

SBCCD BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

SEPTEMBER 12, 2024



SBVC ACADEMIC SENATE: ANDREA HECHT, SBVC ACADEMIC SENATE PRESIDENT REPORT

OUR ROLE

The Academic Senate primary purpose is to ensure that faculty have a voice in the governance and decision-making processes of the district, especially on all matters related to curriculum and academic standards. It ensures faculty involvement in decision-making processes, particularly in areas outlined in the "Ten Plus One," a set of guidelines detailed in Title 5.



ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO STUDENT ACCESS AND SUCCESS

The Umoja-Tumaini program is a learning community for students interested in learning about African-American history, literature, and culture. From October 2023 to present, Umoja has increased their program enrollment from 40 students to 256 and counting. With 11 cohorts that include English, Math, Psychology Student Development, History and Geography. Students have shared that they have great access to support and full service with Umoja, including diversity and feeling welcomed.



BE A DIVERSE , EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE , AND ANTI-RACIST INSTITUTION

Yvette Lee, faculty of English, exemplifies SBVC's commitment to diversity and inclusion through her leadership of the campus Book Club:

- Voluntarily coordinates and facilitates the club throughout the year
- Selects diverse books, promoting varied perspectives and cultures
- Collaborates with colleagues and the president to enhance the program
- Fosters literary engagement and open discussions on complex topics
- Receives positive feedback from participants, indicating meaningful impact

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Lee's dedication to this initiative contributes significantly to SBVC's goal of being a diverse, equitable, inclusive, and anti-racist institution. Her efforts create a more informed and empathetic campus community, making her an invaluable asset to SBVC.

Denmark Harris's journey exemplifies SBVC's commitment to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for students from diverse backgrounds. Despite facing early life challenges, including bullying and family responsibilities that disrupted his education, Denmark found a welcoming community at SBVC that empowered him to overcome these obstacles.

At SBVC, Denmark discovered a campus culture that celebrates diversity and promotes equity. He actively engaged in various campus activities and events, which he credits for deepening his appreciation of the college's efforts to create an enriching, multicultural experience for all students. "It deepened my appreciation for the activities SBVC holds," he remarked, highlighting the institution's dedication to fostering a vibrant, inclusive community.

SBVC's support systems played a crucial role in Denmark's success, demonstrating the college's commitment to equitable access to resources. "The biggest lesson I learned was asking for help," he noted. The college's faculty and counselors provided personalized support, helping Denmark navigate personal challenges and maintain focus on his academic goals, showcasing SBVC's dedication to addressing individual student needs.

The guidance Denmark received at SBVC was instrumental in preparing him for transfer to UC Berkeley, illustrating the college's role in bridging educational gaps and creating pathways to prestigious universities for students from all backgrounds. "It had always been my dream to transfer to a UC," he reflected, acknowledging how SBVC's support made him a "stronger applicant."

Denmark's aspirations to pursue a TESOL program and further his studies in Japan after graduating from Berkeley highlight SBVC's success in nurturing global perspectives and cross-cultural understanding among its diverse student body. His journey from SBVC to UC Berkeley and beyond serves as an inspiring example of how the college's commitment to diversity, equity, and anti-racism empowers students to overcome barriers and achieve their dreams.

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BE A LEADER AND PARTNER IN ADDRESSING REGIONAL ISSUES

Umoja Program has made collaborations with College Corps, which helps students with access to monetary awards to retain students. Currently, hosting 15 student volunteers.

Maria Lopez, counselor for Adult Education/ESL and is also the faculty lead for our Non-Credit. She will be attending Vision 2030: Noncredit Summit - Access and Inclusion: Transforming Communities through Noncredit Education on October 4th. In addition she will also be presenting on a panel with Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC) to discuss.

Lucas Cuny, Faculty Co-Chair of SBVC's Film, Television, and Media (FTVM) keeps SBVC's curriculum at the forefront of industry trends, offering specialized degrees and certificates in directing, camera work, story development, and more. Partnerships with industry leaders like Panavision give students access to top-tier equipment and hands-on experience.

This September, Cuny is launching the "Cinema of Journalism" screening series, featuring films on journalism and discussions with local experts. Under Professor Cuny's leadership, SBVC's FTVM program is evolving in thrilling ways, making it an exciting time to be a part of this vibrant community.



ENSURE FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY/STABILITY

Submitted by Andrea Hecht,
SBVC Academic Senate President