VIP Professional Development

2021–2022 ANNUAL REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For the first full year of programming, the Vallejo Irvine Program for Professional Development (“VIP Program”) engaged various members of the Mines community, from students to faculty and administrators. Signature events including the etiquette dinner, professional development symposium, and the intern launch helped to establish name recognition of the VIP Program throughout the Mines community while smaller workshops helped to facilitate collaboration between our team and various academic departments and industry partners.

The inaugural year was a programming success on which to build and expand. Feedback from this year’s efforts show that students and staff responded well to programming efforts and aligned to the vision behind the program. However, there is room for improvement with the VIP brand/marketing, especially as many do not see themselves as “VIP's.” Programming and marketing goals and efforts for the 2022-23 academic year will be guided by feedback received throughout this past year.

2021-22 VIP PROGRAMMING

The VIP Program offered 18 events (9 fall events, 9 spring events), which included a combination of workshops, guest speakers, and VIP signature events. Students were also given the opportunity to participate in Career Launch Academy through the Career Center.
Signature events and guest lectures were better attended than workshops because students were able to network with guest speakers afterward. Overall, students were very pleased with the types of workshops offered and really connected with guest speakers. Some interesting things we observed include:

- We saw a mix of undergraduate and graduate students in all events. Almost all graduate students attended multiple VIP events.
- We had a total of 465 unique registrants for VIP events. This total includes a mix of students and Mines faculty/staff.
- The most well-attended events (excluding signature events) included some focus on identity. The top three best-attended events include:
  - An Evening w/ Bhavna Chabra (Navigating Leadership and Imposter Syndrome as a First-Generation Student) - 27 registrants
  - Imposter Phenomenon as a Young Professional - 40 registrants
  - Embracing Your Professional Self as a BIPOC Professional - 35 registrants

### PROGRAMMING EXPENSES

**Spending Overview:**

For the 2021–2022 academic year, funding was primarily spent on signature student events (e.g. Etiquette Dinner and VIP Symposium) and on the VIP Interns. The VIP Program also helped to support Career Center programming that positively impacted the overall Mines community, such as investing in the **Career Launch Academy** platform and supporting the **WIRED! Prep with Reps** event.
This year, we garnered interest from 11 applicants interested in the VIP internship position. After interviewing with Luis and Wendy, three finalists were chosen:

- **Aileen Le ’24**  
  Quantitative Biosciences and Engineering

- **Davian Sandoval ’25**  
  Mechanical Engineering

- **Kevin Tran ’24**  
  Mechanical Engineering
PROJECTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

VIP interns had the opportunity to focus on their own professional development by attending two professional development conferences.

• GlobalMindED (June 22–24) - https://globalminded.org/annual-conference/2022-conference/
  • Interns were asked to research 2-3 presenters attending the conference and trying to connect with them. Career Center staff assisted them with developing their elevator speeches and helping them with their resumes.
  • Interns were tasked with identifying possible speakers for next year’s programming, particularly for the VIP Professional Development Symposium.
  • Interns presented on their experiences at the conference and takeaways they got from the sessions they attended.

• NACE Annual Conference (June 28-29) - https://www.naceweb.org/conferenceexpo/schedule.htm#virtual
  • VIP interns also trained on various platforms including Canvas, Lucidpress, and Wordpress, all of which were used in creating digital content for the VIP Program website.

• In furthering the efforts of the VIP Program, interns were tasked with completing the following projects before the end of their internships:
  • Assessing online, passive content from other sources and using these as starting points for designing online content for the VIP Program website.
  • Reviewing the VIP Program website and printed pieces and assessing efficacy of these materials.
  • Creating 2-3 additional modules to be used as part of the VIP Program’s workshop series.
  • Identifying Mines community partners that would be interested in designing VIP-specific programming.
  • Assisting with the creation and finalization of the 2022-23 VIP Program event calendar.
  • Assisting with VIP Program marketing efforts. More specifically, coming up with a marketing campaign to encourage the Mines community to see themselves as “VIP’s.” This project will be done in collaboration and guidance with Marketing and Communications.
Discussion w/ Bhavna Chabra

Imposter Phenomenon Workshop

Dream Big! W/ Fran Vallejo

BIPOC Prof. Panel w/ Ball Aerospace

Etiquette Dinner

Public Speaking Workshop

Lindsey Pollak - VIP Symposium

Students Networking w/ Ball Aerospace