this year, to Taneka Stotts, who won an Eisner Award at San Diego Comic-Con for her anthology, 'ELEMENTS, An Anthology by Creators of Color,' which was crowdfunded on Kickstarter. This is an exciting and innovative time in the comics world, and I just wanted my students to learn and be a part of it."

Cruz received the Hillary Gravendyk Regional Poetry Prize in 2016 for "God's Will For Monsters." She is originally from Hayward, Calif. and has taught at OCC part time for more than five years.

An Emerging Voices Fellow, Kundiman Fellow, and VONA writer, Cruz earned her master of fine arts degree in creative writing and the performing arts from University of California, Riverside, and her bachelor's degree in liberal arts/liberal studies from Sarah Lawrence College. She teaches courses in comics, poetry, English and creative writing at OCC and at the University of California, Riverside.



# THANK YOU

Orange Coast College and the OCC Foundation are appreciative of the continuing donations from the community in support of students. The Foundation has a legacy of financial prudence and responsibility. Gifts are managed with the fiduciary oversight ensuring the Foundation provides OCC students with the help they need.

### \$1 MILLION +

Anonymous  
Brack Duker  
Mary McChesney

### \$500,000 – \$999,999

Jeremy & Hilda Anwyl  
William Bell

### \$250,000 – \$499,999

Janice Cavanaugh  
Everett John DeLaura

### \$100,000 – \$249,999

William Clemens  
Blake Mycoskie  
Sally Pascoe  
The Rallis Foundation  
Tim Varley  
Betty Yost

### \$50,000 – \$99,999

John & Yasuko Bush  
Foundation For The Carolinas  
Cita Litt

Bart McEntire  
Pepsi Bottling Group

### \$25,000 – \$49,999

Gene Haas Foundation  
Harriet E. Pflieger Foundation  
Rudy Hasl  
Isidore C. & Penny W. Meyers  
Foundation  
Linda and Tod White Charitable Fund  
Ed McDowell  
Lynne Riddle

### \$10,000 – \$24,999

Claudia Ackley  
ADM Engineering & Manufacturing  
Craig Atkins  
Richard & Lynette Berg  
Mary Lynn Bergman-Rallis  
Louise Casey  
Sally Crystal  
Donald MacFarland Trust  
Thomas Dowling  
Steve Guentz  
Miriam Horowitz

1947



Orange Coast College is established on Jan. 27, 1947 with Dr. Basil H. Peterson as the first president.



1948



OCC is awarded 243 of the Santa Ana Army Air Base's original 900 acres, and Newport Harbor Union High School's night program becomes OCC's first active classes.



1953



OCC leases land adjacent to the Lido Channel to serve as a base for the College's crew program.





Donald Hudson  
Kaiser Permanente KP Financial Svcs Ops  
Bob McCaffrey  
Carleton Morgan  
National Charity League, Inc. Newport Chapter  
Barnes & Noble, OCC Bookstore  
Charles Rhines  
SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union  
Sandra Segerstrom Daniels  
Daniel Shrader  
Ricardo Soto  
Chris Wacker  
Waltmar Foundation  
Stephen Washburn

**\$5,000 – \$9,999**

American Association of University Women Laguna Beach Foundation  
Bluedoor  
Bill Cao  
Chaine des Rotisseurs-South Coast  
David Cline  
Confrerie De La Chaine Des Rotisseurs Foundation  
Costa Mesa Community Foundation - Concerts in the Park  
D. Travis Kubiak Spirit Memorial Fund  
Jeffrey Dimsdale  
Donalda M. Pelletier Foundation  
Blade Gillissen  
Gary James  
Les Dames D'Escoffier LA Chapter  
Willis & Judith Longyear  
Jim & Heather Madden

John Novak  
Orange County Wine Society  
Renaissance Charitable Foundation Inc.  
Richard & Elizabeth Steele Endowment  
Rutan & Tucker  
Senga Engineering  
Smith-Walker Foundation  
Timeless Learning, Inc.  
U S Water Taxi, Inc.  
Stephen West  
Lynn Dixie Winfield

**\$2,500 – \$4,999**

Alan Andrews Yacht Design, Inc.  
Bryan Bayer  
James Bush  
John Chang  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
Sharon Donoff  
Gary and Mary West Foundation  
David Grant  
Katrin Homan  
Anthony Iacopetti  
Iconic Group Inc.  
Joan Kitchens  
Alice Leahey  
Judith Lecocq  
Eileen Lewis  
Linda I. Smith Foundation  
Phil Lisle  
Daniel McCarthy  
Paul Mitchell  
Carol Moore  
Robin O'Connor

Orthopedic Specialty Institute Medical Group of Orange County  
Elizabeth Parker  
W.F. Podlich  
Lorraine Prinsky  
Geoffrey Strand  
Stephen Tamanaha  
Cindy Tighe  
United States Sailing Association  
Teri Watson

**\$1,000 – \$2,499**

ABS Foundation, Inc  
American Aircraft Maintenance. Inc.  
American Culinary Federation  
Anaheim/Orange County Hotel & Lodging Association  
Killeen Anderson  
Dick Asari  
Audiences Unlimited, Inc.  
Gregory & Judy Bartone  
Laura Behr  
Douglas Bennett  
James Blodgett  
Bomber, Inc.  
Bruce Brown  
Bruce Brown  
Sue Brown  
Barbara Bullard  
Carlos & Marta Cabral  
Steve & Hanh Campeau  
Greg & Lora Cannon  
Kat Carroll  
Bruce Cary  
Jason Ciaglo  
Clay Lacy Aviation

