

8/11/2025

CAMPUS UPDATES

IVC Superintendent/President Dr. Lennor Johnson



Greetings Campus Community:

Welcome back to the first day of the semester! We are so excited for the new academic year. Thank you so much for attending Convocation and for your enthusiastic participation. It was truly an amazing day, filled with energy, inspiration, and a shared sense of purpose that reminds us why Imperial Valley College continues to stand out.

Each one of you brings something special to IVC, and together, we are the best college in the nation. Because of you.

As we discussed at Convocation, our "Mission Possible" is not just a theme, it's our reality. I truly believe the work we are doing today will continue to yield powerful results, not only within our campus walls but across our entire county. We've already proven, time and again, that we can achieve the impossible and we will continue to.

As noted during convocation, we must acknowledge the challenges we are experiencing and prepare for major shifts that will shape the higher education landscape in the coming years:

- Changes in state and federal policies, including funding, DEI, and immigration
- Continued 1–2% annual decline in the K–12 population
- More students attending part-time, impacting time to completion
- Fewer students transferring compared to the national average

While these trends bring challenges, they also present opportunities for us to innovate and adapt, which is something IVC has consistently done well. Attached you'll find the presentation from convocation, where it highlights our accomplishments from last year and discusses our campus priorities for 2025-26.

Enrollment Update: As of 8/11/2025, we are down about 9% compared to last fall, with 2,960.79 FTES versus 3,256.34 at this time last year. Fill rates have dropped from 91.86% to 86.14%. We attribute some of this decline to last year's surge in fraudulent enrollments. Nonetheless, we are actively working to close the gap by opening additional sections and continuing to market unfilled courses.

We had a strong summer enrollment, so year-to-date we are on pace with last year. Please continue encouraging students to check the class schedule, meet with an advisor, and register for classes. Every full-time equivalent student counts.

Accreditation: The ISER report has been submitted, and I want to acknowledge the incredible folks who contributed heavily to its completion: Dr. Jia Sun, Dixie Krimm, Dr. Jose Carrillo, Krista Byrd, Dr. Melanie Ginn, Xochitl Tirado, Stacey Browning, Efrain Silva, Dr. Cerise Myers, Dr. Cynthia Spence, Alexis Villa, Elizabeth Trevino, Vikki Carr, Johanna Fisher, Victor Torres, Andrew Robinson, Dr. Sydney Rice, and Angie Gallo, and anyone else I may have missed. My apologies if I did. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication. The site visit will take place in February of 2026.

Campus Safety Update: Our surveillance camera refresh project is substantially completed. Over three years ago, at the height of tragic events happening in schools nationwide, we established a Campus Safety Task Force comprised of faculty, staff, and administrators. That group developed a plan to:

- Have dedicated leadership in the role an Director of Risk, Security, and Safety
- Replace our decade-old camera system with new state-of-the-art equipment (Verkada)
- Increase the presence of campus police and safety officers (Sheriff Deputies/ECHO ONE Security)
- Replace and upgrade parking lots with newer blue towers (Poles) to enhance communications and security in the event of emergencies
- Engineer, design, and implement a "keyless" access system with lockdown capabilities



7/23/2025

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I am proud to say that, with the exception of the blue towers, everything is now substantially completed. The new blue poles will be installed over the next few days. The new towers are not only state-of-the-art but also more secure due to their new surveillance camara systems mounted at the top of the pole. Mission accomplished!

Facilities and Construction Update: Our new Auto and Diesel Technology, Arts, and Engineering building is approximately 40% completed. This new and exciting facility is scheduled to be substantially completed by the summer of 2026. In addition,

- Public Safety Regional Training Center Construction to begin by December 2025
- New Maintenance and Operations Warehouse Construction to begin by December 2025

State and Federal Updates: As we start the new year with thousands of students on campus, please remember: if immigration officials come on campus, do not intervene. Direct them to the President's Office, where we will work with the appropriate officials.

Attached is AP 3415, along with "<u>Know Your Rights</u>" information, which the red cards are available throughout campus for students. We will continue to monitor immigration enforcement in our region and remain in communication with local and federal agencies.

Final Thoughts & Acknowledgements

As we kick off the new year, let's warmly welcome our students. Many are nervous, uncertain, or experiencing self-doubt. Our students have choices, and they choose IVC. Let's continue to show them our IVC Culture of Care from day one.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Lupita Castro on completing her Doctorate degree!

Here's to a new year full of possibilities, because at IVC, the mission is possible.

Warm regards, Lennor M. Johnson, Ed.D. Superintendent/President