



## Calendar

- **June 22 – John Farmer Retirement Party**  
Student Center Lounge, 2 p.m.
- **June 27 – Staff Appreciation Picnic**  
Horticulture Gardens, Noon until 4 p.m.
- SAVE THE DATE!**
- **August 24 – Fall Flex Day**  
Robert B. Moore Theatre, 8 a.m.



## OCC Commencement Student Speaker Inspires with Speech about Resilience

Child Development student Mayra Bahena was the student speaker at OCC's 70th annual Commencement Ceremony on May 23.

Bahena, who is hearing impaired, gave an impassioned speech with the help of a translator about resilience and overcoming setbacks in pursuit of higher education.

"I wanted to acknowledge that many students come from many different races, disabilities, gender identities, cultures, etc ... as a disabled person I can bring awareness to people who are hard workers in achieving their goals by saying 'If I can, then you can,'" says Bahena.

The speech was well-received by graduates and their families, who gave Bahena a standing ovation. With plans to transfer to Cal State Northridge in the fall to continue toward her goal of becoming an elementary school teacher for deaf students, Bahena acknowledges what being a student at OCC has meant to her.

"Orange Coast College is the biggest challenge I have ever had; OCC has taught me to be in the real world, something I never experienced before," she explains. "I remember when I first attended OCC; I felt lost and confused because I didn't find anyone to help me or converse with me. I was like a tiny fish in a large sea. Once I met the right people and took the right classes, I learned that I am not the only one having struggles in school. But they told me that they've never seen

OCC made me a human being. OCC is home and the starting place of love, hope, and dreams."

## OCC Faculty Member of the Year Has Spent Career Mentoring Underserved Students

Faculty members from Orange Coast College selected English professor Donovan Gaytan as the 2018 Faculty Member of the Year. Gaytan — who has taught at OCC for 26 years — delivered the faculty keynote address titled "Togetherness" at the College's 70th Commencement ceremony on May 23.

Professor Gaytan is a Puente program instructor and co-coordinator at Coast, and he is one of the founders of OCC's Puente Project, which began on campus 25 years ago. The Puente Project works to increase the number of underserved students who enroll in four-year colleges and universities, earn their degrees, and return to the community as leaders and mentors for future generations. Specifically, the Puente Project implements six strategies to help at-risk students be academically and personally successful: teaching, counseling, mentoring, leadership development, enrichment opportunities and ongoing support.

Gaytan also serves as an advisor for the Puente Club, and has taught and mentored hundreds of students during his years at OCC, many of whom have returned to the College to serve as

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mentors in the Puente program they were once a part of.

"In order to best address the needs of my students, my teaching incorporates a philosophy of familiarity, genuine interest, affection, and trust, for I believe that conveying my real concern for the success of each of my students as individuals beyond the classroom is a key to empowering them to succeed academically and personally," says Gaytan. "In order words, I want my students to know that I care about each of them! I never lose sight of how fortunate I am to work with my students in a rich academic environment of mutual admiration and trust that we develop together and that lasts for years and years."

Gaytan hosts informational events for students and their parents throughout the year, and coordinates student visits to universities across the state, including University of California Berkeley and California State University, San Francisco.



## Orange Coast College Inducts Actors Into Alumni Hall of Fame

OC inducted actors Blake Anderson and Adam Devine into the College's Alumni Hall of Fame immediately following Commencement on May 23.

Anderson and Devine — who met as students at OCC in 2002 — were co-creators and co-stars in the popular TV show "Workaholics" on Comedy Central. The show — which ended in 2017 after seven seasons — became a breakout hit almost overnight, garnering a cult-like following and transforming the actors into Hollywood stars.

Devine has earned several successful recurring roles, including in the film series "Pitch Perfect" and television series "Modern Family." He also has voiced characters in "Ice Age: Collision Course" and "The Lego Batman Movie."

Anderson has had roles on television shows such as "Community" and "Arrested Development" and has started a clothing line called "Teenage."

Along with "Workaholics" co-creators Kyle Newacheck and Anders Holm, both Anderson and Devine are co-founders of production company Mail Order Comedy, which partnered with actor and producer Seth Rogen to create a Netflix film titled "Game Over Man!" released this year.

Devine and Anderson reminisced about their time at OCC during their speech to graduates at OCC's commencement ceremony last month.

"This honor goes out to all our haters out there, who saw us longboarding to class and said 'Those guys aren't Hall-of-Fame material,'" joked Devine.

