



Lamar Community College President's Report May 2022

Transform the student experience.

Antelope Night

LCC hosted another year-end celebration on Friday, May 6 - the Annual Antelope Night Recognition Event. A crowd of students and their families, along with faculty and staff came together at the City of Lamar Community Building for a night of good food, fellowship, and awards to celebrate student accomplishments. Food was catered by on-campus dining service, Sodexo. It was rewarding to see the variety and diversity of student award winners and the thoughtful recognition offered by their faculty members, academic advisors, student club advisors and others. A big thank you to Student Life and Student Government along with VP Chad DeBono for organizing this year's event.



Nurse Pinning

LCC honored graduating Nursing students in the annual Nurse Pinning ceremony Friday, May 6, a time-honored tradition among nursing programs. LCC Nursing faculty and staff were proud to host pinning of Level I (Practical Nursing candidates) and Level II (Associate degree in Nursing/Registered Nurse candidates) nursing students. A large and excited audience of family, friends, and other supportive people special to these students were in attendance.



The pinning ceremony represents a rite of passage into the profession where nurse candidates pledge themselves to a career of servant leadership to contribute to the health and wellness of their clients; the ceremony originates from the Crimean War where Florence Nightingale presented the Red Cross pin medal to her most outstanding nursing graduates. Each student was pinned by a nurse friend, family member, or faculty member before receiving their lamp. Student then walked in formal rows and stood in aisles of the bleachers to recite their pledge.

Commencement

The Wellness Center gym was overflowing with friends and family members of the 2022 graduating class as students received their certificates and degrees, Saturday, May 7, at LCC's 83rd Commencement. This was the first time LCC was back in the Wellness Center since the pandemic (2020 was virtual and 2021 was outside) and students and guests were excited to gather. Dr. Lujan saluted the "pandemic cohorts" and told the Class of 2022 they would always hold a special place in her heart because this was her last commencement before retiring.

The ceremony featured a commencement address by Professor Mittie Helm, who was selected by Student Government as this year's speaker. The National Anthem was sung by graduates Ty Piner and Katy DeWitt. Student speakers Maddie Thompson and Aliana Gutierrez gave stirring speeches to their fellow grads. LCC's traditional balloon drop ended the formal event and participants enjoyed refreshments outside in the beautiful spring weather.



Anything but a Bat

As the year came to an end Softball switched it up at practice, by bringing “anything but a bat”. The team did their best to toss and catch the softball with the items they brought. The girls got creative and brought everything they could think of including shoes, hats, bags, a wagon, a dustpan, a bug net, laundry basket, lamp shade, chair, trash can and even a street cone.



Softball Honor

Lamar Community College sophomore Lisa Begay received All-Region honors. Lisa Begay received All-Region IX Infielder. Lisa led her team with 38 RBI's on the year, 1 triple, and 22 doubles. Begay started at short stop in all 49 games and hit .348 on the year.



Baseball

The Runnin' Lopes Baseball team competed well in the first round of playoffs the weekend of May 7th, in the best 2 of 3 game series vs McCook Community College. The gentlemen ended up splitting the double header on Friday, and were forced to play Game 3 in which we pulled of the win by the score of 16-13.

Demetrio Archuleta collected four hits in five at bats, homerun in the first inning, a single in the third, double in the fifth and another homerun in the eighth inning which provided two insurance runs to finish out the game in the ninth inning. Archuleta was also voted on as Hitter of the Week within Region IX!



With the series win, LCC punched their ticket to the Region IX Empire Conference Tournament. The winner of the Western District Tournament will represent our regions in the Junior College World Series, held in Grand Junction. Lamar Community College Runnin' Lopes fell to Southeast Community College Storm Varsity 14-12 on Thursday on the final play of the game. In game two, Lopes took the win over Otero by the score of 11-7 to continue elimination play. Unfortunately, the season came to an end with a loss to Southeast. This was a season full of challenges, growth, and lessons for these young men.

Transform our own workforce experience.

Year-End All-Employee Celebration

Lamar Community College wrapped up the 2021-2022 academic year with an outdoor Grill & Chill bar-b-que for faculty and staff. The celebration honored the collective efforts from the past year including years of service and retirement awards. This day also gave everyone a little time to relax and enjoy each other's company after a busy and challenging year.



