

CITRUS *view*

LATEST NEWS FROM CITRUS COLLEGE



Honors students shine at statewide conference

Several Citrus College students joined scholars from across California to present research at UC Riverside during the Honors Transfer Council of California's (HTCC) annual conference.

A consortium of more than 50 community college honors programs, HTCC provides academic engagement, enriched learning environments and research opportunities to students throughout the state. Its annual conference gives honors students the opportunity to present research-based presentations, posters and creative performances across disciplines, including the humanities, sciences and social sciences, among others.

Students Kamryn Berry, Izabella Contreras and Audrey Romo presented research posters, while Alexander Boshara, Nicholas Mandala, Ben Parker, Audrey Romo and Celia Sandoval presented research papers during the event. Eight additional students served as moderators, and several faculty, staff and administrators attended in support.

"Events like this highlight the strength of our honors transfer program and the dedication of students who are eager to learn, explore and present their work on a larger stage," said Dr. Jennifer Miller-Thayer, honors transfer program faculty coordinator.

"These experiences provide meaningful opportunities for students to grow as scholars and prepare for future academic and professional success."

In addition to research presentations, students Yingqi Wan and Henoch Perez received Exemplary Achievement Scholarships. These awards are open to all immediate transferring students within an honors/scholars program and are designed to recognize outstanding growth and academic success.



Celebrating Pride and community

Throughout April, Citrus College observed Campus Pride Month with a range of events and activities that highlighted LGBTQIA+ voices, promoted community connection and fostered a sense of belonging.

The month opened with a Queer-Trans Picnic, which provided a welcoming space for students and employees to gather. Additional activities included a screening of "Come See Me in the Good Light," a presentation of LGBTQIA+ focus group findings and interactive activities, such as Plant and Paint with an iced coffee bar.

The month concluded with Thrive Fest, which was hosted by the Citrus College Black Scholars program and the Pride Center and centered on self-care, wellness, creative expression and community connection.

Attendance was strong, with students, faculty and staff coming together to participate in compelling conversations, creative activities and shared learning experiences.



Congratulations to our newly tenured faculty!



On May 6, the Citrus College community gathered in Hayden Hall to celebrate the newest group of tenured faculty. The honorees included:

- **Spencer Boldt**
- **Jessica Brown**
- **Robert Chen**
- **Alexis Dea**
- **Anthony Giammalva, Ed.D.**
- **David Godoy**
- **Darren Hall**
- **Al Laicans**
- **Gil Marquez**
- **Nicole Povero**
- **Tommy Reyes**
- **Angelique Scheuermann, Ph.D.**

On behalf of the campus community, thank you all for the incredible work you do each day to advance student success!



Fighting Owls unveil new athletic branding, logo

Just a few months after a collegewide rebrand, Citrus College Athletics has completed a similar project that includes a fresh and modern look for the Fighting Owls.

In collaboration with the college's office of strategic communications, marketing and public affairs, the athletics program has unveiled an updated identity that features three primary components: A new Fighting Owls logo, new wordmark variations and a reimagined "C" mark that will appear on athletic apparel and gear.

"I want to thank our campus community for helping shape a bold, vibrant and timeless athletics brand," said Junior Domingo, dean of kinesiology, health and athletics. "We're excited to feature the new logo on our uniforms, facilities and

marketing materials, and we believe it will play a key role in raising the visibility of our programs throughout the San Gabriel Valley and the state."

The rebranding process kicked off in summer 2025 with the idea of revitalizing the Fighting Owl logo that had represented Citrus College sports for more than 40 years. After several months and with input from valued stakeholders, including student-athletes, the new branding was unveiled in spring 2026.

The college is currently in the middle of creating an athletics style guide that will soon be made publicly available. The www.citrusowls.com website will also undergo a redesign to align with the college's updated branding standards. More information will be shared soon!

Academic achievement of scholar-athletes celebrated



For nearly 20 years, Citrus College has participated in the Scholar Ballers initiative, which recognizes student-athletes who achieve academic success.