"Blake and I actually met day one of school [at OCC] in improv class," he continued. "Our improv teacher, Alex Golson, encouraged us to start writing comedy together and performing together, and his confidence gave us the confidence to pursue our careers. That's what OCC gave to us."

Anderson echoed the sentiment and followed it with some advice for the class of 2018.

"Make friends — you never know the people who you meet day to day, how they're going to affect you later in life," he said. "The person sitting next to you could be a co-worker, they could be an employer, they could get you a job. A great example of this? When I met Adam, here at OCC, I had no idea clue that the person I was meeting would be essential in forging the key that would open the door to me living my dream."

## OCC Brings Back Staff Appreciation Picnic in Honor of 70th Anniversary

The College will host a Staff Appreciation Picnic on Wednesday, June 27 from noon until 4 p.m. in the OCC Horticulture Gardens.

The event brings back a long-held tradition at Coast in honor of the school's 70th Anniversary, and recognizes the hard work and dedication of the more than 350 classified employees who form the backbone of operations at OCC.

The Picnic will be catered by Tulsa Rib Co. and will include an array of barbeque dishes (including a vegetarian option.) Some of the planned activities include picnic-friendly games such as croquet and a corn hole toss. There will also be caricature artists on hand to provide hand-drawn portraits of staff on OCC-themed paper. The newly elected Classified Senate Leadership team will be introduced as well.





## Pirates post impressive results at ACRAs!

The impressive 2018 season for the Orange Coast College men's crew continued on May 26-27 at the American Collegiate Rowing Association (ACRA) National Championships as the Pirates finished third overall out of 75 of the top programs in the nation.

With just five boats in the championships, Coast finished with 349 team points and trailed only the University of Michigan (685 points) and the University of Virginia (391) for the top overall team national title.

After qualifying seventh in the time trials, the Pirate Varsity 8 squad reached the finals and took on the best of the best and finished sixth overall with a time of 6 minutes, 1.4 seconds, slightly behind fifth-place Notre Dame (6:01.2), but topping the University of Massachusetts (6:01.85) and UC Santa Barbara (6:03.18). Michigan took home the top spot with a time of 5:55.69, followed by Boston College (5:56.26), Virginia (5:57.62) and the University of North Carolina (5:57.98).

In the Men's Second Varsity 8 race, Coast again qualified for the national finals and there, the Pirates finished fifth out of 16 boats with a time of 6:45.27, behind Michigan (6:08.58), UNC (6:11.98), Boston College (6:13.53) and UCSB (6:13.83).

OCC's Novice 8 capped off a dominating season with a bronze medal finish out of 25 boats with a time of 6:11.52. Only Delaware (6:05.82) and Virginia (6:06.4) topped the Pirates, while OCC finished ahead of Notre Dame (6:14.72), Michigan (6:14.86), UC Irvine (6:22.77), Michigan State (6:28.81) and Bucknell (6:29.9).

In another impressive performance, OCC's Second Novice 8 boat reached the finals and finished second in the nation with a time of 6:30.1, trailing only Michigan (6:21.4) for the top spot. Coast edged out Notre Dame at the wire, putting the Fighting Irish in third with a time of 6:30.9, followed by Virginia (6:32.1), UCLA (6:37.9), UC Davis (6:54.8) and UCSB (7:27.5).

OCC's Varsity 4 boat did not advance to the championship race, but still posted a solid 19th-place time of 7:13.39, finishing third in the "C" Final, trailing only Emory (7:06.23) and Clemson (7:08.56) for the top spot in that event.

In addition to the solid team performances, several members of the Pirate men's crew earned All-Region and All-American honors.

Pirate rowers Caleb O'Neil and Daniel Amado earned spots on the West All-Region Team, while head coach Cam Brown was the West Region Coach of the Year.

Amado continued to pick up the hardware by earning Second Team, All-American honors, while freshmen Cole Guild and Joe Battisti were selected to this year's All-American Freshman Team.

Up next for the Pirates is the Henley Royal Regatta in England on the River Thames, from June 29-July 8.

## OCC's Holland heading to Chapman University

Orange Coast College standout women's volleyball player Devyn Holland will continue her collegiate career at Chapman University, according to head coach Chuck Cutenese.

Holland, who came to OCC after spending one season at Rider University, earned first-team, All-Orange Empire Conference honors for the Pirates after dishing out 580 assists to go along with 189 kills and 197 digs. She reached double figures in kills nine times, in digs seven times and had 20 or more assists 16 times.

Perhaps Holland's top match of the season came on Sept. 22, 2017 when she earned a triple-double in a five-set win over Cypress College with 14 kills, 20 assists and 10 digs.

