



FALL 2025 Flex Days, August 21 & 22, 2025

\*This two-day event will be held in person\*

### **DAY 1 - Thursday**

<u>TIME</u>		<u>LOCATION</u>
8:30 – 9:00	Meet & Greet with Morning Refreshments (Optional)	<b>PAC Lobby</b>
9:00 – 9:20	Campus Welcome <i>Dr. Matt Kronzer</i>	<b>PAC Theater</b>
9:20 – 10:00	President's Welcome <i>Dr. Torence Powell</i>	<b>PAC Theater</b>
10:00 – 11:00	Keynote Address	<b>PAC Theater</b>

#### **Napa Valley College's Superpower: Knowing Our Y.**

*Thuy Thi Nguyen*

The unexamined life is not worth living. The unexamined system is not worth perpetuating. As Napa Valley College examines itself and continuously improves, how can the college renew its mission of transforming lives and providing excellent educational and professional opportunities that are student-centered, equity-focused, and community-oriented – with the new school year and yet with an increasingly challenging political and legal landscape nationally? How can the Equitable Protection Principle provide us with the moral imperative and legal guidance to (re)discover our college's superpower to help students transform their lives by centering us in knowing (and practicing) our why?

11:10 – 12:15 Choose One Workshop:

#### **Keynote Address Q&A**

**Room 1431**

*Thuy Thi Nguyen*

This breakout session will provide attendees with the opportunity to discuss the ideas shared during the keynote address, ask questions, and extend the conversation.

#### **Making Use of Library Resources to Support NVC Students**

**Room 1760**

*Lynda Letona*

Come meet our new faculty librarian and hear about the fabulous resources the McCarthy Library provides to support instruction. Learn about a wide array of online databases, 24/7 reference chat services, LINK+ book borrowing services, Library guides, discipline tailored information literacy workshops, as well as tips for creating equitable research assignments. You will leave this workshop with a wide array of research tools and resources to share with your students.

**The Whats, Hows and Whys of Learning Assessment****Room 1436***Emery Stafford*

In this session we will cover the philosophies of student learning outcomes, data recording, and reporting systems used for Napa Valley College to conduct learning assessment. Join us for an overview of these topics, or a quick refresher before going in to your programs next assessment cycle.

**Maximizing Credit for Prior Learning****Room 1637***Marcy Demetro & Ana Clare Elizarrarás*

This session introduces the Mapping Articulated Pathways initiative and recent developments in awarding credit for prior learning (CPL). See how students can benefit from CPL and how you are instrumental in supporting that process. We'll also explore how to better understand the prior learning of our Veteran students, ensuring their experience is recognized.

**History of NVC Campus Architecture****Room 1434***Amanda Badgett*

This presentation situates NVC's architecture, from the brand new Winery Building to the first structures on campus, within the context of the college's local development and the broader assumptions that have shaped community college design since the 1960s.

**Theater for Life - Keeping the Drama on the Stage****Room 142***Jennifer King*

Engage in super fun theater activities that keep the focus on purpose and positive collaboration.

**12:15 – 1:15 All Campus Inaugural Lunch****PAC Lobby***Hosted by the President's Office*

We invite all members of the NVC community to gather and enjoy a catered lunch.

1:15 – 2:20 Choose One Workshop:

**AI Conference After-Party: AI Insights and Faculty Connections****Room 1760***Lynda Letona & Matt Kronzer*

Join us for a fun and engaging AI Conference After-Party where we bring back key takeaways from the AI Conference in San Diego! Led by your NVC Librarian and Academic Senate President, this session will dive into faculty-shared tips, ASCCC initiatives, and thought-provoking sessions like AI in Curriculum and Humanizing in the AI Era. Connect with colleagues, discuss practical applications, and explore how AI is shaping education. Don't miss this opportunity to unwind, reflect, and bring fresh ideas into your teaching.

**DSPS Student Panel Discussion****Room 1772***Tyler Downie, DSPS Counselor*

In this session, we will hear from DSPS students about their experiences at NVC. We will have the opportunity to ask questions and learn how to better support our students in the classroom.

**Affirming Students' Identities****Room 1431***Shawntel Ridgle*

This training aims to enhance your understanding and responsiveness to the diverse cultural backgrounds and experiences of your students. This training will define the term "identity affirmation" and explore ways that faculty can affirm the identities of their students. By fostering cultural competence and promoting equity, faculty will be better equipped to contribute to the academic success and personal growth of all students.

