

## Calendar

■ July 15 & 16, 22 & 23 —

**The Hobbit**

Drama Lab Theatre, 7 p.m.

■ July 16 & 17, 23 & 24 —

**The Hobbit**

Drama Lab Theatre, 2:30 p.m.

### Save the Date!

■ August 26 — **Focus Day**

Robert B. Moore Theatre, 9

a.m. until noon

■ Sept. 17 — **Dick Tucker Field**

**Name Unveiling**

LeBard Stadium, 5 p.m.



## Orange Coast College Ranks High in Statewide Student Success Markers

Orange Coast College outperformed its community college peers in key areas of student success, including persistence, degree and transfer completion, and career and technical education completion, according to the 2016 Student Success Scorecard, an annual report compiled by the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

The CCC's Student Success Scorecard provides the California public with easily accessible performance outcomes for all 113 community colleges in the state. OCC

was ranked 1st in the state for persistence, a marker that measures students from 2009-10 until 2014-15 who enrolled in the first three consecutive terms. During the same time period, Coast also ranked 5th in the state for degree/transfer completion, 2nd in the state for the number of students who completed at least 30 units, and 2nd for Career and Technical Education (CTE) certificate completion.

"To be the highest in the state [for persistence] is incredible," says OCC Vice President of Instruction Kevin Ballinger. "To have a persistence rate of 85% means that students come to OCC with a goal and they stay until they achieve that goal."

Other metrics addressed in the Scorecard included a measurement titled "Skills Builder" that assesses the median earnings change for students who completed higher level CTE coursework without receiving a degree or certificate; students who fall under this category often take one or two courses in order to improve their skills for ongoing employment.

"So many students come to OCC to get a skill and then they leave," says Ballinger. "This is an excellent way to measure the return on investment that students receive from their education at Coast, even if their time here did not result in a certificate or degree, or transfer to a four-year institution."

At OCC, skills builder students saw on average a nearly 16% increase in their wages, with the highest increases in welding (38.9%), information technology (27.5%), and general health occupations (26%).

The fiscal impact that OCC had on the Coast Community College District in fiscal year 2013-14 is outlined in more detail in the College's Annual Report, published in March. The data includes the effect of former OCC students on the regional economy (\$504.1 million), the annual return on investment for local taxpayers (10.4%) and the added earnings in the state of California for OCC students over their working lives (\$4.1 billion).



## Theater Dept. Brings “The Hobbit” to Life with Puppets, Live Action

OCC’s department of theatre arts will stage a production of JRR Tolkien’s classic tale “The Hobbit” on July 15-17 and 22-24. Performances will take place in the College’s Drama Lab Theatre, with Friday and Saturday showings at 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday matinee shows at 2:30 p.m.

OCC’s production will employ the use of live action and puppets to tell the tale of Bilbo Baggins and his journey through Middle Earth. Student actors Joey Hobby and Preston McFadden will play Gandalf and Bilbo, respectively. Characters, such as the powerful dragon Smaug and the eight-foot-tall trolls, will be portrayed using shadow puppets, and the mysterious creature Gollum will be played by student actor Brian Soto, who will use a bunraku puppet, similar to puppets seen in productions of “The Lion King.”

“Gollum is a bunraku puppet where the puppeteer is visible to the audience and standing behind the puppet,” explains Director David Scaglione. “Parts of [The Hobbit] were off limits to theatre for a long time because the actions in the book are too hard to portray on stage, but using puppets has liberated that part of the book for stage.”

The play is geared toward people of all ages, and Scaglione encourages parents to bring their children. “I think this type of storytelling is very interesting to watch and offers a unique experience for the whole family this summer,” he says.

Campus parking is free on weekends and theatre-goers are encouraged to park in Lots C or D off Fairview Road and Arlington Way. Presale tickets for “The Hobbit” are \$7 and can be purchased by visiting [www.occtickets.com](http://www.occtickets.com) or calling (714) 432-5880.

Tickets also are available at the door for \$9. Tickets for students, seniors and children are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door.

## OCC Streamlines Enrollment with New Online Tools

OCC rolled out a pair of tools this summer aimed at simplifying the enrollment process for current and incoming students.

The first — an online Schedule Planner — will allow students to generate a class schedule in minutes, taking into account breaks for obligations such as work, sports practices, or volunteering. Students also will have the ability to choose from several schedule options, all at the push of a button.

“We wanted to make it more convenient and efficient for students to plan their schedules, and this is going to help with that” said OCC’s Vice President of Instruction Kevin Ballinger. “Long term, this tool will also help us build better schedules in the future. Once we start learning what kind of schedule students are asking for, we can tailor our offerings to meet that demand.”

