



## OCC Culinary Team Wins Silver at National Competition

Orange Coast College culinary arts students won a silver medal at the 2024 American Culinary Federation's National Student Team Competition in Phoenix, Arizona, on July 17.

OCC's Hot Food Team represented the Western Region in the ACF National Championships and competed against four other regional teams. The team cooked a four-course meal in 90 minutes with no gas and limited electric appliances.

"OCC has a long tradition of success with the student hot food team competitions," said OCC culinary arts instructor Chef Davina Dunner. "We are so proud and excited for our students, who are continuing a legacy started in 1996."

This is the first team to compete for OCC since 2018. The competing five-member team comprised of Team Captain Claire Arredondo, Blanca Granados, Morgan Downie, Genisis Mascareno, and Monique Robinson. Team coach and culinary arts instructor Chef April Thompson is no stranger to ACF's National Student Team Competition, who competed in 2018 for OCC.

OCC's Hot Food Team earned a national title in 2005 and several regional titles and a.

## New Tutoring Hubs for OCC Students to Launch Fall 2024

Starting this fall, OCC students will have access to three new tutoring centers: the Science and Engineering Tutoring Center, the Writing and Humanities Tutoring Center, and the Math Center. Previously, OCC students received tutoring services for all subjects at the Student Success Center. Now, students will have access to dedicated spaces throughout campus focusing on specific subjects.

The former Student Success Center location will be converted to the Science and Engineering Tutoring Center, where students will have access to workshops, study groups, and individual tutoring appointments. The space will also house the MESA program. The Writing and Humanities Tutoring Center will be inside the LLSS Building in Room 120, while the Math Center will be at MBCC 218.



## Navigate OCC to Welcome New Students to OCC

The Outreach Office will host Navigate OCC on Wednesday, August 21, to welcome new Pirates to campus. The bi-annual event is an opportunity for new Pirates to get their bearings for the upcoming fall semester. Students can navigate the campus, meet fellow students, chat with faculty, learn how to get involved and take care of any last-minute business before the first-week rush.



## OCC Participates in CCCESFC Leadership Institute

Orange Coast College hosted the California Community Colleges Ethnic Studies Faculty Council (CCCESFC) Leadership Institute for their annual gathering of Ethnic Studies Faculty Council leadership on July 26. The all-day event

provided an opportunity to harness the collective knowledge and advancements of Ethnic Studies disciplines within the academe. Dr. Jessica Alabi, along with other OCC ethnic studies faculty, helped initiate the event to create dialogue and share best practices in the implementation and transfer support of students related to the new Ethnic Studies general education requirements.

The faculty-driven event brought together diverse groups of faculty members from across the state to strengthen relationships and organize statewide, regional, and local leadership among these disciplines within the academy. The discussions and action plans developed at the event are set to have a significant impact on the future of Ethnic Studies disciplines, inspiring change and progress.



## Orange Coast College Hosts IgniteHER Girls Summit

Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris and Girls Inc. of Orange County invited middle and high school girls to participate in the IgniteHER Girls Summit, which was hosted at Orange Coast College last month.

The female empowerment event welcomed hundreds of girls to dream big as they listened to visionaries, thought leaders, and trailblazers. OCC President Angelica Suarez provided welcome remarks for the event.

Sirisha Bandla, vice president of government affairs and research operations for Virgin Galactic, was the keynote speaker and shared her journey to becoming an astronaut.

The event concluded with a panel discussion from leading women across various fields and workshops focused on financial literacy, personal branding, goal setting and career navigation.