Message from the Director:

Hello Everyone,

Fall is in the air and we have successfully weathered the fall disbursement storm and quite well I might add. Everyone in the Financial Aid Department is responsible for making this happen and they are to be commended for their dedication and hard work in getting the job done as a team. Greg, our Associate Director, has been working very hard to get informational materials developed and printed, keep the information on the web updated and have monitors installed in the SS1 atrium, that will provide students with up-to-the-minute information about financial aid, registration and other pertinent information that will help to decrease the long lines that make students uncomfortable and hopefully eliminate them altogether in the future.

The Financial Aid Specialists are cross-training and attending conferences and workshops to expand their knowledge among all financial aid programs. Many programs dedicated to specific specialists are now being shared by all specialists in an effort to not only expand their skills and knowledge but to provide exceptional student services in having the ability to assist students in all programs, even in the absence of any staff members. I appreciate staff dedication, courtesy, and generosity in sharing their skills, knowledge and talents with each other to better serve all students at VVC.

The FAFSA on the web workshop continues to be successful in helping students complete their applications so that they can be processed as quickly as possible. Thank you to everyone who provides assistance in the Career/Transfer Center and to Martha and Sylvia who have become very skilled in helping students, which eliminates many errors and makes the FA Specialists jobs easier.

Sheree Caldwell coordinated a successful Job Fair this semester and Sheree said that it was the biggest and best ever. The turnout from business representatives was very high and many job seekers were interviewed on the spot. Sheree seemed very excited about the success of the Job Fair and how well it was attended. It just keeps getting better each year. Good job everyone! Your hard work noticed is very much appreciated, especially by the students.

Thank you.

Sharon Groom

Message from the Associate Director:

Greetings Victor Valley College students, and welcome to our inaugural issue of the VVC Financial Aid Office newsletter. Since the financial aid process can often be confusing and complex, as well as ever-changing, we saw the need for timely, concise and accurate information for VVC Financial Aid recipients. This newsletter will be published once each semester and will include important information you need to facilitate the financial aid process. We will also highlight news and changes to the financial aid policies and procedure. As you will read elsewhere in the newsletter, I am the new Associate Director of Financial Aid at Victor Valley College. I came to VVC last June from Fullerton College. I have worked in Financial Aid for almost 12 years, in a variety of roles. At VVC, I am responsible for developing our Outreach Program, which includes workshops, publications, brochures and presentations. I am pleased to highlight several of our accomplishments in this newsletter.

Our inaugural issue has many articles you may find useful. First, we have staff introductions from everyone in our office, so you can be aware of who processes your financial aid file. We also highlight some recent changes to our office, including the steps to financial aid, the Financial Aid Planners, upcoming workshops, Constitution Day celebrations and our Financial Aid Awareness event, which was catered by Hot Dog on a Stick. Finally, we highlight our students who won our Knott’s Soak City U.S.A. ticket drawing last August, as well as one of your fellow students who won a Scholarship this past summer.

On behalf of the Victor Valley College Financial Aid Office, I hope you are having an enjoyable and productive semester. To our returning students, I hope you like some of the changes you are seeing, and if you are a new student to VVC, I hope you are settling into college life. To all of you, I hope you find much of value in this inaugural issue of our newsletter. If you have comments or suggestions for future articles, workshops, or would like (or know of someone who would like) to be featured in a future edition of the newsletter, please feel free to email me at ryang@vvc.edu. I welcome your comments and suggestions.

Greg Ryan, M.A.
Outreach Corner

By Dee Snead

Each week, the Financial Aid Office conducts on and off campus Outreach and Inreach presentations for current and prospective students on the FAFSA and financial aid. It is very encouraging to me to see many people I meet through the workshops come in and do their intake and take advantage of this wonderful opportunity given to them. Many students are not aware of the free money they can receive and they work hard to come to school, and sometimes sacrifice in order to do that. We regularly visit rehabilitation centers for men and women, prisons, employment centers, social services and most high schools in the Victor Valley. We also regularly speak at classrooms on campus.