A national program that seeks to bridge the gap between education and sports, Scholar Ballers was first introduced on campus during the 2007-2008 school year. To qualify, a student-athlete must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

This year, 148 student-athletes were honored during the annual Citrus College Scholar Ballers celebration on April 9.

The commemoration took place before a home softball game against Bakersfield College. After a congratulatory lunch, student-athletes were called onto the field where they were applauded by members of the campus community.

2026 Scholar Ballers

BASEBALL

Lance Nicholas Armijo
Gabriel Pongsiri Buranasiri
Cameron Casado
Jordan A. Daniels
Christian Joseph Eaton
Evan Phoenix Ellis
Joseph Robert Gilkeson
Ryan William Harrison
Julian Daniel Hines
Timothy Kent Hudson
Matthew Min Xiang Kaneshiro
Beau Roman James Lloyd
Conner James Luetto
Matthew Paul Martinez
Aydan Streit Maxson
Michael George Moses
Garrett Lowry Patterson
Marcus Anthony Reese
Koyo Taniguchi
Dominic Angelo Torrez
Jacob Louis Vasquez
Cole Benjamin West
Gage Ryan Wiese
Elthon Dustin Yela
Sean York

FOOTBALL

Dylan Austin
Neil Ambrosio
Joshua Edward Baker
Maddox Quetzal Barrios
Cameron Bateman
Amare Bradley
Deanthony Caldwell
Matthew J. Casey
Keyonn Chatman
Jacoah Stephen Chennault
Jarrel Tyrone Comer
Jacob Allan Cox
Jake Garrett Denerson
Kareem Mehdi Esmili
Carlos Maximus Espinosa
Jaiden Forte
Ismail Derin Ganley
Alex Ryan Hernandez
Armon Deshon Hornsby
Dylan Micheal Howard
Durand Maurice Johnson
Kansas Kealoha
Curlee Kirkpatrick
Christian Alexander Leib
Kohki Mimura

James Alexander Mustain
Brian Salazar
Johnpaul Richard Sandiford
Lorenza Simmons
Andrew Maddox Tapley
Daniel Tarabey
Keon Payton Taylor
Jalen Allen Thompson
Thomas White
Grant Russell Yary
Elijah Nathaniel Ybanez

MEN'S AQUATICS

Sian-Caan Caceres
Noah Ethan Guzman
Benjamin Miguel Johnston-Herrera
Jason Andrew Nonis
Liam Christopher Ross
Morrison Alvaro Villa

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Grayson Boustead
Devin Jaden Hamilton
Aaron Jaden Holley
Nathan Warren Kwon
Amiri Meadows
Brady Michael Orr

Rockwell Thomas Reynolds
Leo William Ricketts
Ian Thomas Salmon
Aleksander Javier Sanchez
Jaret Javier Sanchez
Mikal Sims
Dylan Victorio
Jake Morris Winkelman

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Juan Emmanuel Esteva
David Evangelista
Jacob Matthew Flores
Eduardo Frausto
Noah Fidens Rodriguez

MEN'S GOLF

Javier Vincent Pacia Alvarado
Matthew Brandon Carbajal
Andrew Michael Gahshan
Thomas Joseph Holstrom
William Thomas Middleton
Cameron Riley Vollaro

MEN'S SOCCER

Richard Junior Chanelo
Emiliano Del Rio
Bruno Flores
Alejandro Garcia
Justin Ulices Lopez
Alan Ivan Morales Perez
Nicholas Ray Murphy

SOFTBALL

Camila Celeste Abundis
Brisa Aurora Ayon
Anaya Marie Burley
Natalie Juliette Carmona
Jaelynn Marie Eaves
Mia Cianni Godoy
Samantha Analisa Juarez
Alivia Ann Martinez
Miranda Paige McKiernan
Izabella Cameron Josie Poveda
Mia Annette Reese
Isabel Lois Tyrrell
Brooke Autumn Whiteman