Ian Clyne  
Michael Coppin  
Costa Mesa Women's Club  
Eric Cuellar  
Nancy Cumming  
Bill & Wynndi Dahlin  
Jeffrey Davies  
Robert & Van Dees  
Nonie Desurra  
Alice Doppelhammer  
Earl Echelberry  
Heidi Ehrbar  
Jason & Lisa Elder  
Gene Farrell  
Rachelle Favis  
Robert Flaig  
Norm Fricker  
Linda Garrow  
Adrian & Ioana Gocan  
Tanner Godfrey  
William & Hilary Goldner  
Stella Guild  
Mark & Kristen Guithues  
Lisa Gustafson  
Christopher Gwaltney  
Laura Hanks  
Donald & Alisa Hankus  
Harbor Beach Div77 Scholarship Foundation  
Harperpromotional  
Harriet lewis palette photography  
Laird & Margaret Hayes  
Lorraine Henry  
Don Hilgendorf  
Rush & Linda Hill

**1955**



OCC's football stadium opens. It is renamed Harry R. LeBard Stadium in 1967.



**1956**



More Richard Neutra-designed structures on campus are completed, including the Science Building and Planetarium.



**1963**



The Forum is built, making it the first large lecture hall classroom on campus.





Tim Hodges  
 HPI Architecture Inc  
 Gary Jabara  
 Suzanne M. Jaglowski  
 Jamboree Management  
 Shana Jenkins  
 James Jorgensen  
 George & Debra Kailiwai  
 James & Catherine Kerrigan  
 Kiwanis Club of Costa Mesa  
 Peg Knoll  
 Kroger Foundation  
 Kathryn Lang  
 Karlene Larsen  
 Larson Family Foundation  
 Michael Lawler  
 Jack Lipton  
 Bower Enterprises, Inc. Little Pickle  
 Thomas Makar  
 Scott Marshall Marshall  
 Charles Marshall  
 Jonathan Marshall  
 James Mazzo  
 Charles & Linda McCauley  
 Dorothy McKee  
 Jane McLaughlin  
 Mesa Verde Consulting, Inc  
 Curt & Nancy Moothart  
 Nigel Murtagh  
 Irene Naesse  
 Network For Good  
 Derek New  
 Bob Newman  
 Sean Nicholson  
 Randy Nickel

Thomas O'Brien  
 OC Fair and Event Cener  
 Patricia O'Keefe  
 Kevin & Angela Oneil  
 Opus Community Foundation  
 Orange County Auto Team  
 Wayne & Barbara Otte  
 Pacific Life Foundation  
 Matt Parker  
 Robert Patterson  
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 Pro Sport Physical Therapy  
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 John Rallis  
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 San Diego Community College  
 Santa Ana Unified School District  
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 Cary Simonds  
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 Frederick Steadry  
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 Scott Strong  
 Susan G. Komen Foundation  
 Taylor Grant Family  
 Kathryn Thomas  
 Barbara Venezia & Stan Tkaczyk

Trader Joe's  
 Tulsa Rib Company, Inc.  
 Larry Watts  
 Wave Electric  
 World Pet Association, Inc.  
**\$500 – \$999**  
 Ryder Adams  
 Alta Loma High School Choral Booster Club  
 Dan Amado  
 Suri Sadai Arellano Medrano  
 Patricia Arfsten  
 David Badajoz  
 Peter Baine  
 Karen Baker  
 Ted & Marsha Baker  
 Kevin Ballinger  
 Brian Battisti  
 Brian & Kim Battisti  
 Gillian Bidgood  
 Jimmy Bishop  
 George & Esther Blanc  
 Amanda Bloom  
 Matthew Chapman  
 Linda Chapman-Moeller  
 Jim Clarkson  
 Ann Cleland  
 Christopher Clifton  
 Heather Coddling  
 Mary Copelin  
 Jo Ann Copp  
 CMAC Costa Mesa Aquatics Club  
 Costa Mesa Historical Society  
 Costa Mesa Orange Coast Lions

Kenneth Crawford  
 Michael Cyrus  
 Kim Davis  
 Thomas Deardorff  
 Rendell Drew  
 Dave & Sharon Duffy  
 Craig Ekberg  
 Robert Ellis  
 Thomas & Deanna Emick  
 Geoffery Ewertz  
 Diane Ewertz  
 Farmers Insurance  
 First Bank  
 First Church of Christ, Scientist  
 Debra Fisher  
 Curtis Fleming  
 Stephen & Lynda Flynn  
 Eric Forssell  
 Scott Freeman  
 Meredith Frye  
 Richard Gannon  
 Olympia Garcia  
 Alfred Gardner  
 Garf's Sports Lounge, Inc.  
 Dina Georgian  
 Mike Gibbons  
 Brian & Roxanne Gilliam  
 GJP Consulting, Inc.  
 Larry Graham  
 Carol Grams  
 Juan Gutierrez  
 Patricia Hadden  
 Dave Halliday  
 Dennis Harkins

1963

OCC wins a victory at the Junior Rose Bowl, beating Northeastern Oklahoma 21-0.



1965

"Tumbleweeds to Roses," a history of Orange Coast College is published. Dr. Basil Peterson holdng Tumbleweeds to Roses book.



1971

Campus radio station begins broadcasting.



Harpco Construction and Development INC.  
 Scott & Amy Hellman  
 Alisa Hill  
 Ernie Hnatiuk  
 Clayton Holmes  
 Jackson Homan  
 Brette Hospedales  
 Richard & Cathe Hutchison  
 Jose Ibarra  
 Integrity Applications Inc.  
 Scharrell Jackson  
 Nancy Jarecki  
 Gayle Jennings  
 Richard & Janet Johnson  
 Cheryl L. Jupiter  
 Raymond Kaleel  
 Joanne & Dennis Keith  
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**1977**

**1979**

**1982**

OCC's competitive surf team is formed, and captures the state surfing championship in its first year.