If you know of a location that would like a presentation, whether it is on or off campus, please contact (or have your instructor or organization contact) my supervisor, Greg Ryan at 760-245-4271 or email at ryang@vvc.edu.

Steps to Financial Aid

By Greg Ryan, M.A.

Beginning last June, the Financial Aid Office at Victor Valley College began developing a department wide logo, slogan, and consumer publications. One of the first to be completed was a flyer called “Don’t Delay! Apply today!” which broke down the financial aid process into four steps. Be advised that when you complete the FAFSA application you have only initiated the process, you have not completed it. In order to receive your financial aid disbursement, you must complete your financial aid file each academic year. You apply for financial aid in the preceding spring semester, for the following Fall, Winter, and Spring. The steps to complete your financial aid file are as follows:

1. Complete the FAFSA application on line at www.fafsa.ed.gov or by mailing directly to the Department of Education. Be sure to list Victor Valley College. Our school code is 001335. If you do not list our school code, we will not receive your information and you will need to correct this before processing can continue.

2. Providing you listed Victor Valley College on your application, you will receive a postcard in the mail from the Victor Valley College Financial Aid Office. The postcard will direct you to a website to print out some additional application forms. If you do not have a computer at home, remember you can always use the career center computer lab and printers.

3. Complete the supporting paperwork, and return to the Financial Aid Office. You may also need to bring additional documentation, based on the postcard, such as tax returns, proof of citizenship; etc.

4. Once you complete step 3, your file is processed and packaged and you will receive your award letter within 30-45 days of submission. Your award letter will indicate what funds you are eligible for and will indicate your pending disbursement date of when you can expect to receive your disbursement check.

All students should remember that the entire application process from beginning to end can take as long as two months. Since most students need funds at the start of the semester, and because some financial aid is limited and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, it is advisable to apply as soon as possible in the spring for the upcoming fall semester.

New Email Address for Department

Late this summer, the Financial Aid Office launched a new email address for students who have general inquiries and concerns. The email address is FinancialAid@vvc.edu.

Feel free to drop us an email and let us know how we can assist you. Or feel free to send your comments on some of the changes taking place as well. We look forward to hearing from you!
Sharon has been the Director of Financial Aid since January, however, she has worked in the Financial Aid Office for 8 years in a variety of positions, most recently as Associate Director. As Director, Sharon is responsible for the day-to-day management of the office and supervision of 15 staff members. Prior to coming to VVC, Sharon worked in city government for 14 years at the City of Barstow in the Accounting and Business License Division. Sharon earned her BS degree from California Baptist University in 1998, as well as a Certificate in Governmental Accounting from University of California, Riverside, Extension. Sharon has two sons, Brian, who is in Law Enforcement, and Trent, who works for a Real Estate firm and owns his own company. She is also a proud grandparent, having three grandchildren: Tyler, McKenna, and Tristan. When not working, Sharon enjoys taking in a good movie, shopping, reading, working on her home and traveling. Sharon wants everyone to know that it is never too late to continue higher education and pursue a degree, having earned her Bachelor’s degree in her 40’s. Sharon was the first in her family to attend college and graduate. One of the things Sharon is most proud of in her life is that she served as a role model to her sister, who has since graduated from Cal Baptists. Sharon said: “The best advice I can give is to apply early so that you can possibly be eligible for financial aid that is limited to first come, first served applicants.”

Greg Ryan, Associate Director of Financial Aid

My name is Greg Ryan and I am the Associate Director of Financial Aid at Victor Valley College. Although I have only been at Victor Valley College since June of this year, I have 12 years experience in Financial Aid most recently at Fullerton College, where I was a Financial Aid Specialist for the EOPS and CARE student population and Scholarship Coordinator for 6 1/2 years. Prior to Fullerton College I was both a Financial Aid Counselor and Loan Coordinator at Marymount College in Palos Verdes, and also worked as a Financial Aid Technician at California Institute of the Arts. At Victor Valley College, I am responsible (along with the Director) for general day-to-day management of the Financial Aid Office, and more specifically for the BFAP Augmentation, which is used for Student Outreach. This newsletter is one of the many examples you will see. When not working in Financial Aid, my interests lie in the arts, specifically music and movies. I completed by BFA in Music Technology and Critical Studies from California Institute of the Arts and received my MA from the University of Liverpool in the United Kingdom. Living in England was a great opportunity and experience for me. I also love amusement and theme parks and traveling. I regularly take vacations searching for the tallest and fastest roller coasters! I look forward to meeting you and working with you to assist you to reach your personal, academic and career goals.