New Vice President of Academic Services and Student Services Named

Larry McLemore has accepted the position of Vice President of Academic Services and Student Services at Lamar Community College.

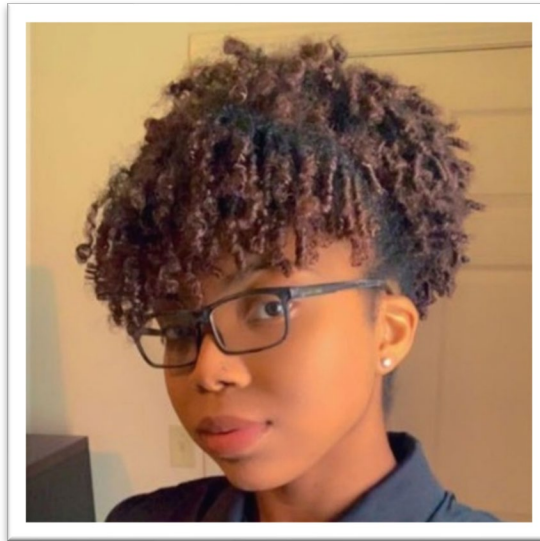


Mr. McLemore is currently Dean of Career Education at Cuyamaca College in Rancho San Diego, California. Prior to that, he held positions as Dean of Industrial Technology at Seward County Community College in Liberal, Kansas and Division Chair/ Instructor at Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland, Kansas. Mr. McLemore is a native of Western Kansas, a graduate of Colby High School and Northwest Kansas Technical School. His first career was working as a Collision Repair Technician for Springfield Motor Company. He spent the next 20 years, owning auto body shops in Lamar and Holly, Colorado. He began his career transition into the field of education by taking a faculty position with Northwest Kansas Technical College as a collision repair instructor. In doing so, he realized his entrepreneurial skills, community engagement abilities, and business knowledge provided him with a lens of organizational leadership not common in higher education.

Mr. McLemore holds an M.S and B.S in Career and Technical Education, both from Pittsburg State University, an A.A.S. and Certificate in Collision Repair, both from Northwest Kansas Technical College, a Certificate in Hybrid Automotive Education from the Auto Career Development Center, a Certificate in Appreciative Inquiry and Organizational Leadership from Ovation Net, and an International Diploma in Social Construction and Professional Practice from the Taos Institute.

New Women's Volleyball Coach

Lamar Community College is excited to announce our new Head Women's Volleyball coach, Jasmine Chambers. She has started her first year as the Lamar Community College, NJCAA Division 1, Volleyball Program's Head Coach.



Chambers is starting her second year as an Exact Sports Showcase Instructor and (site) Director for Volleyball. She travels throughout Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas and Mississippi training and helping student-athletes with building personal mentor connections, mental performance abilities, 1 on 1 personal training evaluations, and helping parents and students-athletes understand the college recruiting process. Chambers creates individual player self-assessment reports to aid players to advance into their full volleyball potential.

In addition to serving as an Exact Sports Showcase Instructor and (site) Director for Volleyball, Chambers completed her 2022 athletic season as a graduate assistant for volleyball at Midwestern State while earning her Master's degree in Sports Administration there. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Health and Physical Education from Alcorn State University, Manga Cum Laude.

Chambers competed for the Alcorn State volleyball program all four years and one year for the basketball program. A native of Fort Worth, Texas, and a graduate of Lake Country Christian School (LCCS) she was named the school's 2016-2017 Female Athlete of Year, a Two-time All-State selection in both volleyball and basketball. She earned First-Team All-District and District Most Valuable Player (MVP) in both volleyball and basketball along with All-State Academic accolades. Chambers helped led LCCS to the TAPP-3A State Championship in basketball 2016-2017 season and was the Volleyball Offensive Player of the Year of the Conference. She was MVP in both basketball and volleyball and multiple years.

For Alcorn State, Chambers currently sits 7th in the Lady Braves All-Time Assists List with 1,250 and 8th in All-Time Assists per Set. In 2019, she was named team MVP and garnered multiple records as a setter including, 9th-most assists in a single season (543), 10th-most assists per set in a single season (5.48) and racked up multiple SWAC setter of the week recognitions.

