

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."