Diane Chapman, Financial Aid Specialist

Alphabet: Last Names PS-SO

Diane began working in the Financial Aid Office at VVC in 1996. In addition to her Specialist duties, processing students with last names PS-SO, Diane also administers the FFELP and Direct Stafford and PLUS Loan Programs. Outside of work, Diane enjoys spending time with her children and grandchildren, especially at Disneyland, where she is an annual pass holder. Through the years, Diane has worked with many financial aid programs, including the Veteran’s Program and Work-Study. Diane’s message to students is: “Apply early, be sure to follow through and answer all requests, and don’t be afraid to ask questions. We are here to help you!”
Doug Foxworthy, Financial Aid Specialist
Alphabet: Last Names MD-PR
Doug came to VVC as a student in spring of 1997 on the G.I. Bill. In the fall of 1997, he began working under the V.A. Work-Study Program in the Financial Aid Office. Doug became a full time Financial Aid Specialist in March 2000, also administering the V.A. Program, administering G.I. Bill benefits to eligible students. He has continued to attend at VVC, earning three degrees: AS in Math Science, an AS in CIS, and an AS in Electronics and Computer Technology. A future goal for Doug is to become more involved in the technical oversight of the Financial Aid Office, to include database queries and reporting. As an adult re-entry student beginning college at age 42, Doug firmly believes it is never too late to begin or complete a college education.

Gina Janisko, Financial Aid Specialist
Alphabet Last Names: SP-Z
Gina has worked in the Financial Aid Office for almost seven years. She began as the Financial Aid secretary and became a Financial Aid Specialist 1 ½ years later. Gina earned her AS Degree in Business from VVC in July 2001. She is currently working on her BS Degree in Business from the University of La Verne. Gina is currently one of the Veteran’s Certifying Officials for the college. She enjoys her job and helping students.

Jim Murray, Financial Aid Specialist
Alphabet: Last Names FP-JA
Jim has been a Financial Aid Specialist since January 2001
Jim believes the most significant skill a Financial Aid Specialist must possess is customer service skills. The second is being on the same page as the rest of your colleagues. Third, be current in all regulations. All other parts seem to fall into place after that.

Robbie Richards, Financial Aid Specialist
Alphabet: Last Names JB-MC
Robbie began working in the Financial Aid Office as a Federal Work-Study student in January 1999. She left three years later to work in the private sector, but returned to VVC in November 2003 as a full time Office Assistant in the Financial Aid Office. She was promoted to Financial Aid Specialist in August 2004. Robbie was also a VVC student, earning her AS in December 2003 in Business Administration. She is currently working towards completion of her Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration at the University of La Verne for a June 2006 graduation. When not working or studying for school Robbie’s pastimes include bowling and sewing. She also enjoys being involved in her church and associated activities. Robbie’s goal is to one day become a Director of Financial Aid and perhaps retire as a Dean of Student Services.
Staff Introductions

Dee Snead, Financial Aid Specialist (Bilingual)
Alphabet: Last Names CAS-FO
Dee began working in Financial Aid in July 2004, having previously worked in Admissions and Records for 2 ½ years at the college. Dee is the Financial Aid Office’s primary Outreach contact and Bilingual Specialist, going out into the community conducting presentations on all aspects of Financial Aid. As part of the Board Financial Assistance Program, Dee will be conducting future Financial Aid workshops on campus, that all interested students can attend. Dee is eager to help any student seeking assistance with financial aid.