The Men's Basketball team wins the State Championship, and the College's Speech team wins their first national title by a record-breaking 45 points.

The Alaska Eagle is donated to OCC's sailing program by Neil Bergt.





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 Michael Bortone  
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 David & Cynthia Brazelton  
 Alaine Brewer

**1989**



Bill Gates visits campus to give a talk titled "The Future of Computing" at the Moore Theatre.



**1991**



OCC's Farm, which originated with the birth of the College, is closed to makeway for the new Technology Center.



**1998**



OCC's Harry and Grace Steele Children's Center is dedicated.



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 David Holland  
 Melanie Holland  
 David & Lynn Hollibaugh  
 Heidi Hollos

**2002**



A small island off the coast of British Columbia named "Rabbit Island" is donated to OCC.



**2009**



OCC's Sailing Center is renovated with improvements including wheelchair accessibility, a women's locker room, and seismic safety upgrades.



**2010**



Dennis Harkins becomes the 10th president of Orange Coast College.





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**2016**



Orange Coast College is ranked number two among 50 colleges nationwide by valuecolleges.com based on educational return on investment.



**2017**



OCC opens its new Recycling Center, with the hopes that it will be the first building in the world to receive LEED, SITES, and TRUE Zero Waste designations.



**2018**



OCC's new AstroTurf® baseball field is funded by an anonymous gift of \$1.9 million.



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2019



New Orange Coast College Planetarium opens to serve the community.

This list includes gifts of over \$50 made to the Orange Coast College Foundation between January 1, 2016-17 and Dec 31, 2016-17. Every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of this list. We apologize for any names inadvertently omitted. If you have any questions about this list please contact Doug Bennett at (714) 432-5126 or [dbennett@cccd.edu](mailto:dbennett@cccd.edu)



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Many donors to the Orange Coast College Foundation choose to make significant gifts to the College via their wills and estate plans. Below is a list of individuals who believed enough in the work of OCC to ensure that the College remains a force for good in the lives and careers of generations of students via such a gift:

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 Makoto Yoshida

\*Indicates gifts received in 2017-2018

The Orange Coast College Foundation deeply appreciates the support provided by these individuals to the college. If you would like to learn more about how you can include Orange Coast College in your will or estate plan please contact Doug Bennett, Executive Director, Orange Coast College Foundation – (714) 432-5126 – dbennett@occc.edu

# OCC FOUNDATION/ FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Total Gifts and pledges to the Orange Coast College Foundation for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year set an all-time record of \$10,011,333. Cash gifts total \$6,035,937 and gifts of boats and equipment were valued at \$3,975,396.

The value of the Foundation's endowment were at a new high of \$22,339,369 and the total assets of the foundation are now valued at over \$32 million.

Endowment assets are managed by Northern Trust Bank and for the year ending June 30, 2018 the fund earned 8.02% net of fees and since inception in 2012 the fund has earned 6.56% net of fees.

Audited financial statements and 990 tax returns for the OCC Foundation are available at: [http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/about\\_occ/Foundation](http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/about_occ/Foundation)

## ASSETS



## LIABILITIES



Unaudited as of 6/30/2018. Audited financial statements will be available on the Foundation's website in early January at [http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/about\\_occ/Foundation](http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/about_occ/Foundation)

**PHILANTHROPIC GIFTS OF \$10,011,333  
SET ALL-TIME RECORD FOR OCC FOUNDATION IN 2017-2018**

# Still



## COMBINED UC/CSU TRANSFER RATES FOR ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGES 2017-18

#	COLLEGE	UC	CSU	TOTAL
<b>1.</b>	<b>Orange Coast College</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>1316</b>	<b>1797</b>
2.	Fullerton College	263	1385	1648
3.	Saddleback College	350	904	1254
4.	Irvine Valley College	578	647	1225
5.	Golden West College	102	798	900
6.	Cypress College	117	751	868
7.	Santa Ana College	155	681	836
8.	Santiago Canyon College	117	619	736

For more information visit:

[www.orangecoastcollege.edu/toptransfer](http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/toptransfer)

Sources: CSU Office of the President and UC Information Center Webpage





OCC's creative writing professor Raymond Obstfeld and basketball legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar have a long history of collaborating on special projects.

## A STORYBOOK DUO

There are plenty of famous dynamic duos that have graced the hardwood of the NBA - Jordan and Pippen, Shaq and Kobe, and Stockton and Malone are some of the most notable pairs that have achieved greatness.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the NBA's all-time leading scorer and master of the skyhook, played with many legendary all-stars during his career, including Magic Johnson, James Worthy and Oscar Robertson. However, since retiring, the six-time NBA champion has formed a different kind of dynamic duo off the court with Orange

Coast College creative writing professor Raymond Obstfeld. The two have teamed up to co-author dozens of books, comics and, most recently, produce television projects.

Abdul-Jabbar and Obstfeld recently joined the writing team for the Veronica Mars reboot, which is scheduled to air on Hulu in 2019. What's striking, however, is that their friendship has a foundation that goes far outside the realms of basketball.

"What's more interesting about him is that he is incredibly knowledgeable about things like history and politics, and



just really has a breadth and depth of knowledge,” says Obstfeld on his friendship with Abdul-Jabbar. “I mean I like basketball, I play basketball, but we don’t talk about basketball much unless it’s for something specific like the books we wrote about his life. Mostly what we talk about involves history and science. Those are fascinating conversations.”

Obstfeld met Abdul-Jabbar while he was teaching at OCC. He says Abdul-Jabbar’s manager, Deborah Morales, was taking a class at OCC and had an idea to do a film with the basketball star. Morales was referred to Obstfeld, who met with both of them and suggested that Abdul-Jabbar should write a book first. He agreed and from there, the dynamic duo began to work on their first book together, “On the Shoulders of Giants: My Journey Through the Harlem Renaissance.” It was the first of many books the two would team up to co-author.

