



## Lamar Community College President's Report January 2023

**Transform the student experience.**

### **Parade of Lights**

Lamar's annual Parade of Lights was held December 2, 2022. Lamar Community College Assistant Soccer Coach Karassa Prochaska along with members of the Lamar Community College Men's and Women's Soccer team walked in the parade. They handed out candy and Lamar Community College T-shirts to many of the spectators. Student-athletes Amaly Alvarez, Yoselin Escobedo and Daisy Gonzalez from the Women's soccer team are pictured waiting for the parade to start.



## January Orientation

New Student Orientation (NSO) was held Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. NSO is a one-day program that guides new students through the registration process while having fun, meeting their fellow classmates, and familiarizing themselves with the LCC environment. This year Orientation was led by Laurie Ybarra who is the new Admissions Coordinator. Although she has been in her position for a few months, Laurie has never coordinated an event such as Orientation before. Being an adult learner herself through LCC, Laurie was able to connect with the adult student demographic and channel her creativity and understanding into the event. While the Spring and Summer Orientation expos are not as large as the Fall Orientations, the Lamar Workforce Center set up a booth during the lunch intermission to provide the students with local information and opportunities.



The students had a chance to turn in an orientation evaluation that the Admissions Coordinator uses to guide the future orientations and adjust the events as needed. All attendees seemed to respond positively to the changes in the schedule and adjustments to the routine due to campus construction.

*"I liked how helpful the faculty and the students are."* - Chezne Ann Woelk

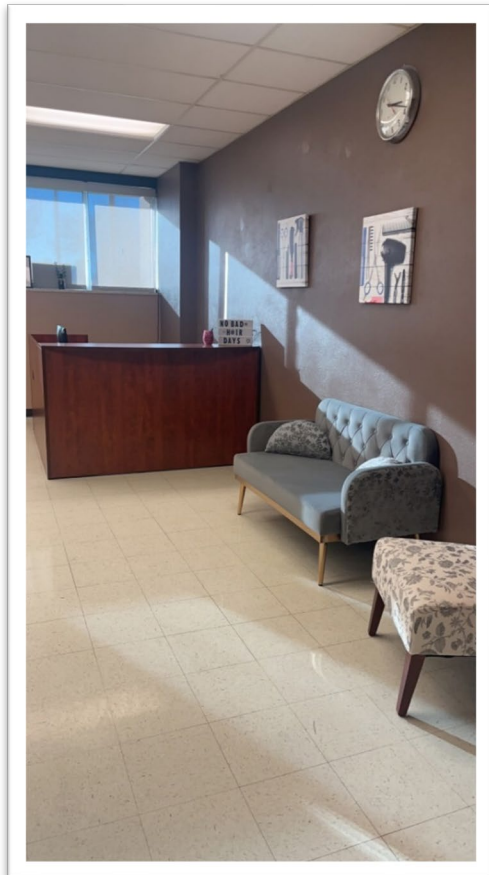
*"The staff are very giving, helpful and considerate."* - Harrison Lewis

*"Everything done today has been very helpful, I wouldn't change anything"* - Trenton Spell

*"Everything! I don't think it needs improved. It was very helpful"* - Hailey Ebright