Starla Underwood, Financial Aid Specialist
Alphabet: Last Names A-CAR
Starla has been working in the Financial Aid Office since May 2000. Beginning first as a Federal Work-Study student worker, she became a full time employee of VVC in January 2002, in the Financial Aid Office. Starla is an alumni of VVC, she graduated with an AS in Business in July 2001, and a BS in Organizational Leadership from Azusa Pacific University in May 2004. She is currently back at VVC taking a few transfer courses in order to begin her MBA in the summer of 2006 from the University of La Verne. Starla enjoys helping students and feels she identifies with them, as she was a student herself, also taking advantage of many services and programs on campus such as Financial Aid, EOPS, DSPS, Student Employment, Cooperative Education, and Scholarships. In addition to her Financial Aid caseload and office responsibilities, she also handles the Scholarship Program and works together with local community donors and the Victor Valley College District Foundation, which culminates in the annual Scholarship Awards ceremony. For 2004-2005 almost $400,000 was awarded in scholarships to Victor Valley College students. Starla is also on the Board of Directors for the VVC District Foundation and is currently the Chairman of the Advisory Council for the VVC District Foundation.

Pearl Bandringa, Accounting Technician II
My name is Pearl Bandringa and I have worked in Financial Aid for over a year as an Accounting Technician II. My job duties include billing and reconciliation of the Federal and State grants, as well as the Return of Title IV (R2T4) program. I was employed with VVC 4 years earlier as a Financial Aid Specialist but left to work with underprivileged children in India and Thailand, where I also taught English as a second language. My background includes 20 plus years working with various businesses in accounting. I am currently going to school for my BS in Business Administration and would ultimately like to go for my MBA. I am a single parent, and when not working I enjoy spending time with my daughter. I am also involved in church activities in my community. If I can leave you with one message, it would be to think carefully before you withdraw from classes. Education is very important, and if you withdraw from classes you might owe the Department of Education and need to repay your disbursement, which may ultimately affect future awards. Check with our office before deciding to withdraw from classes to see how it affects you. You are never too old to go back to school and achieve your personal educational and career goals.

Lilia Sanchez, Academic Counselor (Bilingual)
Lilia began as an Academic Counselor at VVC in December 2004. Although her position is housed in the Counseling department, she is part of the BFAP staff, which means that apart from her Counseling duties, she also conducts Outreach activities, working together with Dee Snead. As part of her Outreach activities, Lilia goes out into the community to high schools, employment centers, parole centers, drug rehabilitation orientations and college fairs. Lilia attended community college at Chaffey College and earned her AA in Universal Studies in 1995. From there, she continued her education at University of California Riverside in a double major of Spanish and Sociology, earning her BA in 1998. Lilia then went on to the University of Redlands and earning her MA in Counseling/Education in 2004. Currently, she is working on the Higher Education program at the University of Redlands, to earn an emphasis in Higher Education. Prior to coming to VVC, Lilia worked at Chaffey High School for 5 ½ years as an Early Intervention Specialist, funded by Title I. As an Early Intervention Specialist, Lilia assisted high school freshman with the transition from middle school to high school. Some of the activities included: exposing students to colleges, college tours, field trips to museums and cultural activities. She also facilitated a tutoring program after school, where upper classmen provided tutoring services to lower classmen. When not working Lilia enjoys hanging out with friends and her fiancée, and is currently preparing for her wedding.
Sylvia Avila, Office Assistant (Bilingual)
Sylvia began working in the Financial Aid Office in June 2004. She is also part of the BFAP Outreach Program, conducting the financial aid workshops in the Career Center each week, and also working the front windows in the Financial Aid Office. Sylvia is currently enrolled at VVC, and is working towards an AA degree in Real Estate Appraisal. When not working, Sylvia likes watching and playing soccer. She also enjoys reading and studying for her school assignments. Sylvia likes spending time with her family, and playing with her two daughters. Sylvia’s goal is to transfer to a four-year university and complete her Bachelor’s Degree.

Barbara Davison, Office Assistant
Barbara has worked for the VVC Financial Aid Office for three years. She is the initial point of contact for most students, as Barbara works the front counter. Barbara’s objective is to make financial aid easier to understand and less intimidating. Barbara says: “Please come see me if you have any questions, and I will be glad to assist you!”