Chambers was recently awarded 2021 (AVCA) Diversity Award and named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Diversity Alumni recipient list.

Athletic Director being Inducted into Baseball Hall of Fame

Current Athletic Director, Scott Crampton, arrived on campus at Lamar in 1993 and revived a program that had experienced shortcomings for many years prior. After 25 years and over 1,000 wins later, Crampton joined exclusive company in the 2020 class of the NJCAA Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Crampton was announced as an inductee on January 30, 2020. After almost 28 pandemic months, the induction ceremony will finally be taking place on May 27 in Grand Junction, Colorado.



Crampton, who retired in 2018, accumulated a career record of 1,018-449, a winning percentage of .694. Crampton was a nine-time recipient of the NJCAA Region XI Coach of the Year honor, including a five-year consecutive stretch from 2002-07. The Runnin' Lopes set a school record for wins in 2002 after Crampton guided the program to a 59-5 record and a third-place finish at the JUCO World Series.

A member of the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) since 1990, Crampton has also served as a contributor for Coaching Digest, NMBCA, CBSCA, and as PCCA clinic speaker. Crampton currently serves on the Lamar Parks and Recreation Board and as an advisor and leader for the Lamar Community College Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Crampton, who now serves as the LCC Athletic Director post-retirement, was selected to the Colorado Dugout Hall of Fame in 2013.

A graduate of New Mexico State University, Crampton and his wife Anne-Marie have two children, Katie and Brent.

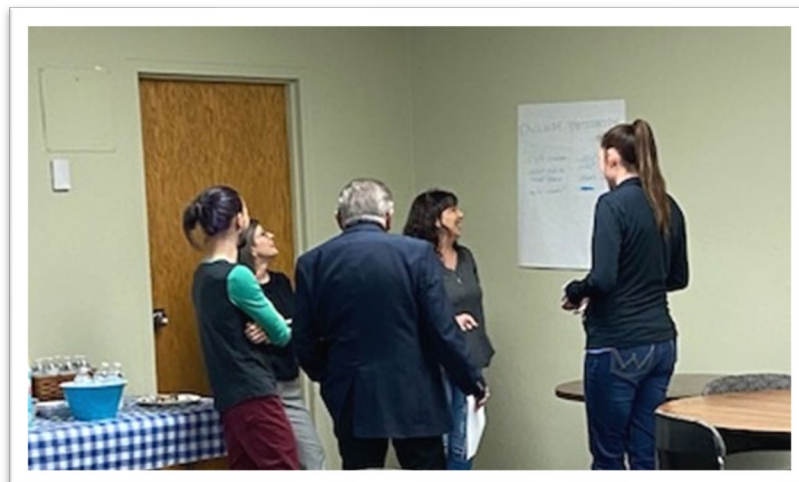
Faculty workshop on Equity-Minded Classroom Practices

“What’s your vision for grading for equity”, Dr. Lyda Fontes McCartin from the University of Northern asked LCC’s faculty as she facilitated a 2-day workshop on Equity-Minded Classroom Practices. When faculty discussed grading practices such as no zero grading, ending extra credit, and allowing retakes and redoes, she was addressing practices that motivate students, are bias resistant, and align with learning. (picture enclosed is of faculty discussing with Dr. McCartin a pro/con list of excluding grading for participation)

The workshop began with writing prompts about the impacts of COVID-19 on classroom practices and student learning. Then faculty were asked to place post-it notes under their name on a whiteboard stating their teaching strengths and areas they would like to improve and then the faculty went on a gallery walk and discovered they expressed very similar needs for improvement, such as how to engage students with content and how to improve participation and the strengths helped faculty to recognize the many attributes they bring to the classroom that they didn't at first recognize.



On the afternoon of the second day, the framework for Universal Design was introduced and the faculty engaged with the content by choosing a concept of multiple means and options for Access, Build, and Internalize and discussing the applications in classroom scenarios. They also began applying these scenarios to the project design for writing an equity-minded course revision mini grant supported by LCC's Title III Grant. Dr. McCartin stated in her welcome letter to LCC Faculty "Be ready to think about your teaching practice and be ready to consider small but powerful steps you can take to support students even more". This was truly an engaging and valuable experience for our faculty and we look forward to the impacts in the classroom.



Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.

Frontier History Encampment

The 2022 Frontier History Encampment was held at Lamar Community College. A mainstay of the college's history department for almost twenty years, the encampment is held every two years on the campus, helping bring to life a re-enactment of a century of economic and social development across the High Plains.

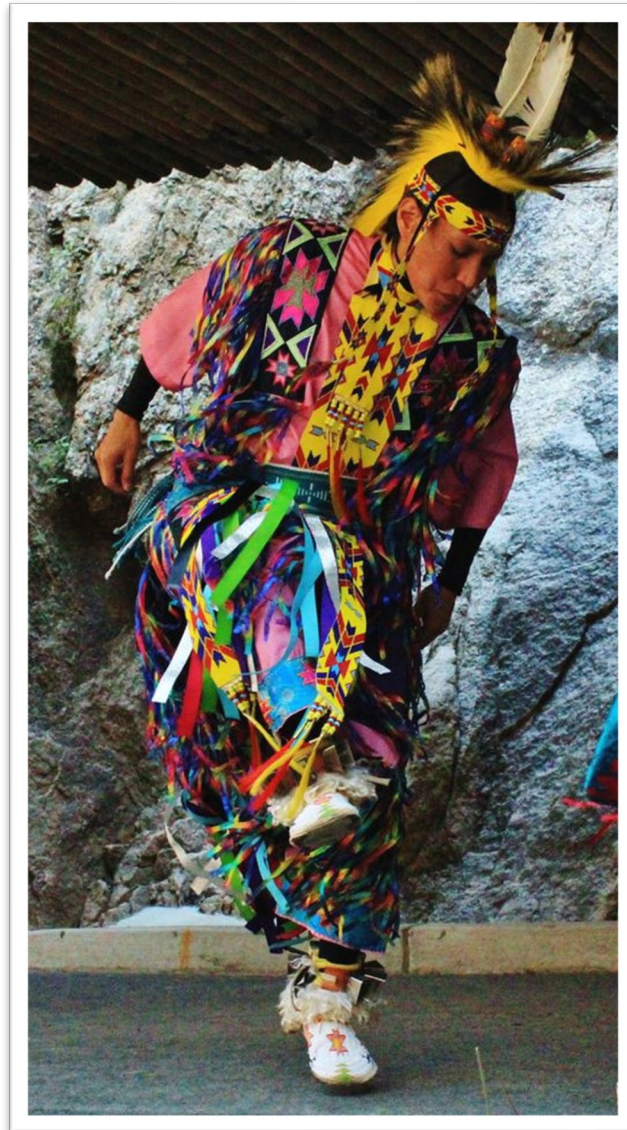


The 2022 event was made possible by a grant from Colorado Humanities, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and the NEH Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP) initiative. Additional funding has been given from New York Life Insurance, and Judy Turpin, New York Life Agent. Thank you to the Prowers Lodging Tax Tourism Panel for its support as well.

More than a dozen different displays were featured during the two-day, free event during which historians portrayed a range of people from 1820's mountain men and fur traders to Native Americans from the 1830-1840-decade, Civil War soldiers from the 1860's, general stores from that same period, chuckwagons on the trail, and 1870's Native Americans and up to the 1890's featuring Buffalo Bill Cody. Historic photos from Big Timbers Museum were on display inside the Bowman Building and a horse-drawn wagon provided rides around the campus.



A feature of this year's event was a special appearance by Seven Falls Indian Dancers at noon on Saturday.



Horse Show and Sale

The first annual Lamar Community College Legacy Horse Sale, on April 30, was a huge success. With a packed house, twenty horses were sold ranging in price from \$1,500 to \$15,000. Based on suggestions from the HTM and EBM Advisory Committee, students learned all about planning for sales events, developing marketing materials (including videos and social media along with a printed program), preparing horses for sale, vet checks, auctions, etc. before presenting each horse in front of a packed arena. Bidding was fast and furious and there were a few bittersweet moments as students saw horses they'd trained go to new owners. Attendees were very complimentary of the program, the faculty, and the students and plans are already underway for next year's sale.