### **New furniture in Cosmo**

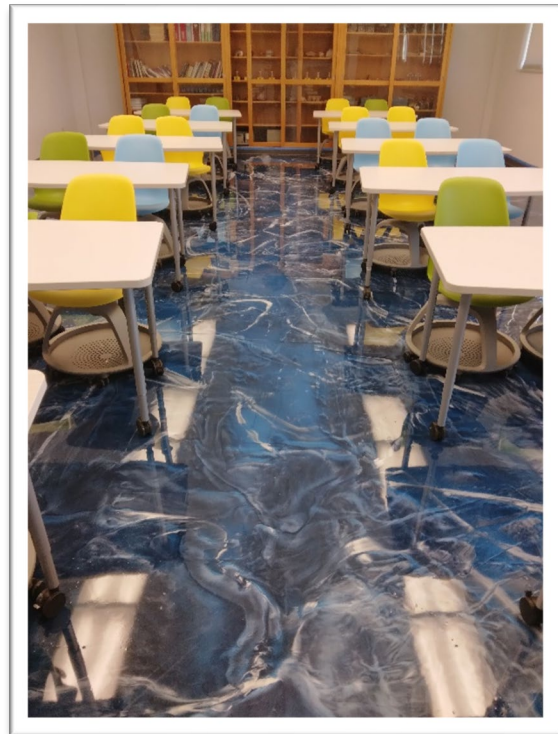
The Lamar Community College Cosmetology program received a well-deserved furniture upgrade in their reception area. All the furniture was purchased through Perkins in accordance with the department plan for the fiscal year. The stations were updated in 2018-2019 and the reception area was a makeshift after remodeling. It was Kendra King's, the CTE Cluster Department Chair and Cosmetology Instructor, goal to have everything flow and match in a professional manner so that clients can have the best experience possible when patronizing the salon. The "makeshift" area felt very doctor office-like and Kendra wanted a more relaxing environment for the clients as they enter and wait for their appointment. For Kendra, it is all about servicing the salon clients and making them feel welcome when they are in our space.





## New floors

Lamar Community College contracted LMG Construction to renovate the floors of a few classrooms in the Trustees Building. This was jointly funded by IREPO and Title III as initial construction was meant to remove old equipment and install new technology into the classrooms but due to the installation of previous equipment the floor had been damaged. Title III stepped in and came up with the solution to experiment with epoxy floor installation to fix and contain the damage caused and provide a more modern feel to the classroom to go along with the updated technology. Pictured is the before and after epoxy floor installation.



## End of Volleyball Season

While no awards were earned for the 2022 Volleyball season Coach Chambers divulged that her goal for the season had been to prepare and build up her team and players to become not only better teammates, but also better students. *"This past season was very valuable to the Lady Lopes Volleyball team. As each player grew academically, physically, and mentally. This program is hopefully for the future as we will be more experienced, poised and prepared to make a great run in the Fall. I have been working diligently to improve the caliber of talent that will represent Lamar Community College for the future. I am hopeful for the future of this program. My players and I would love your continued support as we are devoted to make a positive impact in the volleyball program here at LCC. Go Lopes!"* – Coach Jasmine Chambers



### **Final Week of Fall Semester, First Week of Spring Semester**

Everyone at LCC eagerly awaited the return of students from winter break, none were more eager than the Student Life Coordinator, Yolanda Herrera. She closed out the fall semester with some great activities and is planning for more this spring.

#### Final Exams

As fall semester was coming to a close, Student Life and the Ag and Equine Faculty offered refreshments and perks to those that were studying hard and taking their final exams. Student Life organized a hot cocoa bar to help students stay warm and keep their study game up and the Ag and Equine Faculty covered the other bases by offering Cowboy Coffee to perk the students up and prepare them for the day ahead.

#### Holiday Olympics

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 the students gathered in lobby and had to complete a series of holiday themed events such as drinking as many cups of eggnog as they could, candy cane pick up, who can wrap a gift the fastest, a cookie eating contest, and some holiday trivia. The Students showed there competitive sides and took on these challenges. After a long semester this was a welcome respite and a fun way to end their studies for the term.

#### I Have a Dream

On Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> the Spring Semester began for LCC students. In honor of MLK Jr. Student Life had his speech playing in the Todd Burch Hall lobby with snacks to enjoy throughout the day. The students would grab snacks and get some motivation from hearing the “I have a Dream speech” that civil rights activist Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was known for.

### Movie at Lamar Theatre

Student Life and the Lamar Theatre coordinated together to provide students with an opportunity to see a movie at the greatly discounted rate of \$1. This partnership within our local community has been extremely successful in bringing in business to the Theatre and for providing our students with a resource that they otherwise might not be able to afford.

### Pool Tournament

To get into the competitive spirit we are hosting a pool tournament, the winner will receive a prize of a new pool cue. The students always show a wonderful display of competition.

### Slavery/Human Trafficking Awareness Month

January is slavery and human trafficking awareness month. To show recognition we will be educating students on how to be more aware of their surroundings, what actions they can take to keep themselves safe and protected, and to expect the unexpected.