VOLLEYBALL

Alexia Isabella Avalos
Hannah Jae Collins
Emma Danielle Cristales
Emily Elizabeth Desmarests
Justine Jennavie Gonzales
Jennylyn Valmonte Gozun
Paige Eilizabeth Hughes
Sophia Rinaldelli Martinez
Shaylen Michele Marlene Mcfoy
Savannah Reese Mendoza
Kaiah Wilson

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Jhavmine Riane Ave
Natalie Audrey Estrada
Cassandra Fortuna
Brianna Nicole Gomez
Setsianna Joe Kraynak
Maileeh Chrystyne Suasti
Paisley Prudence Woo

WOMEN'S AQUATICS

Alyssa Isabella Ojeda
Natalie Naranjo

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Berenice Godinez
Talia Marin Saldana
Lusha De
Chloe Louise Kouyoumdjian
Nicole Chavez Lowenstein

WOMEN'S GOLF

Jiayin Shen
Dongmei Tan

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Breanna Imogen Barragan Ochoa
Aurora Rose Contreras
Jasmine Noemi Flores
Alexia Gisselle Leon
Aubrianna Alexis Mejia
Andrea Elizabeth Meza
Liliana Grace Miramontes Comer
Kalyn Therese Ohara
Bridget Maureen Ward
Ariana Caitlin Welsh



Athletics celebrates third *Hall of Fame* class



On April 10, dozens of campus community members gathered in the Campus Center to welcome four individuals and one team into the Citrus College Athletics Hall of Fame.

Pat Burke, Men's Golf

Burke was one of the most accomplished golfers in Citrus College history. In 1984, he was named the program's MVP after leading the team to first place in conference and five tournament wins. After Citrus College, Burke transferred to Cal State Dominguez Hills, where he earned second-team All-American honors in 1985. He was the second golfer in that team's history to earn such honors. After graduating, Burke turned pro and began competing on the PGA Tour, which included appearances at the PGA Championship, U.S. Open and the Open Championship. In 1994, he won both the Optus Players Championship and the Victorian PGA Championship while competing on the PGA Tour of Australasia. Burke passed away in 2024. His wife Jody and daughter Jaime accepted the award on his behalf.



Athletics celebrates third Hall of Fame class



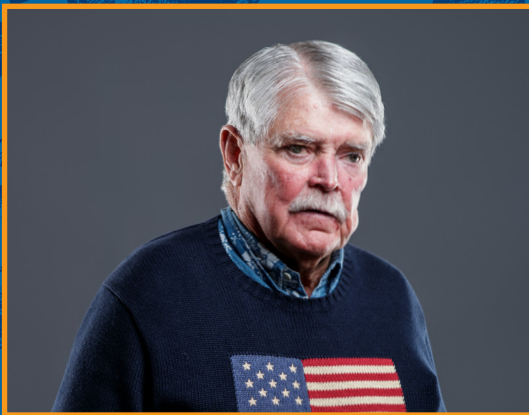
Jim Eppard, Baseball

Eppard played on the 1979 and 1980 Citrus College baseball teams that won the Mission Conference Championship.

During his sophomore season at Citrus College, Eppard earned Mission Conference Player of the Year and All-American honors.

After graduating from Citrus College, Eppard transferred to UC Berkeley, where he played one season as a first baseman/left fielder.

In 1982, the Oakland Athletics drafted Eppard in the 13th round of the MLB amateur draft. Eppard made his professional debut in 1987 for the California Angels. During the 2012 and 2013 seasons, Eppard served as the hitting coach for the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.



Vince O'Boyle, Cross Country/Track (Coach)

O'Boyle coached the Citrus College cross country and track teams from 1970 to 1981.

During his remarkable tenure, O'Boyle led the cross country team to a state championship in 1981. Prior to the championship, O'Boyle earned California Community College Cross Country Coach of the Year honors.

While also coaching track and field at Citrus College, O'Boyle led the team to three conference championships.

After leaving Citrus College in the early 1980s, O'Boyle spent more than three decades coaching men's and women's cross country at UC Irvine. In addition to winning a combined 15 Big West Conference titles, O'Boyle was named Big West Conference Coach of the Year 20 times.