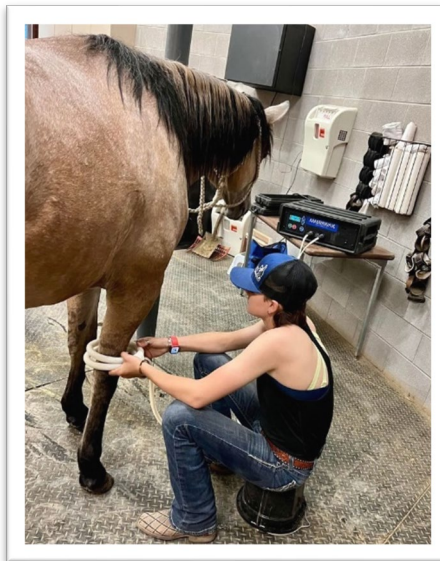


A portion of the sales go directly into the Horse Training Management and Equine Business Management auxiliary accounts and will be used for the programs. This sale was made possible by a number of sponsors throughout the community.



Equine Business Partnership with Magnawave

The Equine programs at LCC had a wonderful opportunity this year to work with MagnaWave. The MagnaWave is machine that provides magnet therapy to encourage the body to heal itself. This has beneficial effects in alleviating equine tendon and ligament injuries, sore back, sore stifles, chronic hock soreness, sore shoulders, non-union fractures, laminitis, founder, stone bruises, and non-healing wounds. Professor Savanna Mauch has worked out a partnership with MagnaWave and students are learning how to use the machine and the advantages of healing on a cellular level.



High School Rodeo Ice Cream Social

LCC took to the arena with ice cream, root beer and a group of LCC employees ready to spread the word about LCC Rodeo, the Horse Training Management, Equine Business Management, Animal Science, and Ag programs that LCC has to offer. This was a perfect opportunity not only for LCC but also for students and parents to learn

about options that are available. LCC representatives were able to answer questions about programs, admissions and financial aid.



Professional Development

Flowers for Sale

In a tradition started in 2018, flowers for graduates were available for purchase at Lamar Community College's (LCC) Nurse Pinning ceremony on May 6th and Commencement on May 7th. Dorothy Choat, LCC financial aid coordinator, was on-site for both ceremonies to coordinate the selling flowers for friends and family of graduates to purchase for their soon-to-be alumni. Flowers started at \$20.00 and proceeds from the flower sale went into a graduation scholarship which assists student who are unable or have difficulty paying the graduation fee due to financial hardship. This scholarship ensures all students can participate and walk in the commencement ceremony and celebrate their achievements while at LCC.



Redefine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.

Ultimate Cowboy Showdown Contestant is LCC Alum

Stephen Heitmann of Edison, Colorado, began breaking and riding the family's home-raised colts around age 14 and then studied horse training and management at Lamar Community College where he sharpened his knowledge and boosted his abilities. He is now putting those talents to the test.

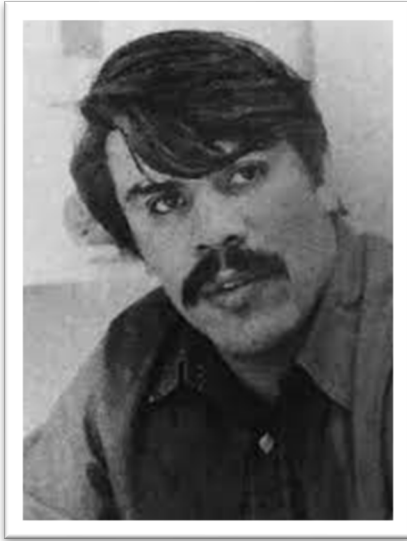
When Heitmann discovered the "[Ultimate Cowboy Showdown](#)" he quickly applied to be a contestant and was subsequently chosen from numerous applicants. Hosted by country music artist Trace Adkins, season three of the show features 14 cultivated cowboys battling it out for the grand prize: a herd of cattle, a burly belt buckle and bragging rights. Cowboys are cut from the competition until the "ultimate cowboy" is revealed.



The "Ultimate Cowboy Showdown" premiered on April 21 on the INSP network. This year the show is set in Douglas, Wyoming, where the scenery is spectacular and Mother Nature is merciless. The show's competitors are not only up against seasoned competition, but grueling challenges, harsh wind and cold temperatures.