### **Equine Club goes to National Western Stockshow**

Student horses' are fed and the LCC van is parked out front of the equine complex, students from LCC's Equine Club are headed to the National Western Stock Show. There they'll experience various aspects of the agricultural industry. Students and advisors visited the new CSU SPUR and talked with staff and observed hydro culture plants in a greenhouse and food preparation along with watching a dental procedure on a dog and a spay on a cat at a viewing window being performed by the veterinarians from the Dumb Friends League. There are many educational opportunities at the CSU SPUR— including a favorite, the Temple Grandin Equine Center. After the visit here, the advisors went to the cattle yards and watched the collegiate cattle judging contest and talked about the design of the “yards” as they had been newly renovated. The students had a choice of, more time at the SPUR, watching a hunter jumper horse show, or going to the yards, as the group only had two hours until the matinee rodeo performance. The students went to the horse show and watched the hunter jumper performance. The winners of this performance in



each category were likely to of had a clean run with no knocked-down poles or less than 3 refusals. After that, the group went to the rodeo and cheered on their favorite contestant and there were several from the NFR competing at that performance that they recognized. The entertainment aspect of the rodeo, the wagons, westernairs, rangerettes, range riders, and trick riding performances were inspiring and fun to watch! The group ended the day with a quick walk through the exhibit halls and among the food trucks, then headed back to Lamar and to the barn where they'll check on their own horses before heading home.



## Transform our own workforce experience.

### Holiday Breakfast

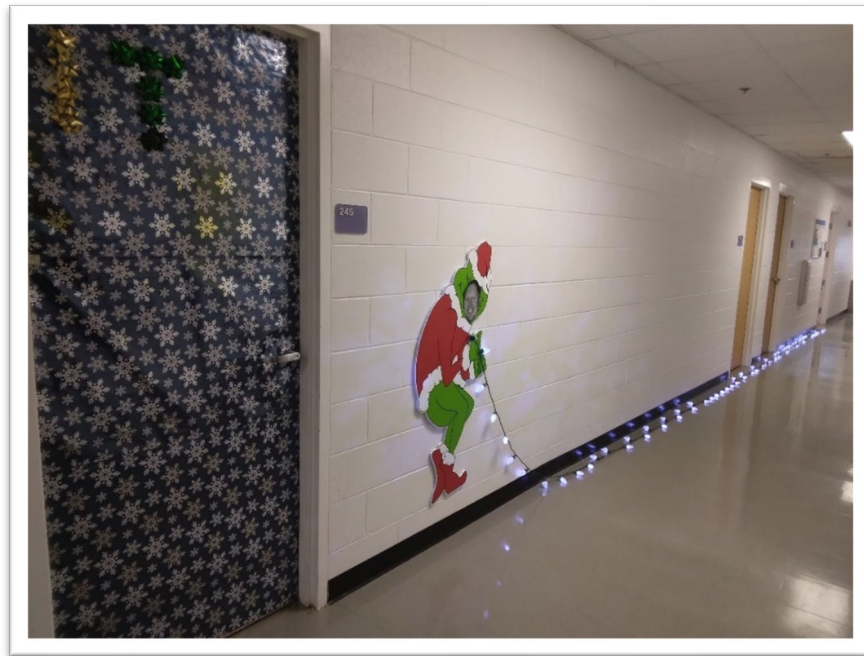
The LCC leadership team showed its appreciation for employees at the 6th annual end-of-semester holiday breakfast in December. As we approach the post-pandemic phase, campus events have returned to a more normal environment for students and staff and this year we were able to celebrate in the newly renovated Kelly Union Cafeteria, otherwise known as “The Café”. A hearty breakfast was served by President Linda Lujan, Vice President Larry McLemore, Human Resources Director Tara Silvey, and Vice President Chad DeBono (below).





## Holiday Door Decorations

As part of its holiday traditions, LCC took advantage of Thanksgiving break to decorate workspaces, not only as a fun welcome back for students, but also to show off employee creativity for the annual Holiday Door Decoration Contest. Coworkers had a fun, friendly competition to be selected as “best door” in a variety of categories. There was everything from a silly elf selfie-cut out station, to Rudolph and snowmen, and of course our favorite campus grinch. Students loved coming back to some holiday cheer and employees enjoyed a light-hearted competition to win that coveted “best door” contest.





