



## Calendar

- **Sept. 10 – Pirate Involvement Fair**  
Library Quad, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
  - **Sept. 13 – Theatre Nouveau Drama Lab Studio**, 7:30 p.m.
  - **Sept. 14 – Football vs East Los Angeles**  
LeBard Stadium, 6 p.m.
  - **Sept. 16-20 – ‘The Closet’ Clothing Drive**  
Journalism 108, times vary
  - **Sept. 18 – OCC Career Center Open House**  
Watson Hall, 3rd Floor, 1-3:30 p.m.
  - **Sept. 19 – “Empty Vessel – Amir Zaki” Preview**  
Doyle Arts Pavilion, 5-7 p.m.
  - **Oct. 3 – Research Symposium Mentor Mixer**  
Legacy Hall 101, 1:15-3:15 p.m.
  - **Oct. 6 – Orange County Children’s Book Festival**  
Library Quad, 9:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.
- SAVE THE DATE:**
- **Oct. 25 – OCC Science Night**  
Campuswide, 5:30-9:30 p.m.



## OCC Welcomes New Students to Campus for Orientation

Orange Coast College welcomed nearly 1,000 new students at its annual orientation, Navigate OCC, on Aug. 20. Students attended workshop sessions and a resource fair, and were given tours of campus to help them become familiar with the College.

Booths representing most programs on campus gave out information on topics such as financial aid, transfer, basic needs support, Guided Pathways, and more. Students were treated to lunch in OCC’s horticulture gardens and the day wrapped up with an opportunity drawing in the Robert B. Moore Theatre.

## OCC Culinary Program Re-Accredited for 7 Years, Receives ‘Exemplary’ Status

The College’s Culinary Arts Program received word from the American Culinary Federation Education Foundation Accrediting Commission (ACFEFAC) in early August that all four of its certificate programs have received “exemplary” status, with the entire program re-accredited for seven years.

The re-accreditation follows a three-day site visit during the Spring 2019 semesters during which a team from ACFEFAC validated the self-study report. ACFEFAC is recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

“During the site visit the team talks to all parties involved in our program: OCC admin and instructors, alumni, graduates, advisory board and current students,” says Culinary Arts Instructor Bill Barber. “The team also inspects our facilities, curriculum, systems and processes to make sure that we are up to the standards set forth by American Culinary Federation Educational Foundation and that all we are claiming that we do in the self-study is actually what we are doing.”

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OCC's Culinary program is the only culinary school in the State of California to have all of its certificate programs receive "exemplary" status, and the only school in Southern California to have even one.



## Hundreds Show Up to Witness Rare Corpse Flower Blooming at OCC

Orange Coast College's horticulture department had a "Corpse Flower" bloom in early August, sparking interest and enthusiasm from local plant lovers.

The rare and endangered *Amorphophallus Titanum* flower was on display on the patio of OCC's Planetarium from Aug. 14-16, drawing hundreds of visitors who came out to take a whiff of the plant's notorious odor, which many people liken to rotting flesh. The Corpse Flower can take many years to bloom and has the potential to grow more than 10 feet tall.

OCC originally received three corpse flowers from the Huntington Botanical Gardens in 2006. The College has since had two flowers bloom, one in 2014 and another in 2017. Both blooms drew hundreds of curious spectators.

"It's amazing how many people want to smell it, [the smell] is the biggest draw about it," says Horticulture Lab Coordinator Joe Stead.

This year's flower is named "Little Eva" in honor of Student Activities Assistant Eva Shaffer, who helps fundraise around the corpse flower in order to support student scholarships.

With a \$5 "suggested donation" Shaffer and the OCC Classified Senate were able to raise enough money to fund two student scholarships.

"Little Eva" bloomed late in the evening of Aug. 15, with a small group of spectators bearing witness. The flower was back on display early in the morning on Aug. 16, and a live feed was set up on Facebook to allow those who couldn't be there in person to witness the event. Viewers from as far away as China joined in the live video for OCC's Corpse Flower.

## Orange Coast College Launches Social Media Certificate Program to Meet Growing Demand

Starting this fall, Orange Coast College is offering a certificate program that will prepare students for careers in social media communication.

"The idea of this program is to train students to promote organizations and individuals on social media. In order to do that they're going to learn about different social media platforms and they're also going to get a crash course in public relations and marketing," says Literature and Languages Dean Michael Mandelkern.

Demand for social media strategists has exploded in recent years, as more consumers engage with companies and organizations on popular social media channels like Facebook and Twitter. OCC's program will prepare students for a career in social media publicity and marketing in as little as two years.

"Students will be learning which platforms to use depending on their target audience," says Mandelkern. "There are many jobs available right now, that pay well, because many companies are looking for someone who's able to do this, but not very many people are trained in social media strategy."