OCC’s online Schedule Planner is already available to students enrolling in classes for the Fall 2016 semester. Students must register at [www.orangecoastcollege.edu](http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu) in order to access the tool.

The College also introduced a personalized e-brochure in its Career and Technical Education area earlier this month. The online resource, dubbed “Instant Info,” allows students to tailor an information packet based on their unique needs and interests.

“This e-brochure is a great addition to OCC’s efforts to provide students with just in time information,” said Ballinger. “OCC has a great number of offerings of CTE programs and services to assist students with attaining their goals, and the ability to build a customized brochure should be a great tool.”

Anyone can access the Instant Info service on OCC’s website at [www.orangecoastcollege.edu/CTE](http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/CTE)

## Larissa Nazarenko Appointed Dean of Visual and Performing Arts

OCC has selected former dancer and experienced fine arts administrator Larissa Nazarenko as its newest Dean of Visual and Performing Arts, effective June 1.

Nazarenko previously served as the Dean of Academic Affairs at Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, where she oversaw the fine arts, health sciences and industrial technology departments, in addition to the Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts. Prior to that she was the Fine Arts department chair and an associate professor of Dance at Allan Hancock.

“We are very excited about Larissa joining our team,” said Vice President of Instruction Kevin Ballinger. “She has a great background in the arts and in the California



Community College system as a faculty member, department chair, and as a dean. She will be able to provide leadership to an amazing division at OCC that prepares students not only for transfer but for occupational opportunities in the arts.”

In recent years, Nazarenko has worked as a choreographer for the California Riverside Ballet. She owned and directed the Los Angeles-based Russian Souvenir Dance Company in the early 2000s, and received a Master of Fine Arts from UC Irvine in 1999.



Nazarenko will be at the helm of a robust division at OCC that includes the College’s dance, digital media arts, film and video, music, photography, and theatre arts programs.

“OCC is a great college that is known for having one of the best fine arts programs in the state,” she said. “I’m looking forward to being an advocate for the Visual and Performing Arts Division, which is very large and diverse. I’m really glad to be here.”

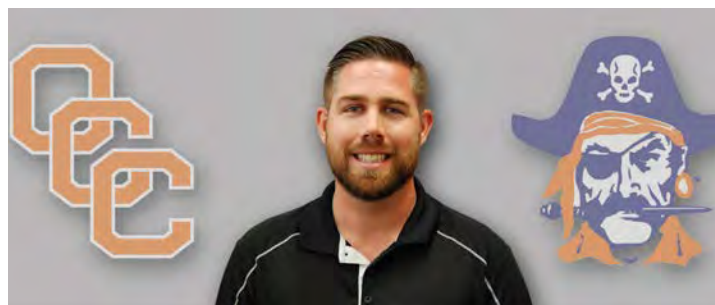
Nazarenko grew up in Russia, where she studied, performed and taught dance. She lives in Newport Beach with her husband and three children.

## OCC names Jason Kehler new Athletic Director

Jason Kehler has been named the new Orange Coast College Athletic Director, according to OCC’s Dean of Kinesiology and Athletics, Dr. Michael Sutliff. The appointment comes following a comprehensive national search.

“Jason will be a fantastic Athletic Director for Orange Coast College,” Sutliff said. “He comes highly recommended and has the background and experience to maintain and expand the high quality programming student athletics currently enjoy at OCC.”

Kehler, who officially joined the Pirates’ staff on July 5, comes to Coast after a 10-year career at Santa Ana College, where he served as the school’s Sports Information Coordinator and, over the past two years, as the school’s Assistant Director of Athletics and Sports Information.



In addition to his normal job duties at SAC, Kehler served as the Vice President and President of the California Community College Sports Information Association (CCCSIA) from 2010-2014, where he provided leadership and guidance to other sports information professionals within the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCCAA).

“Joining the athletic department at Orange Coast is kind of surreal,” Kehler said. “It’s one of the premier athletic departments in the CCAA and to be a part of it is truly an honor. After watching Coast from the other side of the field for all of these years, and getting to know members of the staff, it’s a privilege to now be a part of it.”

One of the brightest newcomers in the CCCSIA, Kehler was awarded the “Brass Top Award” as the top Sports Information Director in the state in 2014 and he served on two CCAA Management Council sub-committees for the implementation of statewide statistics and social media.

Kehler graduated from California State University, Fullerton in 2005 with a bachelor’s degree in communications and while at SAC, he earned his master’s degree in coaching and athletic administration in 2012 from Concordia University, Irvine.

“I believe Jason will provide the right leadership that forges a relevant and current vision for Orange Coast College Athletics and I expect he will be innovative and entrepreneurial in his programming and management of the Athletics Department,” Sutliff said. “Jason is well versed in the CCAA Constitution and has worked closely with coaches and staff in maintaining departmental compliance at his previous institution. I look for Jason to do the same at Orange Coast College while expanding our programming and improving our mechanisms to support a culture of compliance.”