### **All Employee Meeting**

LCC's All-Employee Meeting was January 13<sup>th</sup>. This event focused on bringing the college back to the "new normal" post pandemic, the transition to a new president - Dr. Rosana Reyes, incoming president shared a video greeting with LCC faculty and staff during the meeting.- updates on the new online education model called Colorado Online @LCC as well as the Rural College Consortium, and other updates on enrollment, budget, and the many on-going projects on campus. The week was filled with mini-meetings such as departmental budget and planning meetings and professional development. Speaking of transitions,

Title III and Academic Services invited Sean Glassberg to present "Zen & The Art of Rubric Maintenance" and "Learning Styles and Interactive Teaching Techniques" during the professional development meetings throughout the week. With the addition of new technology provided by the IREPO grant, individual training sessions were provided by IT by appointment for the best instruction on how to utilize the new tech for their class. A Navigate training was also provided to coaches and interested faculty members.

### **Service Awards**

Two very deserving employees received Years of Service Recognition during the All-Employee presentation. Service awards are given to employees that have provided LCC with excellent

service for milestone years (5, 10, 15+). This year LCC is proud to present Berna Griego and David Martinez with their awards and hope that they continue to feel fulfilled in their roles within the college. Lamar Community College believes that every position is an important position and plays a vital role in getting students from starting their education journey all the way to graduation. Berna Griego started out as a student at LCC and joined the workforce as a tutor in the tutoring lab. She quickly rose through the ranks and is the current Coordinator of Records. Berna is celebrating 15 years of employment with LCC. David Martinez also started out as a student at LCC and found his niche as an employee of the Grounds department. David is celebrating 5 years of employment this year. Lamar Community College could not be more pleased to have these two individuals as service members in our community and we look forward to many more years with them.



### **2021-2022 Employees of the Year**

LCC's 2021-2022 Employees of the Year, were selected through a competitive nomination and voting process. The past few years have been challenging as we pull through a pandemic and upheaval of our ordinary lives. These individuals have shown that through perseverance and tenacity that anything can be achieved even through the most trying of times.

#### Administrator/Professional/Technical (APT): Anne-Marie Crampton, Executive Director of the Foundation & Institutional Advancement

Anne-Marie Crampton has given her heart and soul to LCC for many years. Her passion is student and community success. Her work in every role in which she has served at LCC has maintained that focus. She doesn't expect accolades or awards. She would probably tell you her reward is watching students walk across the stage at commencement. She would also tell you she is just doing her job. Anne-Marie will probably also tell you there are others more deserving of recognition, but for the 2021-2022 Administrator of the Year award, that is simply not true. During



2021-2022 Anne-Marie's job expanded exponentially as she served as chief fundraiser, project manager, and champion for the new Main Street Student Housing project. While there were many others involved in making sure the property was ready for students in fall 2022, without Anne-Marie's tireless efforts, attention to timelines & details, and impassioned cheerleading (and more than a few weekend garage sales to clear out old motel furniture and fixtures) it simply would not have gotten done on time. No job was too menial for her, and she truly modeled servant leadership as she rallied college employees, citizens, contractors, and students to help. For all this, and more, she is deserving of this recognition.

Adjunct: Deb Elam, English Instructor

Deb goes above and beyond in her position as an adjunct here at LCC. She always puts the student first and is willing to help them beyond just their classroom hiccups. She has always been a helping hand for me in the department, even moving chairs and mats when floors are being done. LCC is fortunate to have such a great adjunct instructor who is student focused and devoted to the mission, purpose, and values of the college. She has devoted many years to LCC and its students and, in addition to her work in the classroom, Deb can often be found cheering teams on from the bleachers.

Faculty: Joe Shields, Business Faculty

I don't know how a person can really put into words what Joe brings to his position or the college. The thing I love most about Joe is that he walks to the beat of his own drum, and he paves his own way. Students love Joe, and his passion for business and leadership is easy to see. Joe's energy is contagious, and I enjoy being around him just to be in that space and banter with him. He has great ideas from program growth and improvement and is respected by his colleagues for his commitment to LCC. In addition to his work at LCC, Mr. Shields is a huge asset to the town of Eads and has served as both mayor and judge. He brings so many experiences into his classroom.