“Our relationship isn’t based on his past,” says Obstfeld. “[It’s] based on who he is now and what his interests are now. You can’t totally separate the two because of who he is. But his interests are so much broader than sports.”

Other books that Obstfeld and Abdul-Jabbar have co-authored include a mix of basketball and non-sports focused titles, such as “What Color Is My World? The Lost History of African-American Inventors,” “Becoming Kareem: Growing Up On and Off the Court” and “Writings on the Wall: Searching for a New Equality Beyond Black and White.” The two have made the New York Times’ Best Seller list numerous times, and have been nominated for several NCAA Image awards, winning the award once.

Abdul-Jabbar is an avid reader, which played a role in how he and Obstfeld got the opportunity to join the Veronica Mars reboot writing team. Obstfeld recommended a book to Abdul-Jabbar called “Slave Day,” authored by Veronica Mars creator Rob Thomas. Eventually Thomas contacted Abdul-Jabbar about writing an introduction to a re-release of “Slave Day” and Abdul-Jabbar agreed.

Obstfeld and Abdul-Jabbar talked to Thomas about a show they were developing called “Trouble Man” and showed him some of what they’ve written so far. Thomas liked it and the three pitched the show to Warner Bros, who bought the show. Thomas later called Obstfeld and asked if he and Abdul-Jabbar would like to join the writing team on Veronica Mars.

“We jumped at it,” says Obstfeld. “I teach the pilot of Veronica Mars in my classes at OCC. I show it almost every semester as an example of great writing and structure and dialogue.”

Obstfeld still teaches part-time at OCC but for now he and Abdul-Jabbar are focusing their writing creativity on the Veronica Mars reboot. The job demands the writing team to be in the writers’ room from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. five days a week in addition to writing when they’re not in the room. But they do have some other projects in the works.

“We have several ideas for other television shows that we’re developing,” says Obstfeld. “We did a comic book together and we got a call from Marvel - they want us to come talk to them about doing another comic book. So that’s on the horizon.”

# COAST

## TOP industries IMPACTED by OCC

1



Accommodation



Food Services

2



Manufacturing

3



Professional and Technical Services



## GOVERNMENT SAVINGS

Health	\$12.313 million
Crime	\$24.144 million
Welfare/unemployment	\$1.098 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37.555 million</b>



## SOCIAL SAVINGS

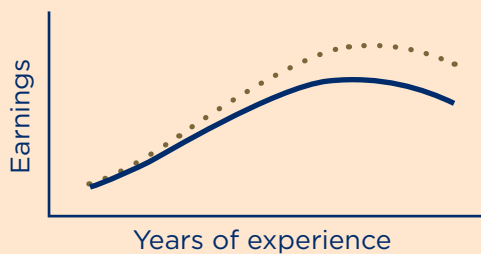
Health	\$60.315 million
Crime	\$28.943 million
Welfare/unemployment	\$1.098 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$90.356 million</b>



## LIFECYCLE IN EARNINGS

12 years vs. 14 years of education

12 years: ——— 14 years: ······



## ALUMNI IMPACT

**\$844.7 million**

added regional income



**10,778 jobs**

supported in the region

FOR EVERY  SPENT BY...



**Students**

**\$4.90**

Gained in lifetime earnings for students



**Taxpayers**

**\$4.50**

Gained in added taxes and public sector savings for taxpayers



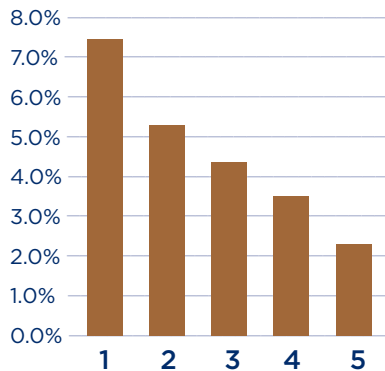
**Community**

**\$20.90**

Gained in added state revenue and social savings for community

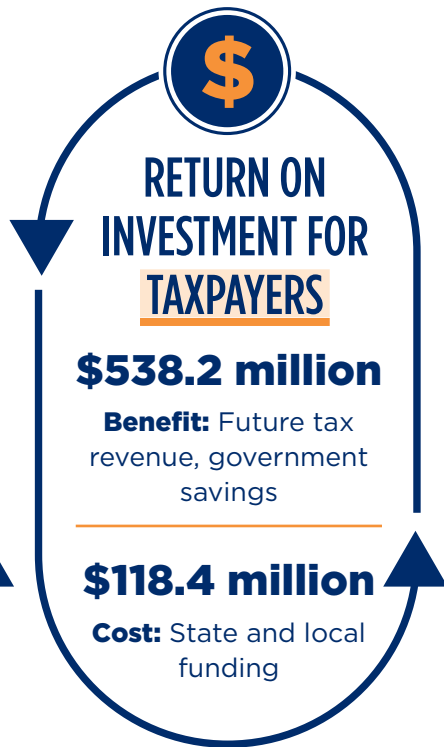
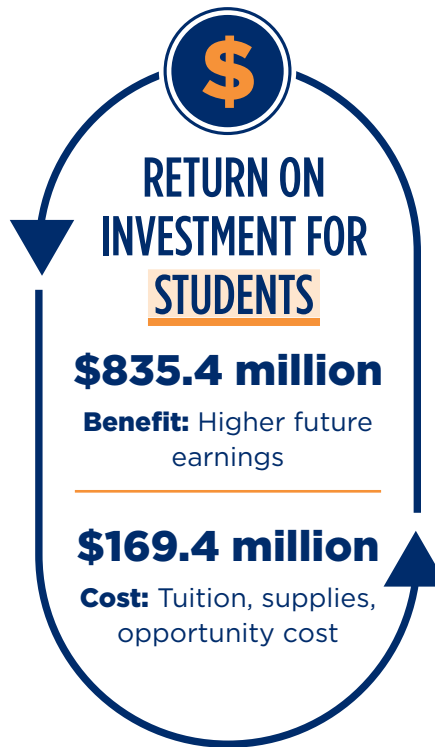