Martha Mendez, Office Assistant (Bilingual)
Martha began working for VVC in 2003, and began in Financial Aid in June 2004. Martha is part of the BFAP Outreach Program, and her primary responsibility is conducting the financial aid workshops in the Career Center each week. Martha graduated from VVC in 1997 and was ASB President, where she received both an AA in Liberal Arts and an AS in Business. She is currently attending University of La Verne, working towards her Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration. After that, she will pursue an MA in Counseling. Outside of work, Martha enjoys photography, particularly black and white photos.

Sheree Caldwell, Student Placement Specialist
Sheree is the Student Placement Specialist, and is responsible for, among other duties, placing students in jobs for the Federal Work-Study program and Student Employment. Sheree’s office is in the Career Center.

Gabriela Quesada, Career Center Specialist (Bilingual)
Gabriela began working for the VVC Financial Aid Office in November 2004, under BFAP. Gabriela’s duties include Career and Transfer, scheduling appointments with students to meet with representatives from other colleges, FAFSA on the Web workshops, and Eureka.

Pamela Penland, Administrative Secretary I
Pam began working in Financial Aid in March 2005, however she previously worked for the College since 1997 in a variety of roles. Pam has been a resident of the High Desert since 1993. When not working Pam enjoys the outdoors: trail running and raising her ‘pets’: horses, chickens, and cats. Pam is eager to increase her financial aid knowledge and looks forward to assisting you on the phone!
Knott’s Soak City U.S.A.
Ticket Winners

By Greg A. Ryan, M.A.

At our Financial Aid Awareness event, students had the opportunity to enter a drawing to win a pair of Knott’s Soak City U.S.A. Water Park tickets.

Five lucky winners each won a pair of tickets good at either the Orange County, San Diego, or Palm Springs locations.

The winners were:

Luke Mc Arthur who is a third semester student at VVC studying Paralegal and Law. Luke is not sure yet on whether he will transfer and continue his studies, but is enjoying his time at VVC.

Joseph Chiello who is in his first semester at VVC. Joseph is a returning student, having been out of school for 20 years. Joseph is studying Accounting.

Mandy Villa who is a third semester student at VVC studying Liberal Arts and Sociology. Mandy’s goal is to transfer to California State University, Santa Barbara to work on a BA in Sociology.

Kokitha Jones who is a first year student at VVC. Kokitha’s goal is to receive a Certificate in Administration of Criminal Justice from VVC.

Scott Yarbrough who is beginning VVC this fall. Scott is transferring to VVC from San Bernardino Valley College. His major is Nursing.

Congratulations to all our winners, and thanks to everyone who entered!
In walking the line outside our office during registration, one thing that struck me is that the majority of our students wait until registration to apply for financial aid and complete their financial aid file. Students arrive on campus with questions such as “How will I pay for my books?”, or “I need money to pay the rent” without thinking about the process that needs to be followed before we are able to disburse financial aid.

To assist in this, one of my first projects I undertook was to create clearly delineated steps to follow to complete the financial aid process at Victor Valley College (see opposite page.) It is important to remember that completing the FAFSA application is only the first of many steps in order to complete the process. We are unable to pay any financial aid to you until all the steps are completed.

The other thing to remember is that all of this information can be completed prior to the start of the academic year. It is also important to remember that you must reapply for financial aid each academic year. When we say ‘academic year’ we mean every fall semester, your financial aid starts over. It does not carry over. However, rather than wait until registration, when you need your money and our lines are long, why not try applying early? For example, for this fall semester that began in August, the FAFSA application was available in November 2004. Students could complete and submit the application online, or through the U.S. Mail, anytime on or after January 1st, 2005. Supplemental paperwork (what we call ‘tracking’ or ‘verification’), could be completed anytime from April-June. If you completed your paperwork in this time frame, you most likely would have reduced wait time in lines. Best of all, your financial aid file would have been completed prior to registration. You would receive your award letter and your financial aid disbursement before classes start.

Why not cut down on your stress and have one less thing to worry about next fall? Attend one of our upcoming financial aid workshops, complete your application over the holiday break, and finish your financial aid file for fall 2006 before spring 2006 classes are finished? Once you try applying early, you’ll wonder why you ever procrastinated applying for financial aid in the past.