Classified: David Martinez, Groundskeeper

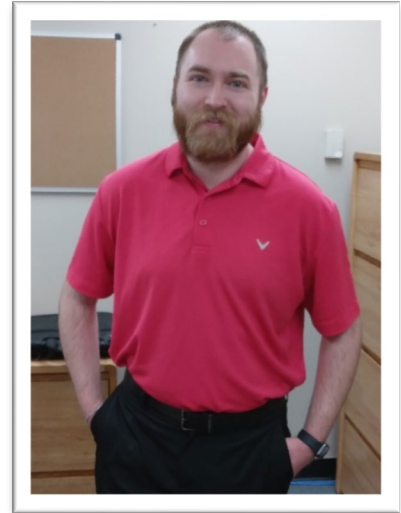
David takes great pride in his work. He is creative and goal oriented. David is easily approachable and willing to lend a hand to anyone. He is always on the move and never sits idle. No matter the location, the duty he performs, or the last-minute requests for assistance, David ALWAYS has a can-do attitude and a never-ending determination to succeed. David is a team player, he is reliable, and willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done. We are so glad David recovered from his very serious illness and returned to help beautify our campus. LCC is very fortunate to have David Martinez!



## New Employees

### Welcome Jordan Kemp

We are so excited to welcome Jordan Kemp as LCC's Financial Aid Director. Jordan is an LCC alumni and holds both his Bachelor and Master's degrees from Colorado State University. Jordan is a Granada resident along with his wife and 3 children. Jordan considers himself to be goal oriented with a strong desire to succeed and work towards outstanding results. In his previous role in Public Health/Health Administration and Emergency Management, Jordan built the overflow processing center for Prowers county from the ground up including hiring all initial staff and building the policies and procedures for the program. The activities and organizations that Jordan is involved in are: San Luis Valley Health Care Coalition Steering Committee Member in Alamosa, CO Healthcare Sector Workforce Partnership Member, and American Heart Association (AHA) Shrine Clown with the Al Kaly Shriners to name just a few.



### Welcome Brian England

LCC is ecstatic to introduce our new Campus Safety Officer, Brian England. Brian is an Arkansas Valley native, born and raised in Las Animas, Colorado. He is married with 2 children. Brian has over 25 years combined experience in Law Enforcement, Corrections, and Security. While working in Colorado Springs, Brian had training with the Army, Air Force, and Space Command in Emergency Management. He has trained in Crisis Intervention, Emergency Response, Active Harmer (shooter) situations, Hazardous Materials Decontamination, and much more. Brian has conducted and controlled full scale exercises and scenarios such as Hazardous Materials and Mass Casualty Incidents involving 100+ players in the scenario.

## Traveling Bake Sale

LCC wanted to address employees' responses to the climate survey and to be responsive to goals set out in the strategic plan for employee success. For several years LCC hosted a few events to facilitate employee engagement, togetherness, and genuine support of the employee and family, such as employee breakfasts, walking in parades together, employee jackets, etc. These activities were more formalized last year with Dr. Lujan asking HR to bring together the Employee Engagement Committee. Since that time the committee has met and hosted several additional events including the new employee bake sale. The idea behind the bake sale was to raise money to pay for the cost of events, such as renting the pool in the summer to host an employee family party, and to build togetherness with each other in the act of hosting a bake sale. The college will host four traveling employee bake sales in spring semester. The first month was hosted by Arts & Science faculty, Academic Support Staff, and Administration, encompassing about ten individuals.

The first sale was a great success! Everyone on the team participated either by bringing items or by helping with the organization of the project in the days leading up to the event. Nearly every item donated was purchased and the Employee Engagement Committee earned over \$100 by the completion of the event. The conversations around what was for sale were the most fun. The most popular bake sale item, antelope munch, brought a buzz of conversation as to who made it and what was in it and what a neat idea it was. It was said that a rendition of the antelope munch needs to return next month. We look forward to seeing how the next team organizes and runs their traveling bake sale. Student Service's and LCC MAP (My Advancement Plan) Center are the hosts for the February sale.