**UNEMPLOYMENT BY EDUCATION LEVEL**



**KEY**

- 1 - Less than high school
- 2 - High school
- 3 - Some college
- 4 - Associate degree
- 5 - Bachelor's degree or above



**IMPACT**

# PIRATES' PROMISE

In Fall 2018, Orange Coast College launched its Pirates' Promise, a guarantee of one-year of free tuition to first-time students at Coast. Vice President of Student Services Madjid Niroumand explains what the Pirates' Promise program looks like, and how it will help contribute to student success.

**Q:** *What's behind a program like Pirates' Promise? How was the decision made to start this program at OCC?*

**A:** The Pirates' Promise was actually born of a statewide initiative where community college campuses and districts receive funding allocated by the state as part of Assembly Bill 19, or the California College Promise as it's more commonly known. This initiative allows colleges that receive this funding to guarantee one full year of free tuition for first-time, full-time-enrolled students who meet certain criteria. At OCC, this is something we have been talking about for the past couple of years – how we could remove barriers for students who have financial difficulty. The fact that the funding now is here makes it a perfect opportunity to move forward with our Promise program, and we launched it right before the Fall 2018 semester.

**Q:** *Why was it important for OCC to participate in a 'free tuition' program?*

**A:** For us, the intent behind Pirates' Promise is to facilitate people's education. We did a number of surveys focused on students who were dropping classes after the semester began. The data told us that there are many financial barriers, and personal issues that are linked to financial problems, preventing students from completing their education. Many of our students are working while going to school, and for many, it is a choice between dealing with their day-to-day survival and life, and spending money on school. We wanted to remove that barrier.

**Q:** *What type of criteria do students need to meet in order to qualify for the Pirates' Promise program?*

**A:** They have to be in their first year at the College. Also, they must apply for FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), and they must be enrolled full time. If a student is graduating from a high school in our



district, as long as they are enrolled full-time, in 12 units, and they do not already qualify for tuition waiver through other financial aid, we will cover their tuition using the Pirates' Promise. Students who graduate from a high school outside of our district will still benefit by enrolling in 15 units.

**Q:** *What has the response from students been so far?*

**A:** It's been very good! What's interesting is that we've had several students who come in to apply for Pirates' Promise, and they end up qualifying for free tuition through the California Promise program (formerly known as the Board of Governors fee waiver.) We are working on finding the best way to communicate with students and clarifying how they can take advantage of the Pirates' Promise.





*Q: Do you think OCC's promise program will motivate students to take their education more seriously?*

**A:** I believe so. I think we look at it from two different angles: we need to remove barriers as much as we can because we have a diverse population. For the students who have financial difficulty and are working, this should be a way to at least give them some type of assistance so they can focus on their education. At the same time, because the program requirement is full-time enrollment, this helps students to be encouraged to take additional units if they are close to the full-time enrollment. By taking additional classes, students can finish their program quicker and also have an opportunity to have their tuition paid through the College's Promise program. We also have some other eligibility criteria. For example, we ask that students meet with their counselor to develop a comprehensive

*continued on page 32*

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*Many of our students are working while going to school, and for many, it is a choice between dealing with their day-to-day survival and life, and spending money on school. We wanted to remove that barrier.*

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educational plan so they understand their goals and how they can achieve those goals. We also require that students maintain a 2.0 GPA, and once they do that we will pay the subsequent semester. Those are the requirements for them to continue being eligible for the Pirates' Promise.

**Q: What's the ultimate goal of the Pirates' Promise?**

**A:** The intent is to promote student success and program completion. We try to facilitate people's education, and meet the financial need that students face in order to complete their studies. However, I think we still need a lot of resources to truly look at the individual level of each student to see what other barriers they face. The payment for tuition is one, but there are a number of other challenges that each student might have. I hope at some point we can have enough resources to satisfy the needs of each and every individual.

**Q: So what you're saying is this is not a cure all...**

**A:** This is a great assistance. It helps with tuition for students who are full-time for their first year. We need to be dynamic and look at all the resources available to students in order to satisfy the program's original intent, which is completion and student success. The plan is to extend the Pirate's Promise and provide more support such as textbooks, in addition to tuition. While it alleviates and it helps some areas, our students have different needs .. child care issues, financial, personal, scheduling, to name a few. I would hope that at some point we could expand our services to provide more specific individual-based assistance for each student.

**Q: OCC is going to see a lot of big changes on our campus in the next couple of years, both physically and in our processes. How does Pirates' Promise fit into all of that?**

**A:** There are a number of different initiatives currently in the planning stages that focus on student success. I think these initiatives are all really relevant to the intent of the Pirates' Promise - for example, Guided Pathways provides information and education for students to understand what they want to do, with their eventual career goal in mind, and helps them select their program accordingly. AB705 will hopefully help students



Vice president Niroumand oversees the Student Services Wing at OCC, which includes enrollment services, financial aid and student equity.

starting in transfer-level courses with appropriate support to succeed and finish those transfer-level courses. Again, all of these initiatives focus on student success.