**Financial Aid & Support Programs (EOPS/NextUp/CARE/CalWORKs)****Room 1434***Mai Vo, Mary Salceda, & Maricel Rossi*

Join us for an informative workshop that breaks down the financial aid resources administered by the Financial Aid Office and services provided by the Napa Valley College EOPS, NextUp, CARE and CalWORKs programs.

**Creating the Professional Brand: Supporting Students as They Transition From the Classroom to the Workplace****Room 1436***Sherry Tennyson*

Supporting students in creating their professional brand and making the transition from the classroom into the workplace. Activities, skills, labor market info will be presented.

**Active Shooter and Behaviors of Concern Class****Room 1637***Amber Wade*

This class is to help teach you what to do if an active shooter comes onto campus. You will learn the mind set and actions to take before and during a dangerous situation to help you stay safe. You will also learn things to report to help mitigate this from happening on campus.

2:30 – 4:00 Choose One Workshop:

**Area Representatives Orientation****Room 1772***Dr. Matthew Kronzer*

Join us for the Area Representative Senate Orientation, where we will work together to build practices and set expectations for effectively serving as liaisons for your divisions. This session will focus on fostering collaboration and improving communication across divisions, with the aim of creating an environment where faculty can advocate for their peers, share ideas, and collaborate toward common goals. Whether you're new to the Senate or seeking to strengthen your role, this orientation will be an opportunity to collectively shape how we engage and contribute to the academic community. This orientation is open to officers and committee chairs as well!

**Zero Textbook Cost****Room 1760***Erin Quealy & Karen Hunter*

Meet with the OERI Liaisons to discuss methods to adopt low or no textbook cost solutions. We are here to answer questions and to help you with resources. The majority of the time will be a working session for individuals to research ZTC options in their discipline and explore what options are already available. There are computers in the room for these purposes, but feel free to bring your own so you can bookmark key resources.

**Your Rights and Responsibilities under Civil Rights Law****Room 1431***Kelly Tomlinson*

Federally and state funded institutions have an obligation to follow regulations that can affect our funding and autonomy. This training will help you as an employee at such an institution to understand your legal duties to your students and co-workers and your rights. We will discuss reporting requirements, how to report, and best practices.

**Basic Needs Center Allyship Training****Room 1436***Julie Hernandez & Mauna Minagar*

Ever wondered how to identify students in need of basic needs resources? Join our Basic Needs Allyship training during Fall Flex Days! Come learn more about resources on campus and in the community to support students plus how to embed services throughout campus. This training will include scenarios and examples for faculty and staff to share best practices and obtain resources to increase their knowledge about supporting students' basic needs.

**Emergency Training Class****Room 1637***Ken Arnold*

Emergency training is essential for all college employees because, in the event of an emergency or disaster, every second counts, and knowing the immediate actions to take can save lives. Whether it's an earthquake, fire, or an armed intruder, the first moments are critical, and delays caused by uncertainty can exacerbate the situation. Hope is not a good plan — training and preparation are the keys to protecting yourself, your colleagues, and students when an emergency or disaster strikes.

**Battle of the Brains****Room 1434***Naomi Chianese*

Flex your brains and have some fun playing trivia with your colleagues. There will be a WIDE variety of topics/categories so everyone is bound to get at least a few questions right... and there will be PRIZES for the winning team provided by the NVC Faculty Association!

**Open Lab for Mandatory Trainings****Room 1432***Michelle Bullock*

The safety of our faculty, staff and students is of utmost importance. As part of our compliance efforts, the district has contracted with Keenan SafeColleges to provide online compliance training courses for District employees. If you are new to Napa Valley College, have past due trainings, or need to complete the recently released trainings for the new school year, please consider using this space and time to complete these very important trainings. Please bring personal headphones to plug into the computer.

## DAY 2 - Friday

### TIME

### LOCATION

8:30 – 9:00 Morning Refreshments (Optional)

**Community Room**

9:00 – 10:30 Choose One Workshop:

#### **AI in Education Update and Open Lab**

**Room 1760**

*Cathy Gillis, DE Coordinator, with Christopher Farmer, DE Dean, Claudette Shatto, Business/Entrepreneurship Coordinator*

This session will open with an update on AI in education, highlighting the statewide partnership between the Chancellor's Office, Instructure, and OpenAI, and its impact on teaching and learning. Presenters will share ethical best practices for classroom use, followed by a guided open lab where attendees can apply the tools and strategies discussed.