Greg Ryan, M.A.

DON'T PROCRASTINATE!

What are you waiting for?

In walking the line outside our office during registration, one thing that struck me is that the majority of our students wait until registration to apply for financial aid and complete their financial aid file. Students arrive on campus with questions such as “How will I pay for my books?”, or “I need money to pay the rent” without thinking about the process that needs to be followed before we are able to disburse financial aid.

To assist in this, one of my first projects I undertook was to create clearly delineated steps to follow to complete the financial aid process at Victor Valley College (see opposite page.) It is important to remember that completing the FAFSA application is only the first of many steps in order to complete the process. We are unable to pay any financial aid to you until all the steps are completed.

The other thing to remember is that all of this information can be completed prior to the start of the academic year. It is also important to remember that you must reapply for financial aid each academic year. When we say ‘academic year’ we mean every fall semester, your financial aid starts over. It does not carry over. However, rather than wait until registration, when you need your money and our lines are long, why not try applying early? For example, for this fall semester that began in August, the FAFSA application was available in November 2004. Students could complete and submit the application online, or through the U.S. Mail, anytime on or after January 1st, 2005. Supplemental paperwork (what we call ‘tracking’ or ‘verification’), could be completed anytime from April-June. If you completed your paperwork in this time frame, you most likely would have reduced wait time in lines. Best of all, your financial aid file would have been completed prior to registration. You would receive your award letter and your financial aid disbursement before classes start.

Why not cut down on your stress and have one less thing to worry about next fall? Attend one of our upcoming financial aid workshops, complete your application over the holiday break, and finish your financial aid file for fall 2006 before spring 2006 classes are finished? Once you try applying early, you’ll wonder why you ever procrastinated applying for financial aid in the past.

Greg Ryan, M.A.

STUDENT PROFILE:

Alanda Whelan

By Greg Ryan, M.A.

Alanda is a student at Victor Valley College who is taking classes in woodworking. Previously, Alanda attended Cerritos College in 1967/1968 and then embarked on a career in government. In order to be closer to her mother who lives locally, Alanda relocated from the Bay Area three years ago.

Her main passion was ceramics, however, upon finding a lack of workshops in which to practice pottery and ceramics in the Victor Valley, Alanda became an adult reentry student and enrolled at Victor Valley College. Through the BOGG Fee Waiver and a work-study opportunity from Financial Aid, and needing an outlet to express her creative instincts, she began to follow her second love, woodworking. Being a Federal Work-Study student helped Alanda more than just the monetary compensation she received in that she did not have a workspace, tools, or equipment at her home to practice her craft, so she relied on the college to make use of their workspace and equipment.

Alanda recently earned her AA in Construction Technology in June 2005. She is now working towards a certificate in woodworking and possibly a certificate in Construction Technology. She also recently exhibited some of her work, an adult sized rocking horse, in the Construction Technology Department.

Keep up the great work, Alanda!
Our Old Friend

The Paper FAFSA

By Jim Murray

Last year we ordered 5600 copies of the paper FAFSA and the Dept. of Education sent them out to us, no questions asked. We used them extensively for outreach and we also have been handing them out at the counter to students to be used as a worksheet.

You may have noticed that the number of students filing the FAFSA electronically has increased dramatically. Currently the DOE prints out 23 million FAFSA’s per year and there are only 2 million paper applications actually submitted for processing.

One of the biggest problems we create for the students and our folks who hold the FAFSA workshops, is that the paper FAFSA does not follow the web application. The use of “skip logic” and other features of the web application make the order of the questions different than the paper application. So, for the past year when I have given students a paper FAFSA to use as a worksheet it has only confused them when they transcribe the information over to the web application.

Beginning in the 2006-2007 application cycle, the Department of Education is including a new Pre-Application Worksheet for students to complete instead of the paper FAFSA, if they plan on filing on-line. This will correct many of the previous issues, such as not following the format of the on line FAFSA.