**Q: What should students who are thinking of applying for the Pirates' Promise know before they get started?**

**A:** We have a Pirates' Promise website where students can fill out an application, and they will be contacted by the office of Student Equity. There is no deadline to apply; we are accepting applications on an ongoing basis. All students need to do is to fill out an application, apply for FAFSA as a requirement, and if they don't receive the California Promise and they are enrolled full-time, we will pay their tuition. For the rest of the semester, they need to create a comprehensive educational plan and finish their classes with a 2.0 GPA. If they register full-time again for the subsequent semester, we will do the same thing.



## ORANGE COAST COLLEGE

# It's Cooler @ Coast



### TOP

transfer college in Orange County  
to University of California and  
California State University campuses.

### FIRST

community college in Southern  
California with student housing.\*

### ONLY

student-run public aquarium in  
the United States.

[www.orangecoastcollege.edu](http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu)

\*expected completion date of Fall 2020

# WELCOME HOME PAUL

In early October, the Orange Coast College family welcomed home one of its own with “P.F. Workshop,” a weeklong showcase of all things Paul Frank at the OCC Fashion department’s pop-up shop, The Box.

Frank — the founder and creative genius behind Paul Frank Industries — has been a longtime fixture at Coast, beginning in the mid-1990s while he was a student studying art and fashion, and continuing as he returned to teach fashion design courses and share his success and wisdom with OCC students.

Best known for his whimsical characters, Frank has made his mark in the fashion industry with his company’s sales topping \$40 million in the early 2000s. That “Paul Frank style,” with bright pops of color and retro charm has become recognizable all over the world, with Frank’s smiling characters featured on t-shirts, shoes, backpacks, toys, home goods, and pretty much anything else you can think of.

Frank himself is as eclectic as his eponymous brand, and

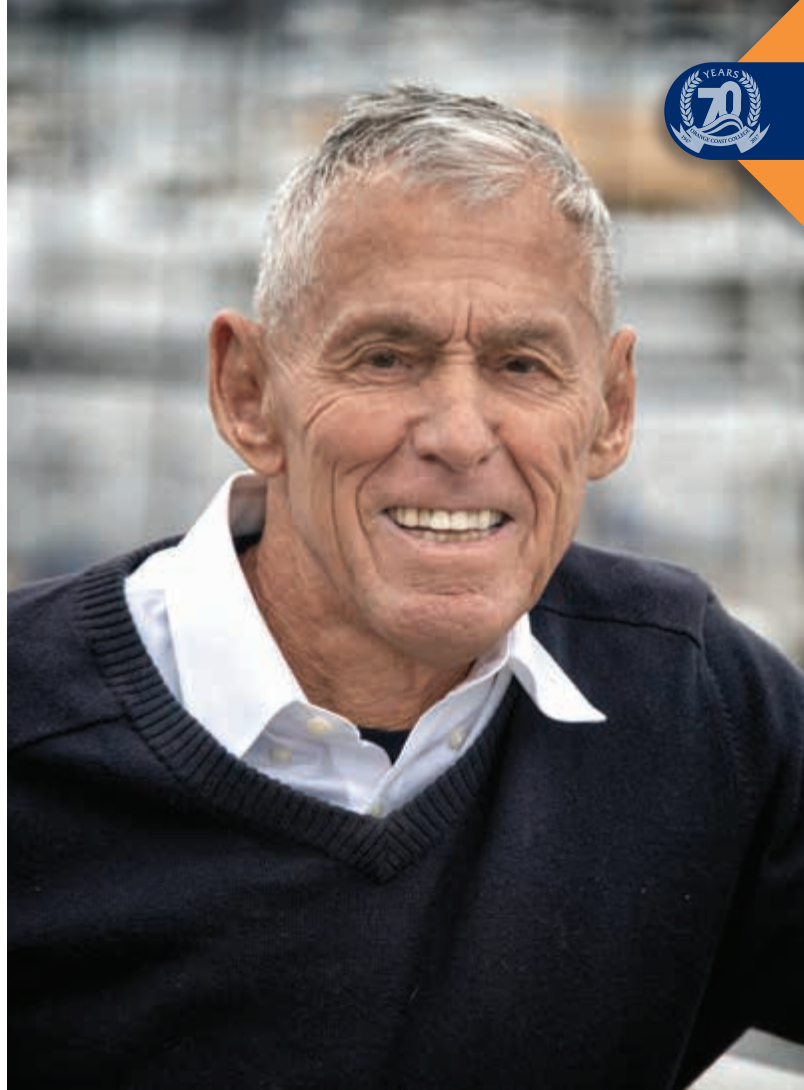
recently added “author” to an already impressive resume that includes “designer,” “cartoonist,” and “icon.” His new book “She Loves Me”— co-written with Coast part-time faculty member Trevor McDonald and illustrated by Parker Jacobs — debuted this fall at the Orange County Children’s Book Festival, held annually on the OCC’s Costa Mesa campus (see story on page 6).

Following his appearance at the Book Festival, Frank kicked off a week of activities at The Box that showcased of his work, including button making workshops, grilled cheese and pickle lunch chats, book readings for children, and, of course, book signings. Infused in every interaction was the feeling that Paul Frank is, indeed, a friend.

“The best thing you can have is an imagination,” he says. “You don’t have to know how to draw — if you can go somewhere inside your head, and think of a fun place you’d like to be, you can create a story all your own. Your imagination is the key to everything else you do. It’s the way to think about how things are and how you’d like things to be.”



# FORMER OCC PRESIDENT DAVID GRANT RECEIVES USRROWING MEDAL OF HONOR FOR 2018



Coast Community College District Trustee and former Orange Coast College President David Grant has been named as the recipient of the Medal of Honor from the USRowing organization, the governing body for the sport of rowing.

Grant was recognized for his “conspicuous service to, or accomplished extraordinary feats in, rowing” according to USRowing’s website. The Medal of Honor is the highest honor USRowing can bestow.