Holland's strong play helped lead the way for the Pirates, who finished the season with a record of 19-8 and a second-round trip to the Southern California Regional playoffs.

Chapman University, which competes in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, finished 16-11 last year under head coach Mary Cahill.

## OCC Campus Security Director John Farmer Set to Retire This Month

After 32 years keeping Orange Coast College's campus safe, Director of Campus Security John Farmer will retire at the end of the month.

Here's what he has to say about his time at Coast:

I started at OCC in 1986. I came from working at Chapman University for five years in the security department. I was lucky enough to get the "chief" position at OCC, even though there really wasn't a security department at that time — just three officers and one vehicle. When the day officer was out sick it was just me and 25,000 students.

Back then there were no cell phones, no computers and no emails ... oh the good old days! If our one vehicle broke down we had to hoof it to any calls we got, but we always seemed to get the job done.

Well I had my work cut out for me. I began hiring student assistants who really worked hard and soon I was able to

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generate enough revenue to hire additional officers, purchase more equipment and expand department hours to 24/7, and now 32 years later with a staff of 50 we have one of the most efficient departments in the District. I've hired over 600 employees in my time at OCC and what makes me so proud is seeing so many of them go on to law enforcement careers or other careers with the foundation they got at OCC. Also, many of the officers that started with me as student assistants and are now full-time officers with our department. I'll miss these staff members, some of whom I've worked with for over 20 years.

When I leave in July I'm planning on working in my home town of San Clemente at the animal shelter near me, or maybe for a dog walking service to keep busy and stay out of my wife's hair.

## OCC Marketing Dept. Wins 9 Awards at Statewide Conference

Orange Coast College's marketing and public relations department won nine top awards at the annual Community College Public Relations Organization (CCPRO) conference awards dinner on Thursday, April 12.

OCC took first place for its 2017 Annual Report, 2017 OCC Magazine, and Global Engagement Center informational brochure. The College also took first place for feature writing. Coast also won silver in the "Folder," "Social Media Management" and "Charles Cropsey Photography Award" categories, and bronze in the "Direct Mailer/Postcard/Flyer" and "Brochure Division B" categories.

"This recognition from CCPRO is not only a testament to the College's marketing department's talent and creativity, but also the compelling stories and accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff," said Marketing and Public Relations Director Juan Gutierrez.

CCPRO is a statewide professional development and service organization that seeks to promote excellence in California's community college public relations and related professions.

This year's competition saw more than 400 entries from community colleges across the state.



## Pirates' season ends with 8-6 loss to Sacramento City

The memorable 2018 season for the Orange Coast College baseball team came to an end at John Eules Ballpark as the Pirates fell to Sacramento City, 8-6, at the California Community College Athletic Association Baseball State Championships, hosted by Fresno City College.

It was a day that started at 10 a.m. with a 12-6, 12-inning win over Mt. San Antonio but it ended with a season-ending thud 14 hours later as the Pirates (34-15) simply ran out of gas and finished third in the state against a relentless Panthers' team that will take on San Joaquin Delta for the state championship.

While the season ended one day short of what the Pirates hoped for, the 2018 campaign can not be described as anything but successful. It was a season that began with injury concerns and a lethargic 8-7 start. Once the aches and pains lessened and key players returned, OCC caught fire with a 25-6 finish to the season, a second straight Orange Empire Conference championship (first back-to-back conference titles for OCC baseball in 30 years) and three consecutive playoff series sweeps en route to the State Final Four.

On Sunday night, Coast fell behind to the Panthers 5-2 and 6-4 before evening the game at 6-6 in the bottom of the fifth inning, but SCC (35-15) picked up single runs in the seventh and ninth innings, while the Panther bullpen shut down the Pirates over the final four innings for the win.

Skylar Limonchi went 2-for-5 with two runs scored, while Ramiro Velasco added a hit and two RBI for the Pirates. Chris Ceballos went 1-for-3 with two runs and an RBI, while Murphy Stehly went 2-for-4.

McKinley LeFore came in relief for the Pirates and did a great job of keeping his team in the game with 5 1/3 innings of inspired work, but took the tough loss after allowing three runs (two earned) on four hits with three walks and seven strikeouts.

Isaiah Rodriguez (W 2-1) and Adam Erickson (ninth save) combined to shut down the Pirates over the final four innings, allowing two hits, no walks and three strikeouts. SCC retired 11 of the final 12 OCC hitters as the clock struck midnight, both literally, and on the Pirates' season.