## **Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.**

### **New Memorial Scholarship**

Dr. Howard Hobbs was a beloved professor who taught Life Sciences for nearly thirty years at LCC. When he retired from LCC, he continued to teach science at Granada School from 2006-2013. He loved when former students - particularly those who'd gone on to graduate as nurses - would tell him how much they valued his teaching them. Accordingly, the Hobbs family has created a memorial scholarship for a worthy Southeast Colorado Nursing student. Preference will be given to Prowers County residents. While a student's cumulative GPA is an important indicator of future success, a student's need will be considered first. Qualifications for this \$1000 scholarship include being a Level I or II nursing student and a permanent resident of Baca, Bent, Cheyenne, Kiowa, or Prowers County.

### **Colorado Online @LCC**

On Wednesday January 25<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Landon Pirius will be on LCC campus to update and address questions from the LCC faculty and staff about the Rural College Consortium and transition to Colorado Online @ LCC from CCCOnline. Dr. Pirius will have a chance to tour campus and review all the LCC technology and our advancements locally and offer insights into how we can best utilize and combine the technology with the new platform.

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

### **IREPO Technology and Video Walls**

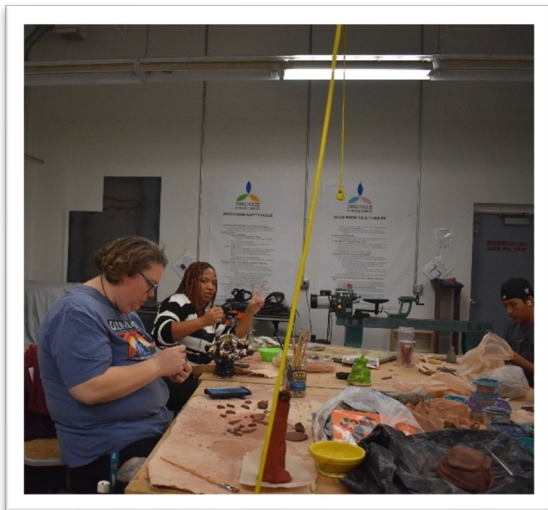
The IREPO grant was used to purchase Samsung DirectView Fine Pitch Video Walls to replace the outdated projector systems that were utilized for many years in the Bowman building large and small lecture halls. The previous projector systems were clunky and allowed cords to not only be seen but to also be in the foot path of students and instructors. The new technology is more modern and creates a clutter free space in the open staging area allowing for more demonstratable products to be viewed. These walls have a 160 degree viewing angle both vertical and horizontal and are made up of several small screens perfectly designed to connect with each other and display crisp, clean images suited for the technology of today.





### **New Classes**

Lamar Community College has opened new classes this Spring and many students have flocked to be included on the roster. A Photography mini-mester course taught by Jennifer Goodland, instructor and LCC's very own Library Director, explores the creative uses of lighting from the perspective of fine art photography with an emphasis on portraiture, three dimensional object photography, and two dimensional collage photography. This course began January 2<sup>nd</sup> and welcomed many students back from Winter Break. The Ceramics courses, taught by Donnie Hollingsworth and begins January 19<sup>th</sup> 2023, introduces traditional and contemporary forms and processes including handbuilding and throwing on the potter's wheel with an emphasis on skill, technique and form.



## Knowledge Bowl

On a very blustery December day, 11 of the possible 17 area high school knowledge bowl teams descended on Lamar Community College for the first LCC knowledge Bowl meet since the onset of the COVID pandemic. Weather conditions forced the meet to be shortened to allow for the safe return home of the competitors. The team from Lamar High School outpaced the competition and joyously hauled the travelling trophy back to LHS.

The Lamar High School team pictured with the trophy consists of Braxton Brooke, Maverick Medina, Armaan Gill, and Mason Mireles who is already a concurrent enrollment student taking classes at Lamar Community College and actively involved in several academic projects such as the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative Case Study Competition held recently at the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs.