Before leading the Coast Crew program for 38 seasons and racking up 11 national titles along the way, Grant was a coxswain and also took sailing classes under the tutelage of the College’s second president, Dr. Norman E. Watson. However, it was until Grant took over OCC Crew that the program began to make a name for itself in the rowing world. Nicknamed the “Giant Killers,” Coast Crew regularly rows against four-year programs including those at UCLA, UCI, Harvard, and Pennsylvania. During Grant’s tenure the Pirates became the first western crew to row in the People’s Republic of China, in addition to rowing in tournaments in places like Ireland and Canada.

He later was invited to coach the U.S. rowing team at the 1984 Olympic Games.

Of the USRowing honor, Grant says: “There are no doubt countless other individuals in this great sport of rowing who are more deserving of this very generous surprise. There are few things in life more special than to be honored by one’s friends — and rowing colleagues are especially appreciated. I am very grateful.”

## Legacy

*Are you interested in supporting Orange Coast College’s mission but feel overwhelmed by the thought of writing another check or relinquishing your assets today? A simple, flexible and versatile way to make a gift is to include OCC in your will or living trust, known as a charitable bequest. By including a bequest to the Orange Coast College Foundation in your will or living trust, you will be leaving a lasting legacy that will benefit Coast students for years to come. For information on how to include the OCC Foundation in your will or trust please contact Doug Bennett, at (714) 432-5126 or [dbennett@cccd.edu](mailto:dbennett@cccd.edu), or visit our website at [www.occ.gift-planning.org](http://www.occ.gift-planning.org)*



# DESTINATION *Coast*

**O**range Coast College is undoubtedly a destination campus; just a few short miles from the beach and located within a short drive of Los Angeles and San Diego, as well as iconic spots like Disneyland and Surf City, OCC is a world class location for any college student looking to live the good life.

But don't take our word for it - read on to see what some of our out-of-state and international student athletes have to say about why they chose Coast.



# ATTENTION



## Ahmad Lewis,

Football - originally from Washington



*"A friend of my dad told him about Orange Coast College and my dad relayed that information on to me, so I decided to give OCC a shot. I did some research on the school and made the decision to come*

*here and I love it. The campus is nice, the area is nice and the teachers go out of their way to help you succeed. The coaches are very knowledgeable and really help us succeed and get us to where we want to go after our time here. It's been a blast competing with my friends and representing this school."*

## Meven Anglade,

Soccer - originally from France



*"I wanted to come to the United States for school, but I didn't know anything about it, so the school I was at in France helped me get to a college in Kentucky, but I didn't like that one so much. So I just*

*searched 'Community Colleges in California' and Orange Coast was one of the first to pop up, so I looked at that one and ended up here.*

*I was taking the soccer P.E. class when Coach (Kevin) Smith saw me and asked me to try out for the team. It's been great coming to OCC. Playing on the soccer team has been a lot of fun for the past two years. As an international student, to be able to meet other international students has been a great experience."*

## Lily Johnson,

Volleyball - originally from Idaho



*"I had first heard of Orange Coast College through my stepdad, who had family that lived out here in Southern California, so I looked up the school and really liked what I saw, and thought this would be a*

*good fit for me and a new chapter for my life.*

*Since coming here, I think this is a great place to live and to go to school. I live within walking distance of the school so it makes it easy to get to school and practices with little trouble. I love playing on the volleyball team and for Coach Chuck [Cutenese] ... it's been a great experience!"*

## Gabriele Simonti,

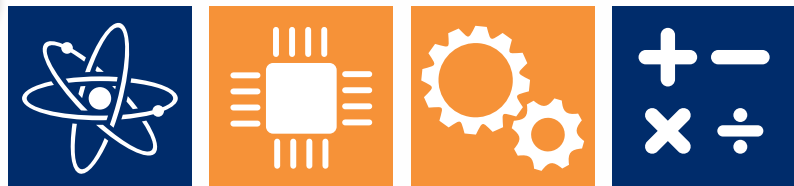
Water Polo - originally from Italy



*"I used to visit California with my family when I was younger and I always wanted to get my education in the United States. I had a friend who was applying to Saddleback and I asked*

*him about Orange Coast, and he said it was a great school, especially for swimming and water polo, so I contacted the coach and started the paperwork process for coming here.*

*In addition to water polo, I've also competed with the swim team, which I had never done before. It was a great experience and we made it all the way to state finals, which was fantastic. I met new people that I wouldn't have met if I just did water polo. It's been a great two years at OCC. I feel at home and I don't want to leave."*



# STEM<sup>2</sup>



## OCC AWARDED FIVE-YEAR, \$2.75 MILLION STEM GRANT

In early November, Orange Coast College received a five-year, \$2.75 million grant through the U.S. Department of Education’s Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions program, with the money intended to increase the rate of students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

The Title V grant also aims to increase the pipeline of future STEM teachers for elementary and secondary schools.

It was an effort spearheaded by Geology Instructor Erik Bender and Dean of Math and Science Tara Giblin, who applied for the Department of Education grant in 2017. OCC qualified for the funds due to its high number of Hispanic students, who make up roughly 35 percent of the student population at Coast. The grant will tackle a persistent problem at Coast when it comes to success of STEM students.

“We found that OCC students in general weren’t doing well in STEM classes,” Bender says. “They were not transferring on, and were reaching some sort of boundary and just not progressing.”

The College hopes the grant will increase the number of students declaring STEM majors, increase success rates in math and science courses, and then improve transfer rates to four-year institutions. This involves developing partnerships with local K-12 schools, as well

as developing special programming that draws attention to careers in STEM education and research.