The Department of Education will be sending us the worksheet for 2006-2007 to use in the upcoming year and they are going to cut the number of paper FAFSA’s they will send us. We will only get about 200 paper FAFSA’s to last the entire year. We will have to begin handing out the Pre-Application Worksheet, and use the web for filing the FAFSA and give out the paper FAFSA’s to those students who insist on filing them by mailing them.

For more information, please plan to attend one of the upcoming Financial Aid Workshops in December.
New Workshop Offerings
By Greg Ryan, M.A.

In an effort to better serve student needs, the Financial Aid Office will begin a series of new workshops. The first in the series will begin this December and will cover the FAFSA and financial aid application process for the Fall 2006 and Spring 2007 award year.

These workshops are separate from the current FAFSA workshops in that unlike the drop-in workshops in the Career Center, these new workshops will take place for a set duration of time. You should plan to attend the entire duration, so you will not miss important information.

If you had questions about the application process, changes to the application, important deadline dates, or the sources of funding available, but did not know who to ask, you will want to attend these workshops! Even if you are planning to continue your education at a four-year university next fall, you are still encouraged to attend to learn differences between applying for financial aid at Victor Valley College and other campuses.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Workshop dates for the fall semester are as follows:

December 1st, 10-11 AM
December 2nd, 2-3 PM
December 15th, 3-4 PM
December 16th, 4-5 PM

All workshops will be held in the PAC (Performing Arts Center.)
By Starla Underwood

The Victor Valley College annual scholarship awards ceremony was held on Wednesday, August 17, 2005 in the Performing Arts Center. The annual event was co-hosted by the VVC Financial Aid Department and the VVC District Foundation. The local high desert community and VVC sponsored 213 scholarships for a total of $138,654.00. There were approximately 300 participants and invited guests at the awards ceremony, to honor the scholarship recipients and sponsors. The event hosted a student orientation followed by a delightful reception for recipients, sponsors, and guests prior to the awards ceremony. The scholarship ceremony was honored to have Ms. Janice Olson, VP of the VVC District Foundation, as Master of Ceremonies. The invocation and flag salute were presented by Mrs. Diana O’Malley, President of VVC District Foundation. Dr. Patricia Spencer, Superintendent/President of Victor Valley College, offered a special appreciation tribute to honor the scholarship recipients and sponsors. Ms. Starla Underwood, VVC financial aid specialist, coordinated the scholarship orientation, reception, and ceremony for students and sponsors.

Top Left: Dr. Patricia Spencer, Superintendent/President of VVC with Robert Sewell, Director of Auxiliary Services

Center: Starla Underwood, Financial Aid Specialist, Dr. Willard Lewallen, Vice President of Student Services, and Sharon Groom, Director of Financial Aid

Clockwise from top right: Three Victor Valley student scholarship winners

Congratulations to all scholarship award winners and thank you to all scholarship sponsors!
Thursday, November 3rd ......................... 60% point for calculating refunds/repayments for Financial Aid under R2T4
Monday, November 7th .......................... Last day to drop a 16 week class and receive a “W” Grade
Friday, November 11th ......................... Veteran’s Day (No Classes/Campus Closed)
Monday, November 14th ....................... Ram Talk/Web Advisor Registration for EOPS/DSPS Students
Thursday, November 17th ..................... Ram Talk/Web Advisor Registration for Continuing Students
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday November 24th, 25th, 26th, and 27th - Thanksgiving Holiday (No Classes/Campus Closed)
Tuesday, December 6th ....................... Ram Talk/Web Advisor Registration for all other New/Returning/Transfer Students
Saturday, December 17th ..................... Fall Semester ends
Thursday, December 22nd through Monday, January 2nd - Winter Break (No Classes/Campus Closed)
Sunday, January 1st .............................. First day to file your 2006/2007 FAFSA for Fall 2006 and Spring 2007
Tuesday, January 3rd ............................ Winter Session begins

Writer/Editor:
Greg Ryan
Contributors:
Pearl Bandringa
Sharon Groom
Jim Murray
Dee Snead
Starla Underwood

Victor Valley College
Financial Aid Office
18422 Bear Valley Road
Victorville, CA 92392