LCC's 2022 Alumnus

Late Chicano activist and Lamar Community College (LCC) graduate Ricardo Falcon was honored as the 2022 Alumnus of the Year during commencement activities on May 6 and 7.



Falcon joined the more than 40 former Lopes, including doctors, judges, professors, entrepreneurs, and an Academy Award winner who have received the honor. Mr. Falcon was nominated by Ken Roe, a fellow graduate from the class of 1965. Falcon and Roe were also on the wrestling team together.

“Honoring Mr. Falcon’s memory means so much to everyone who knew him, including his fellow students, teammates and family. He left a larger legacy in the Chicano/Latinx community,” commented Anne-Marie Crampton, director of Institutional Advancement. “Honoring excellence in our alumni is also meaningful to our staff and faculty and inspirational to our students.”

Falcon, a lifelong Coloradan, was born on June 2, 1945, in Fort Lupton, Colorado as the second eldest of nine children. His family, much like many of the Chicano families that lived in the area, worked the sugar beet fields for low wages in deplorable working conditions. Falcon saw firsthand the toll it took on his family and others like his, as year after year, his classmates would drop out of school to begin farm labor.

He would be one of the lucky ones. With the support of his family, Falcon would graduate from Fort Lupton High School with honors in May 1963. As an excellent student and champion wrestler, Falcon was offered a scholarship to attend LCC, then known as Lamar Junior College. It was there he completed two years, graduating in 1965.

Between 1965 and 1967, he took various jobs in Denver, but felt the call to continue his education by the late 1960s. He enrolled at the University of Colorado, Boulder and earned his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with a minor in History. During this time, he helped start the United Mexican American Students Program (UMASP); its goals included recruiting Chicanos to higher education. He later served as both the program’s Tutorial Coordinator and Assistant Director. At this point in his life, he found his true reason for being: to serve and bring about change for the Chicano community. As one of the first Chicanos from Fort Lupton to make a better life for himself, he felt compelled to use it to help other Latinos. During this time, he helped form the Mexican American Correctional Helping Organization (MACHO), which was dedicated to helping those incarcerated at state prisons in Cañon

City. He worked tirelessly and undertook book drives for prisoners. He also met with prison officials to host conferences and cultural events within the walls and believed that rehabilitation was possible. He held classes for youth on the history of Mexican people where he taught about identity, history and that education is liberation. He founded the Zapatistas, a middle and high school student organization, and worked with parents and community advocates who helped to challenge the deplorable living conditions at the Fort Lupton migrant camp.

“I have seen prejudice and discrimination. I believe in equal treatment and equal justice for all,” Falcon said in 1970 as he ran for Weld County Sheriff. “Keep in mind that all men were created equal and shall be respected as human beings with dignity regardless of race, color, creed; that they have the right to determine their own lives in order to eliminate poverty, corruption, discrimination and that all men will be protected and defended under the Constitution of the United States and the Espiritu de Aztlan.”

While driving to El Paso, TX for a La Raza Unida national convention with other attendees on August 30, 1972, his life was cut short during an argument over water for the traveling party’s overheating radiator. At the young age of 27, Ricardo Falcon became a victim of racial violence. At the time of his death, he was enrolled at University of Denver Law School. Ricardo Falcon was a man of great charisma, a leader, and a defender of his people. His courage and determination opened many doors that were considered closed. Many regard him as the first martyr of the Chicano movement in Colorado.

His widow, Priscilla, and son, Ricardo Jr., continued this passion for education. Both have their doctorates. Dr. Priscilla Falcon is a professor of Mexican American Studies at the University of Northern Colorado, and Dr. Ricardo Falcon, Jr. is an anesthesiologist and the Director of Pediatric Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine.



The Falcon family was in attendance at Antelope Night, the college's student awards night, and Commencement. Dr. Ricardo Falcon, Jr. accepted the award on his family's behalf at LCC Antelope Night. In his acceptance, he thanked the college for honoring his father's memory fifty years after his death. Dr. Falcon gave a powerful acceptance speech and told the graduates to take the weekend to celebrate their achievements, and then to "be the change they want to see in the world." There were a lot of tears during his speech. It was such an honor to recognize Ricardo Falcon's legacy.