#### **Understanding the Foster Care System**

**Room 1436**

*Julissa Delacruz, Mary Salceda, & Sherry Tennyson*

This presentation will focus on the Next Up program and provide information regarding the impact of being in the foster care system.

#### **Art, Artifact, Observation and the Creative Process**

**Room 3503**

*Rhue Bruggeman*

This hands-on workshop will explore humankind's interaction with the world around us. A dialogue about visual language, art and artifact will accompany individual and group exercises related to observation and creation.

#### **Knitting, Crocheting, Cross-stitch or any Needle and Fabric Workshop**

**Room 1431**

*Lisa Yanover*

Bring your projects with you. Get help. Give help. Or just get started. Try to bring your own supplies: knitting needles, yarn, crochet hook, etc. I will have some supplies to share. Note: Introductory knitting classes are typically two hours, so people have the option to stay until 11am if they wish.

#### **Selection Committee Training**

**Room 1434**

*Charo Albarran*

This 2-hour training provides an overview of the recruitment process and the role and responsibility of a selection committee. Employees and students who wish to serve on a selection committee must be trained before they serve on a committee. In addition, current policy requires those who have already been trained to refresh every two years in order to be compliant with the policy. The training includes a comprehensive review of federal and state laws, principles of diversity, equity, inclusivity, and accessibility (DEIA) that are the basis of our recruitment practice, and best practice tips and suggestions to help selection committees manage the successful screening, interview, and evaluation of job candidates. Note: this session is scheduled to end at 11am.

**Self-Defense Training****Room 1637***Amber Wade*

This class covers how to recognize, avoid, and react to possible dangerous situations. The class also teaches simple techniques for resisting and escaping if you can't avoid the dangerous situation.

10:40 – 11:45 Choose One Workshop:

**Faculty Evaluation Orientation for Tenured Faculty and Their Coach****Room 1637***Christa Trujillo*

This orientation is required for tenured faculty members going through their triennial evaluation in 2025-26 and their respective coaches. This orientation will address the evaluation process, the timeline, and the required documentation.

**Follett Discover****Room 1632***Mike Raymond*

New faculty adoption process that will go through the Bookstore. We will discuss procedure, oversight, and data functions. This process will replace the dated existing adoption tool to an easier interface program. All faculty, Chairs, and Deans are encouraged to attend.

**Bias Incident and Hate Crime Prevention****Room 1633***Kelly Tomlinson & Amber Wade*

The Bias Education and Response Team (BERT) is a group on campus whose mission is educate staff and students about conditions under which hate crimes and bias incidents occur in order to prevent such events. In this training we will discuss the reasons why these sorts of incidents occur, pro-active behaviors to prevent these situations, and best practices for response after commission.

**Caring Campus****Room 1636***Keira Sullivan & M'Kormik Hamilton*

Caring Campus is about clarity and communication so that our students have no doubt that their success is our top priority. We can fully engage in every student interaction. The key is recognizing the importance of these interactions and giving them the weight they deserve despite all the distractions. This session will present the goal of Caring Campus and how everyone in the Campus Community can support this initiative.

**Wine Education Center Tour****Building 3200***Molly Hodgins*

Take a walking tour of the newly constructed Wine Education Center and learn about the Viticulture Winery Technology program.

11:45 – 12:45 Campus Lunch – no host

**NVC Faculty Association Meeting (Optional)****Room 838***John Kincheloe*

The NVC Faculty Association will be meeting. Food will be provided.

**NVC Classified Union Meeting (Optional)****Classified Lounge, 1340***Jessenia Cota*

The NVC Classified Union will be meeting.

12:45 – 1:50 Choose One Workshop:

**Curriculum Committee Meeting**

**Room 1434**

*Ana Clare Elizarrarás*

Curriculum committee meeting, training and updates.

**Budget Committee Workgroup**

**Room 1630**

*James Reeves*

An introduction to budget and finance for California Community Colleges. This session will include information regarding funding sources, fund restrictions, and legal mandates. In addition, an orientation to the role and responsibilities of NVC's District Budget Committee will be discussed. Members of the Budget Committee are encouraged to attend this session.

**New Faculty: Faculty Evaluation Orientation**

**Room 1637**

*Christa Trujillo*

This session is required of all contract 1 faculty and their evaluation team coaches. Faculty will learn about the evaluation process and have an opportunity to review material and schedule dates for upcoming meetings.

