

April 11, 2023

EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE RECEIVES CALIFORNIA APPRENTICESHIP INITIATIVE NEW & INNOVATIVE GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING

EVC's Advanced Manufacturing Program was boosted by a \$119,000 planning grant through the California Apprenticeship Initiative New and Innovative Grant Program (CAI Program) funding by the Office Workforce and Economic Development Division at the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. The CAI Program grants awarded to selected California community colleges and K-12 local education agencies are intended to create new and innovative apprenticeship opportunities in priority and emerging industry sectors or areas where apprenticeship training is not fully established or does not exist. The one-year planning grant situates EVC to apply for a \$1.5 million grant award the following year.

CELEBRATING CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES MONTH

The Board of Governors declared April as California Community Colleges month, which encompasses Black Student Success Week and joint advocacy efforts; it is meant to amplify our student-centered approach, reinforce why community colleges matter, and why public support for our colleges is more important than ever. Two Evergreen Valley College students are featured on the Chancellor's Office official Zoom background!



ASSOCIATED STUDENT GOVERNMENT LEADERS ADVOCATE FOR DREAM ACT, PELL GRANTS, & THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION AC IN WASHINGTON D.C.

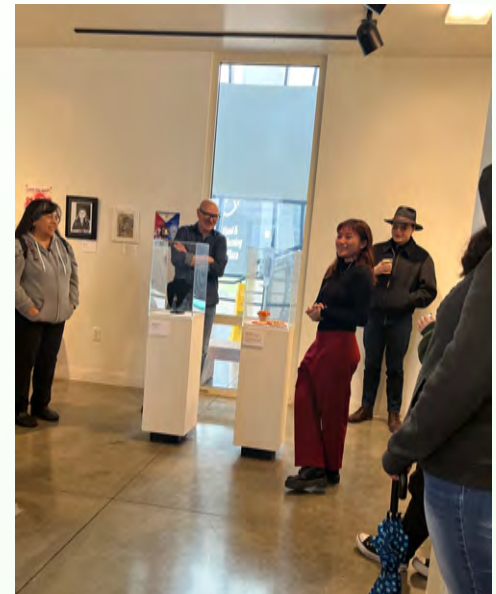
In March, a delegation of EVC student leaders joined 350 fellow student leaders nationwide at the **American Student Association of Community Colleges National Student Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C.**

They spent four days discussing critical issues that impact community college students. Then they visited members of Congress to advocate on behalf of their fellow students for increased federal investment in higher education. During these visits, the students shared the importance of sustaining and expanding the Pell Grant, making it available year-round, and reauthorizing the law that governs all student aid, which has been delayed for more than fifteen years. With the current battle over the budget, spending, and modifications to student financial aid programs, the timing for their visit could not have been better. They also advocated for Congress to pass the bipartisan Dream Act, providing a path to citizenship for children brought here by their families.



SHE WHO INSPIRES EXHIBIT INSPIRED!

As part of EVC's Women's HERstory Month celebration, the "She Who Inspires" exhibit opened with tributes to the women who have inspired students and staff from the campus and district office. At the Tuesday, March 21 reception, attendees could check out creatively diverse expressions of inspiration, including work from EVC's Vice President of Academic Affairs, Matais Pouncil (RBG), and poems by Roohi Vora and Sravani Banerjee, a painting by Eileen Luna, and students. Art faculty Rachel Lazo and her student Vivian Pham curated the exhibit. In addition, Lazo and Pham displayed crocheted pieces reflecting traditions women passed down in their families.



ANNUAL BOOK DISCUSSION & TEA REFLECTS ON THE CHALLENGES FACING YOUNG BLACK AMERICANS

On March 30, EVC's annual book discussion and tea focused on ***The Trayvon Generation*** by Elizabeth Alexander. Expertly led by Professors Liza Kramer, Roohi Vora, Sravani Banerjee, and Language Arts Instructional Support Assistant Lab Lead Roxane Leaf, the discussion was engaging and poignant as students shared their reflections. In addition, attendees could take free books and bookmarks, win copies of *The Trayvon Generation*, and enjoy thoughtfully packaged tea sandwiches and treats.



EVC ACCEPTED INTO 2023-2024 STRATEGIC ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM COHORT

Working with a cross-functional team, EVC was successfully accepted into the 2023-2024 Strategic Enrollment Management Program led by the CCC Chancellor's Office.

With a focus on implementing timely, intentional, and culturally responsive retention strategies, the team aims to increase student success, facilitate more connection to campus programs and services, and decrease the time to completion. The year-long project kicks off in June.

Special thanks to Dean Sam Morgan and Director Brandon Yanari for their vision and leadership. Congratulations to the team for contributing to a successful application and interview process.



Name	Title
1.Matais Pouncil	VP of Academic Affairs
2.Brandon Yanari	Acting Director of Outreach & Recruitment
3.Sam Morgan	Dean of Enrollment Services
4.Hazel de Ausen	Research Analyst II
5.Tina Iniguez	Counselor
6.Alexis Marquez Villa	Student Success Program Specialist
7.Antoinette Herrera	Dean of Math, Science, and Engineering
8.Henry Estrada	Engineering Faculty
9.William Nguyen	Tutoring Center Coordinator
10.Sarai Minjares	First Stop Center Coordinator

COLLEGE ADOPTS NEW INSTITUTIONAL DEFINITIONS

With an enduring commitment to **opportunity, equity, and social justice**, EVC's College Council researched and adopted campus-specific definitions of our institutional values and anti-racism to help center and focus the College's efforts.