“We wrote this grant to basically help students succeed and it has lots and lots of tutoring, peer mentoring, you name it ... it’s all included in the grant,” says Bender, who will serve as the project director. “We’re going to have a full-time STEM counselor. There’s also teacher education for people who may want to teach in STEM fields. We will be grabbing tutors from the sciences, physics, geology, astronomy, and bringing them to our STEM Center for full-time tutoring.”

The STEM Center provides study and workshop space as well as resources like textbooks, microscopes, models for studying anatomy, plus specialized computer programs for math and engineering.

OCC also plans to launch a summer STEM Academy in Summer 2019, designed to provide middle and high school students with short programs to gain exposure to potential paths of study in STEM offered at OCC (including engineering, math, chemistry, physics, biology, geology, astronomy, marine science, ecology and others).

The work undertaken via the Title V grant funds will integrate well with statewide initiatives like AB 705, which changes how students are placed in math courses, and Guided Pathways, which has a goal of streamlining student support and resources across the campus.



# READY. SET. LAUNCH.

On a recent cold September morning at Vandenberg Airforce Base near Lompoc, Calif, a record number of people chose to forego sleep in order to watch an historic space launch.

Orange Coast College alumni Jessica Artinger joined a crowd of roughly 50 fellow “ELFINers” who rose before dawn to make the three-hour drive from Los Angeles to see project “ELFIN” launch into space. ELFIN (Electron Losses and Field Investigation CubeSat) is the name of a student-led, five-year-long project that built two satellites, designed to measure space weather. The satellites - constructed at UCLA and attached to a rocket - were both about as big as a loaf of bread. It was a prideful moment for the students who spent five years working on the project, including Artinger; a recent transfer student to UCLA, she eventually became the lead fabrication engineer for the project.

“We got to hear the countdown to [launch], the crowd started kind of counting down with the guy that was in the control room,” Artinger said. “So everybody was getting super excited and you could just feel the energy before the actual rockets lit up.”

During her three and a half years as a student at OCC, Artinger built an impressive resume. She was the president of the astronomy club, president of Phi Theta Kappa (an international honor society for two-year colleges), vice chair of the advocacy committee, logged 850 service hours and was named the 2016 student leader of the year. It’s little wonder Artinger became the lead fabrication engineer— her time at OCC gave her the tools needed to take on the task.

“My last year at OCC I quit my day job so I could dedicate all my time to school,” she said. “That really prepared me [in terms of learning to] juggle the stresses of getting this done. We literally built the last two flight models in the last three months, which is an extremely tight timeline.”

When Artinger first set foot on OCC’s campus in Spring 2013, she never imagined it would be the first step on a path that led to helping launch a satellite into space.



Photo courtesy of NASA/Bill Ingalls



“In fact, I didn’t really become an astrophysics major until my last two years [at Coast],” says Artinger. “I knew I wanted to study science but I didn’t know what branch of science. I didn’t really know much or I didn’t follow rockets or anything like that. Looking back, if you would have told me that I would be doing this, I would tell you you’re crazy.”

Artinger came to OCC with the intent of transferring to UCLA but never knew how much she would grow to care about the College - her post-UCLA plans include teaching at Coast.

“I think that, especially in science, everybody is capable,” says Artinger. “Having instructors that push students along the way is important. And I got that from OCC. It would be really cool to be able to give that back.”

Artinger credits three teachers at Coast with helping her find success: astronomy professors Nick Contopolous and Jerome Fang, and geology professor Erik Bender. She says each one went the extra mile for her.

“At a university, [a professor’s] job is to do research. But at OCC no one is paid any extra money to do research,” says Artinger. “If they’re mentoring you through research it’s because they want to and they decide to. So having [those professors at Coast] was really neat.”

That’s the kind of teacher Artinger wants to be; someone who goes above and beyond for her students. She wants to show students what they’re capable of in the same way her professors at OCC helped her. After all, Artinger is an example that even the sky isn’t the limit.

# ORANGE COAST COLLEGE ALUMNI & FRIENDS

**T**he classes that transformed your journey. The faculty and staff that impacted your life. The students who became life-long friends.

Reconnect with the school you love. Join the OCC Alumni and Friends Association.

The Orange Coast College Alumni and Friends Association connects alumni to the College, to the community and to each other.

You are considered an Alumni and Friend if you ever took a single class. Membership is a great way to keep in touch with OCC and fellow Pirates. Alumni Association members not only receive great resources, they also support current students through the annual Alumni and Friends Scholarship.

Annual memberships are FREE! Once you sign up, you will start to receive these benefits:

- Access to College resources, such as state-of-the-art computer labs, the job placement center and a large library
- Invitations to special events and celebrations on campus
- Updates on the College news through newsletters
- Local retail discounts through the Bursar's Office



After leaving OCC, Adam Devine and Blake Anderson found success in acting, comedy, screenwriting and film production, starting with the popular sitcom “Workaholics,” which ran for seven seasons on Comedy Central. They later co-founded a sketch comedy group called “Mail Order Comedy,” which co-produced the film “Game Over, Man!” in 2018 with Seth Rogen’s production company. Devine and Anderson have had many roles in popular TV shows and films, including Pitch Perfect, Arrested Development, Modern Family, and Entourage.

**Sign up Today:**  
[www.orangecoastcollege.edu/alumni](http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/alumni)



## MISSION STATEMENT

*Orange Coast College serves the educational needs of its diverse local and global community. The College empowers students to achieve their educational goals by providing high quality and innovative programs and services leading to academic degrees, college transfer, certificates in career and technical education, basic skills, and workforce development to enable lifelong learning. The College promotes student learning and development by fostering a respectful, supportive and participatory campus climate of student engagement and academic inquiry.*

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**ORANGE COAST COLLEGE**

2701 FAIRVIEW ROAD

COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA 92626

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