San Diego State University-Imperial Valley campus transfer orientation answers student’s questions, makes them feel at home
By ROMAN FLORES, Staff Writer

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CALEXICO — Various college students filed in to Rodney Auditorium at San Diego State University-Imperial Valley campus for the annual transfer student orientation.

The event serves as a way for the students to gather pertinent information about the transition from community college to university-level education through various presentations from SDSU-IV faculty, staff and administration.

“We had around 150 students and most of them come from Imperial Valley College,” Aracely Bojorquez, chairwoman for new student transfer orientation, said. “All of the presenters were really excited. Every single one provided something that the student needed to hear that was important for their first semester here.

“What was unique about today’s event is that we had the (new) dean of this campus speaking to the public for the first time,” Bojorquez said. “He talked about how the students can interact with faculty, their early research opportunities and how easy it is to get classes here because of our small class sizes.”

The transfer students said the orientation helped to make their transition into the university go very smoothly.

“I really enjoyed all the information that they offered you,” Toni Bracamonte, Calexico resident and IVC transfer student, said. “It was pretty much on the Web site, but they give you a full rundown of it in person; it makes it a lot easier.”

Bracamonte’s aunt, Rebecca Veliz, will also be attending SDSU-IV in the fall.

“I graduated from Calexico High School in 1975,” she said. “It’s nice to be attending with my nieces and nephews. … I’m finally here,” she said.

Veliz said the intimidation she would usually feel by being associated with a big organization is non-existent for her at SDSU-IV.

“It’s really a (homey) atmosphere where you really feel comfortable,” she said. “I’m just looking forward to starting school.

“It’s been a long time getting started coming from an agricultural family,” she continued. “I never thought I would be able to accomplish the goals I set out for myself because a lot of times it’s about surviving and not...
education. Hopefully I will accomplish my educational goals.”

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