Opportunity

EVC defines opportunity as providing pathways to success in higher education regardless of students' unique circumstances.

Equity

EVC defines equity as continually creating conditions that allow historically marginalized and underrepresented students to reach their educational goals successfully, with the commitment to deepening our awareness of institutional barriers that impede students' success by intentionally reviewing, changing, and addressing our programs, procedures, and practices.

Social Justice

EVC defines social justice as eliminating structural barriers and racial hierarchies to ensure fair access to resources and opportunities that create a sense of belonging where all can thrive.

Anti-Racism

EVC defines anti-racism as the rejection of the supremacy of one racial group over another and actively opposing racial prejudice and discrimination by advocating for changes that promote racial equality in society.



**EVERGREEN
VALLEY COLLEGE**

ACCREDITATION GOOD NEWS!

On March 21, EVC virtually hosted the accreditation [peer review team](#) for a Community Open Forum before the team reviewed the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) submitted in December 2022.

Based on the formative and summative peer review model, the assigned team compiles a set of Core Inquiries for the College, highlighting areas in the ISER that require clarification or expansion and are used to develop recommendations and commendations.

On March 31, we were notified that EVC **meets all eligibility requirements, accreditation standards, and commission policies**. Additionally, there are **no** standards compliance issues for the District.

A smaller peer review team will come for a one-day visit on Monday, October 2. The team's final report will be submitted to the Commission in the fall for action in January 2024. **This news is a massive feat for the College and the District!**



SPRING 2023 TESLA START STUDENTS GRADUATE!



On Thursday, March 23, EVC celebrated the graduation of its fourth cohort from the Tesla Start Program.

We are fortunate to be the only college partner of the intensive training program in Northern California and one of two in the state. The program provides students with the skills necessary for a successful career at Tesla and beyond. As a result, this group of graduates has found jobs locally, in San Diego, and other states!

We couldn't be prouder of our students, the dedicated faculty in our automotive technology department, and the entire Evergreen Valley College Team!

EVC & AMAZON : FIRST-EVER HARDWARE APPRENTICESHIP HITS FIRST MILESTONE

Amazon launched its first-ever Hardware Apprenticeship, a Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship Program, in partnership with Evergreen Valley College in late 2022. This pilot program focuses on Amazon's Devices & Services team in Sunnyvale, CA, and it will last up to 2 years. Apprentices are paid competitively for EVC and Amazon's on-the-job training. Successful apprentices may be considered for full-time hardware engineering opportunities at Amazon and will also earn an Advanced Manufacturing Certificate from EVC.

Ten adult apprentices from the San Francisco Bay Area are part of the pilot cohort. They have a diversity of demographic and experience backgrounds with one thing in common: They geek out on hardware engineering but don't yet have the education or work experience to be highly competitive hardware engineer candidates. For example, apprentice backgrounds include fashion, UX, entrepreneurship, and healthcare. Several apprentices also pursued college degrees related to hardware engineering but ran into barriers to completing degrees or breaking into the field. Each brings diverse perspectives and ideas to Amazon while making their passion their career.

This program aligns with EVC's mission, vision, and core values. It is rooted in Amazon's responsibility to its local community and those without equitable access to tech education and career opportunities. It aims to change apprentices' lives by exposing them to the possibilities of hardware engineering and a career at Amazon while building a more diverse and productive hardware team, allowing Amazon to innovate better for and serve its diverse customers.

Apprentices have passed a significant milestone: All ten graduated from an EVC bootcamp and are transitioning to a hardware team at Amazon to begin applying their knowledge on the job.

EVC STUDENT AWARDED UC SANTA CRUZ'S PRESTIGIOUS 2023 KARL S. PISTER LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY AWARD

Violeta Jacqueline Solorio Gaitan was selected as Evergreen Valley College's UC Santa Cruz's 2023 Karl S. Pister Leadership Opportunity Award. The award is specifically for transfer students who show exceptional achievement through academic and extracurricular accomplishments despite adverse socioeconomic conditions. In addition, recipients demonstrate involvement in activities that assist and improve the lives of others and exhibit outstanding leadership.

Enlace Counselor Mirella Burton notes, "Violeta is an amazing student. She has overcome hardships and obstacles that most people will never encounter at her age due to her residency status. Yet, her passion for social justice, community change, and higher education have never rendered. Violeta's resiliency is fueled by her desire to succeed academically, with hopes of improving her life along with the lives of others."



Violeta has a 3.5 GPA, serves as VP of the EVC Computer Science Club, is a member of the ENLACE Honors Society, and is a student-athlete on the soccer team. She also serves as a fellow for the Outreach and Advocacy Services for Immigrant Student Success (OASISS), helping motivate and guide other immigrant students to resources and support to help them achieve their goals.

In October of 2022, Violeta joined President Gilkerson and the California Community College's Chancellor's Office to lobby Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren to continue protecting undocumented students and Dreamers in the wake of the decision by the Fifth Circuit, which ruled that DACA unlawful.

As a student with a passion for programming, Violeta plans to major in computer science. She looks forward to continuing to expand her knowledge in a class setting and building on her skills to create games, apps, and projects that reflect pieces of her imagination. Violeta will receive a \$20,000 scholarship to attend UC Santa Cruz beginning in the fall term.

Congratulations, Violeta!