Delyse Shamhart, Women's Water Polo

Shamhart competed on the college's women's water polo team during the 1996 and 1997 seasons. After being named to the All-Conference Second Team in her freshman season, Shamhart led the Owls to a Western State Conference title in 1997, where she earned First Team All-Conference and Conference MVP honors.

After graduating from Citrus College, Shamhart transferred to Cal State San Bernardino, where she set the program record for single-season steals (129) in 2000.



1981 Men's Cross Country Team

In 1981, the men's cross country team capped off a perfect 9-0 season with a state championship at Woodward Park in Fresno. Led by Mike Carlton, who won the 4-mile race, the team included Mark Ruelas, Fernando Valesquez, Frank Selvaggio, Ron Johnson, Brian Kleinsasser and Juan Torre.

College launches enhanced safety app

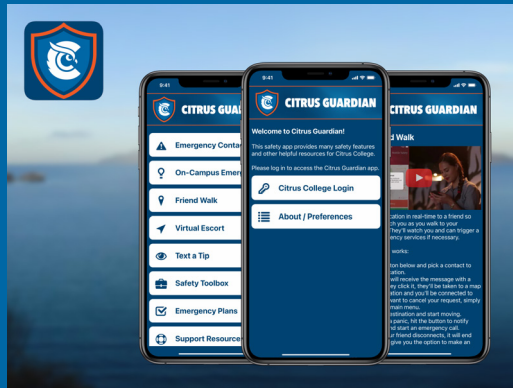
On April 1, Citrus College launched a new and improved version of its Citrus Guardian mobile app.

The refreshed app featured a completely redesigned and more user-friendly interface.

Designed to give students, faculty and staff on-demand access to safety services, the app is available as a free download via the App Store and Google Play – simply search for “Citrus Guardian.”

The app features many important services, from Emergency Contacts and Friend Walk to Virtual Escort and Text a Tip.

With Emergency Services, users can call 911 or campus safety with the click of a button. The Friend Walk feature allows users to send their locations to a



friend or family member so they can follow along and ensure the user gets to their destination.

Virtual Escort operates similarly to Friend Walk. With this feature, users can let campus safety know where they are going and have them follow along on the app. If a user requires assistance, they can immediately notify campus safety.

Looking to discretely report information? Text a Tip allows users to chat with campus safety in real-time, which can be helpful when timeliness and anonymity are important.

The app also includes emergency plans that can be helpful in the event of an emergency incident, lockdown or natural disaster. By getting familiar with the app and its features, campus community members will be better equipped to respond during a crisis.

College honored by state for dual enrollment partnership



Citrus College, in partnership with Azusa High School, was recently recognized by the California Department of Education as a 2025-2026 California Exemplary Dual Enrollment Award recipient.

In March, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond announced that 32 California schools received the prestigious honor. Each school was selected after demonstrating collaborative relationships between the high school, college, families and community members, as well as providing evidence of equity and outcome data.

Marivel Ortiz-Sanchez, director of dual enrollment, said the partnership with Azusa High School is a special one. Currently, Azusa High School students can work toward obtaining an associate degree in sociology, completing the Cal-GETC pathway or taking entry-level courses in business and STEM fields, such as computer science, engineering and information technology.

“What truly makes this partnership unique is the

strong, aligned support from both the college and the high school at all levels, including site and district leadership,” Ortiz-Sanchez said. “We maintain ongoing communication with our district partners to explore new opportunities and identify the resources needed to best support students.”

Additionally, the partnership prioritizes student engagement by bringing high school students to Citrus College to obtain their student photo IDs, participate in a campus tour and build familiarity with the campus.

Ortiz-Sanchez said the college is working with the Azusa Unified School District to explore new pathways and opportunities that align with student interests and regional workforce needs, while also strengthening and expanding the pathways already in place.

“There is much more ahead, and we are excited about the continued growth of this partnership, along with the opportunities we are building in collaboration with our other district partners,” Ortiz-Sanchez said.

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