



Orange Coast College





Director of Marketing and Public Relations Juan Gutierrez traveled to San Antonio to retrieve the College's bounty. "This strong showing is indicative of not only the talent of our team, but also their dedication to helping the College showcase its outstanding programs and services," he says.

NCMPR annually presents Paragon Awards to recognize outstanding achievements in communication at community and technical colleges around the country. It's the only national competition of its kind to recognize excellence among marketing and PR professionals at two-year community and technical colleges, and the organization has more than 1,700 members from more than 550 colleges in the United States and Canada.

Examples of the marketing and public relations department's work can be found at www.orangecoastcollege.edu/newsstand

OCC Speech and Debate Takes 5th Overall at State Tournament

Orange Coast College's Forensics Team returned to the California Community College Forensics Association in early March, taking home five Gold medals, eight Silver medals, and seven Bronze medals - for a total medal count of 20.

Forensics tournaments contain multiple events in different types of speech categories, from acting events, to public address, and debate: unlike most teams at the state championship tournament OCC advanced to final rounds in every type of event offered. Additionally, OCC took home a Bronze Medal in Overall Sweepstakes in a year where the top five teams were only split by 30 points (the equivalent of three gold medals.)

In addition to a standout performance by students, OCC Communications Professor and Director of Forensics Sherana Polk was given the coveted Service Award for her dedication to the forensics community. The President of CCCFA delivered a speech about Professor Polk, describing her as a "super hero."

"[Sherana] has been a part of the OCC speech team coaching staff since 2008 and has been a part of five national-champion-winning teams," says Communications Professor and Director of Interpretive and Platform Events Shaw Davari. "However, her legacy is more than just victories; she has trained hundreds of students to think critically, speak passionately, and become better citizens of the world."


"The entire coaching staff of Orange Coast College is incredibly proud of all the hard work of the students," says Davari. "Additionally, the successes above would not have been possible without the support of the OCC Forensic Alumni, ASOCC, and the Communication Studies Department."

The team's next tournament will be the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament held in Reno, Nevada on April 8-14.



Four Pirate Volleyball Players Transferring to Next Level

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Their hard work in both areas is being rewarded and I'm super excited to see these guys move on to the next level."

This dynamic foursome has helped led the Pirates to a perfect 18-0 record and a state No. 1 ranking. The men's volleyball team will close out their season this week with games against Golden West on April 3 at 6 p.m. and Santiago Canyon on April 5, also at 6 p.m.



Pirate Athletics Legend Mike Thornton Inducted Into