## Football field to be named after Dick Tucker

The Coast Community College Board of Trustees approved the naming of Orange Coast College’s football field after legendary head coach Dick Tucker at their meeting held on June 15.

The Pirates will recognize this event at the school’s first home football game of the season, which will take place on Saturday, Sept. 17 against Ventura College, beginning at 6 p.m. Prior to the start of the game, Coach Tucker will be recognized and honored with an unveiling of the scoreboard with “Dick Tucker Field” displayed on it.

“When I first heard about the honor, I was surprised beyond belief,” Tucker said. “It is such a nice gesture and I really appreciate all of the people who ran with this idea and made it possible.”

Doug Bennett, OCC’s executive director of college advancement, heard the requests of Tucker’s family members as well as the thousands of former players and community members who wanted to see this honor take place.



“The naming came about as a result of requests from alumni, community members and Coach Tucker’s family after the 50th anniversary celebration for Dick’s 1963 national championship Team and the 40th anniversary of his 1975 national championship team,” Bennett said.

The football stadium was opened in 1955 and was originally named Orange Coast College Stadium. In 1967, the stadium was renamed Harry Le Bard Stadium in honor of Harry R. Le Bard, a founding member of the Board of Trustees of the then Orange Coast Junior College District.

In addition to the Pirates calling the stadium its home, it’s also the site of numerous high school games as well as the home to Golden West College football.

According to Bennett, the naming of Orange Coast College Football Field “Dick Tucker Field” has been endorsed by the Orange Coast College coaches, the Kinesiology and Athletics Division and the college’s Institutional Advancement and Effectiveness Planning Council (IAEPC). Not wanting to bind the college and the district into perpetual naming of the football field this naming is recommended with the understanding that it would be subject to review in one generation (about 20-25 years).

Tucker coached OCC for 23 seasons and served as the school’s athletic director for 10 years before retiring in 1995. Along the way he guided the Pirates to two national titles (1963 and 1975) as well as four conference championships and six postseason/bowl appearances. His 129 career wins is the most in OCC history and in 2004, Tucker was inducted into the California Community College Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

In 1996, Tucker was inducted into the Orange County Sports Hall of Fame and in 2007, he was inducted into the OCC Athletics Hall of Fame.

“I put a lot of wonderful years into Orange Coast College and I wouldn’t change a thing,” Tucker said. “Again, I am so appreciative of everyone who helped make this happen.”

## Pirate assistant joins Team Mexico for Rio Olympics

Orange Coast College women’s volleyball assistant coach Adrian Delgado will take part in the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, as an assistant coach for the Mexican National Men’s Volleyball Team. Delgado and the rest of the Olympians will take part in the Opening Ceremonies on Aug. 5 before Mexico takes on host Brazil on Aug. 7 in the opening round of pool play.

“It’s a once-in-a-lifetime event and I can’t wait to be a part of it,” Delgado said. “This is the first time that Mexico has ever played its way into the Olympics. I never dreamed that we would make it all the way to the Olympics, but now, we are going.”

It’s just the second time in the country’s history that Mexico will compete in Olympic competition. In 1968, Mexico City hosted the Olympics and Mexico was an automatic qualifier. This year, they hosted a World Olympic Qualification Tournament and topped a field that consisted of Chile, Tunisia and Algeria to advance.

In the opening match of the qualifier, Mexico topped Chile in four sets and swept past Algeria before hosting Tunisia in the final match.

“Once we were able to win our second set in the match, we automatically qualified because of the tiebreaker rules, so winning the match wasn’t all that big of a deal,” Delgado said. “We finished third at the NORCEA Olympic Qualification Tournament back in January to earn the right to host the World Olympic Qualification Tournament.”

Despite being the lowest seed in the Olympics and having to compete in a pool that includes the likes of host Brazil, the United States, France, Canada and Italy, Delgado is looking forward to just taking in the Olympic experience.

“I can’t wait for the Opening Ceremonies,” Delgado said. “I’ve watched it on TV my whole life and it’s something I’ve always wanted to be a part of. Hopefully I can bump into some of the players on the U.S. Men’s Basketball team or get a picture with (Jamaican sprinter) Usain Bolt.

We know going in that we have our hands full. Our tallest player is 6-foot-6 and some of these teams average 6-8 or 6-9! We’re just super excited to be there and hopefully we can play as well as we possibly can. That’s all we can do.”

Delgado, whose responsibilities for the Mexican National Team include analyzing and breaking down stats for the players and coaches, will return to OCC following the Olympics and will kick off his 26th season as the Pirates’ assistant coach.