**Discipline Research Open Lab**

**Room 1436**

*Dr. Kathryn Bousquet*

This session will provide attendees with dedicated time to engage in professional development and research within their specific disciplines. Come to this session with a goal in mind to work independently in a collective space with colleagues.

**River Trail Village: Highlights and Insights from Year One**

**Room 1431**

*Dr. Alejandro Guerrero & Dean Robin Darcangelo*

Join us for an engaging overview of our inaugural year at River Trail Village! This session will highlight key programming, vibrant student life, the free meal offerings, and exciting social events that have shaped our community. We'll also share our expanded marketing strategies and ongoing initiatives. Bring your questions for a Q&A session and collaborate with us during a brainstorming opportunity to generate new ideas for the future.

**Dealing with Difficult People and De-escalation**

**Room 1633**

*Amber Wade*

This class will help you recognize and deal with difficult people and give techniques and tips for de-escalating situations.

2:00 – 3:00

**Department Meetings**

Administration of Justice	1006
Anthropology	837
Biology	2030
Business & Accounting	1436
Chemistry	1434
Child and Family Studies and Education	3004
Communication Studies	1769
Counseling Faculty	835
Digital Design Graphics Technology	3902
Earth Science, Geology, Geography, & Geographic Information System	1835
Economics/Political Science	831
Engineering	1836
English	838
English Second Language	1635
Ethnic Studies, Humanities, and Philosophy	1637
History	830
Hospitality, Culinary and Tourism Management	1430
Human Services Program / Addiction Studies Program	1339-E
Kinesiology, Athletics & Dance	603
Library	1760
Machine Tool Technology	3101
Mathematics	834
Modern Languages	1031-P
Music	147
Nursing	HEOC Library
Physics/Astronomy	1636
Psychiatric Technician	814
Psychology	836
Respiratory Care	802
Sociology	1431
Theater Arts and Film Studies	PAC Conference Room
Visual Arts	3706
Viticulture	3204A
Welding	3104

3:10 – 4:00

**Division Meetings**

Arts and Humanities, Health Occupations, Language and Developmental Studies	838
Career Education & Workforce Development	3101
Counseling Division and Learning Communities	1340
Kinesiology, Athletics, & Dance	603
Mathematics, Science and Engineering	1637
Social Sciences	1434

## **New Faculty Evaluation Orientation Attendees**

Members of the Faculty Evaluation Committee and the following faculty members must attend the orientation scheduled from 12:45 – 1:35pm on Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Deans are welcome to attend.

- Gonzalez, Paula
- Postovit, Elizabeth
- Reznikova, Tatiana
- Shah, Shaun

## **Tenured Faculty Evaluation Orientation Attendees**

The following faculty members and their coaches must attend the orientation scheduled from 10:40 – 11:45am on Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- Amato, Jessica
- Bousquet, Kathryn
- Bynum, Shawna
- Canepa, Karen
- DiFranco, Aaron
- Dunkle, Iris
- Fernandez, Diego
- Gianvecchio, Michael
- Gospodarczyk, Paul
- Howard, Stacey
- Howell, Christina
- Kling, Christy
- Lara-Medrano, Elizabeth
- Larsen, Brian
- Larsen, Karen
- Lewis, Karen
- Lohse, Sherry
- McCann, Sean
- McClendon, Jeannette
- McWilliams, Megan
- Orozco, Regina
- Stickmon, Janet
- Strommen, Gary
- Thomas, Alysia
- Trujillo, Christina

## **Thank you!**

*Thank you to the Academic Senate Professional Learning Committee, the Flex Day Advisory Committee, and the Staff Development Committee for contributing to the implementation of this Fall's Instructional Excellence Days. Napa Valley College is fortunate to have dedicated people who participate throughout the year to identify and plan campus-wide professional opportunities. This day could not happen without the support staff from multiple departments. A big shout out and thank you to the Office of Academic Affairs, Facilities, Institutional Technology, and Printing Services. We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Office of the President for hosting the campus lunch and to the Office of Academic Affairs for providing morning refreshments. Finally, a deep appreciation to our presenters and behind the scenes people who make it all happen! We are grateful for each of you.*

More information about faculty professional learning opportunities (including sabbaticals and professional development funding requests) can be found on the Academic Senate Professional Learning Committee website: <https://www.napavalley.edu/programs-and-academics/academic-affairs/academic-senate/committees/professional-learning-committee/index.html>