OCC's Social Media Certificate of Achievement will fall under the College's Literature and Languages Division, in the communications program. However, the certificate program is multi-disciplinary, and offers courses in business, digital arts, and even fashion. According to Mandelkern, the decision to make communications the home base for a social media certificate was made after careful consultation with industry professionals.

"As with any career program at OCC, we had to consult with industry professionals when we were developing the curriculum," he says. "We had an advisory committee that included people in the industry who do this work, as well as hiring managers who already employ individuals who do this type of work. Communications is very interdisciplinary by its nature, and this program overlaps with the business program, but also many other areas of the College."



## 'The Harbour' Showroom Gives Students Sneak Peek of OCC Student Housing

OCC's partner in student housing, Scion Group, has opened a showroom in Watson Hall that gives students a sneak peek at the furniture, layout and design of OCC's on-campus housing project, slated to open in Fall 2020.

OCC's student housing complex — named 'The Harbour' — will have 300 fully furnished units and more than 800 beds. The Harbour will fill a need for affordable housing in an area that typically sees high rents, which is a barrier for OCC students.

Currently, Scion Group is building its "VIP List" in order to get information into the hands of potential student residents. The company will start accepting applications for housing this fall.

For more information, visit [www.orangecoastcollegehousing.com](http://www.orangecoastcollegehousing.com)

## OCC Fall Flex Day Recap

Orange Coast College's Fall 2019 Flex Day was a success, boasting 81 unique sessions with 135 presenters and 21 poster presentations. Nearly 600 employees were in attendance.

This year's Fall Flex Day was held on Aug. 23, the Friday before school began for the Fall 2019 semester. The event started bright and early with breakfast served at 8 a.m. in front of the Math, Business and Computing Center. Flex Day sessions were held from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m., with a break for lunch at noon. Session topics included "Guided Pathways - Interventions," "In Their Shoes: An Exercise in Equity" and "Cyber Security at School and at Home."

At the event's general session, faculty, staff and managers had an opportunity to hear from new OCC President, Dr. Angelica Suarez. Dr. Suarez gave a presentation titled "My Unguided Pathway" that mapped her own journey from first-generation college student to president of Orange Coast College. For many in the audience, it was a chance to connect and find common ground with Dr. Suarez, and the conclusion of her presentation was met with a standing ovation.

The day concluded with an ice cream social in front of the OCC Planetarium. All presenters were given an OCC-branded, checkered picnic blanket as a "thank you" for their efforts. It was a wonderful way to kick off another successful year at OCC!



## Former Pirate Rower Becomes World Champion!

A member of the Orange Coast College men's crew is now a world champion. Sam Melvin captured the U.S. Lightweight Men's Single Sculler title at the 2019 World Rowing Under 23 Championships.

"Honestly, it hasn't sunk in," said Melvin in an interview with usrowing.org. "I don't know, I feel pretty normal right now. It'll sink in eventually."

Melvin, who competed for OCC's 2016 and 2017 teams advanced to the finals, where he took on the world's best. After a slow opening 500 meters, Melvin went from last to first over the second 500 meters of the 2,000-meter race. In the third quarter of the race, Melvin pulled away from the pack and carried a three-second advantage and eventually captured the world title with a time of 7 minutes, 6.67 seconds, just ahead of The Netherlands' time of 7:06.83 and Austria (7:08.92).

Melvin qualified for the National Team after winning the U.S. Rowing Trials. It was the USA's lone gold medal of the event.

"I was in disbelief," Melvin said. "Did that really just happen? It all paid off and it means the world to me. It confirms I'm on the right path and what I'm doing is working."

In another OCC-related event, the U.S. Women's Pair raced in a boat named "David Grant" in recognition of the former Orange Coast College President and men's crew coach who has dedicated most of his life to growing the sport, both at OCC and abroad.



## Pirates' Cove Expands with Grand Opening of 'The Closet'

Orange Coast College's Pirates' Cove food pantry — a one-stop-shop for basic needs — is expanding its services to include a clothing closet.

"The Closet" will provide students with access to free, gently worn professional attire, cold-weather clothing, and purse and bag accessories.

A clothing drive will be held from Sept. 16-20, and The Closet will celebrate its grand opening on Wednesday, Sept. 25, with a time TBA.

Current, the Pirates' Cove is seeking donations of the following items:

- Men's and Women's business casual & professional clothing
- Blouses, button-up shirts, polos, pants, blazers, skirts
- Cold weather clothing & accessories
- Jackets, sweaters, scarves, blankets, "beanies", socks (new only please)
- Other gently used accessories
- Purses, backpacks, messenger bags, duffle bags

Items can be delivered to Pirates' Cove in Journalism 108 during the following hours:

- Monday: 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.
- Tuesday: 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.
- Thursday: 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.
- Friday: 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Please direct questions to Maricela Sandoval at [msandoval46@occ.cccd.edu](mailto:msandoval46@occ.cccd.edu) or (714) 432-6844.