



New VCCS Chancellor Dr. David Doré visits PVCC

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with the Geology
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Benjamin Marcus, staff writer

On April 6, the new chancellor of the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) Dr. David Doré visited PVCC and met with students in the Bolick Student Center between 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

PVCC was the fourth school Chancellor Doré visited after taking up the position on April 3. Doré is scheduled to visit all 23 community colleges in the VCCS before the end of the spring semester.

Students, faculty, and staff gathered in rows of seats in the Student Center with Doré standing at the front with a microphone. "One of the things that are really important to me as the chancellor of the system is that the system elevates the voices of you, students," Doré said as he opened the discussion.

The first question came from the Student Government Association Treasurer Malcolm

James, who asked about the neglected maintenance of college buildings. Doré explained that the issue James was discussing was deferred maintenance (maintenance that has to be postponed due to lack of resources) and talked more about his responsibilities as chancellor to explain how he might go about dealing with the problem. "One of my key roles is I am the advocate of this system with the general assembly, with the governor, with our partners," he said. Doré expressed his intention to assess the maintenance of all buildings in the VCCS in the near future.

Other topics of discussion included pay for teachers, mental health services, veteran students, and the increasingly diverse student body of Virginia community colleges. Throughout the discussion, Doré emphasized the importance of creating a good structure for communication in the VCCS to make sure students' voices are

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Chancellor David Doré talks with students gathered in the Bolick Student Center. Photo courtesy of Nathan DuPriest

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PVCC Community Celebrates Student Success

Makenzie McCoy, assistant editor

On April 17, students, faculty, and proud families gathered in the V. Earl Dickinson Building to attend the nineteenth-annual academic and leadership award convocation. This event is held yearly to honor PVCC students and the achievements that they have made over the school year.

Attendees were warmly welcomed during the opening introduction speech, given by PVCC's President Dr. Jean Runyon. "Students often say that their accomplishments are due to those who supported them during their journey, and our faculty and staff are among the best," said Runyon during her introduction.

Over the span of the convocation, awards and recognition were given to students, starting with academic awards, followed by student leadership awards. These announcements were followed by the recognition of scholarship recipients before announcing the PVCC Distinguished Student Award.

The distinguished student award was established in 1994 to recognize students who demonstrate leadership and engagement at the college and is the highest award that PVCC gives. The recipient of this award was the president of the Student Government Association, Hadrien Padilla, who gave a speech to show his gratitude. "As a final thank you, I'd like to shout out to my

delightful friends who have been there with me every step of the way," said Padilla after giving thanks to several students and faculty.

The academic and leadership awards convocation was closed by a short speech given by Runyon. "We wish you continued success in your educational journeys, and you'll always be a part of PVCC," said Runyon.



Hadrien Padilla
Screenshot of Awards Ceremony Recording

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Dr. Doré visits BIO 256 lab.
Photo courtesy of Nathan DuPriest

heard and of forming partnerships with local businesses to augment the student experience.

In an interview after the discussion, Doré also explained his plans to incorporate new technology into both better-serving students and the material being taught to students.

Doré finished the event by thanking students for their questions and re-expressing how important their voices are to him and the VCCS. He said, "You are the heart and soul of what we do. You are why we exist."