

Lamar Community College President's April 2024 Report

President – Dr. Rosana Reyes



TRANSFORM THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE.

Student Life

Open Mic Night

Lamar Community College recently hosted a lively open mic night, drawing students and staff members to the student lounge for an evening of entertainment and community spirit. The event can feature a diverse range of performances, from soulful acoustic guitar to energetic dance routines, showcasing the talent and creativity of the LCC community. Attendees enjoyed an intimate and supportive atmosphere, highlighting the importance of self-expression and unity in college life.

Spring Worship Night

The LCC Yahweh Today Christian Club, in collaboration with the Lamar Ministry Alliance, hosted a Spring Worship Night concert on campus that brought together students and community members for an evening of music, fellowship, and spiritual reflection.

The concert, held at the LCC Wellness Center, featured performances by local Christian artists and worship bands, as well as Dream Worship, a Pennsylvania based Christian band. The event was free to the community, welcoming people of all ages and backgrounds to join in the celebration.

Attendees were treated to a diverse range of musical styles, from contemporary Christian worship to traditional hymns, creating a vibrant and uplifting atmosphere. Between performances, there were moments of prayer and reflection, allowing participants to connect with their faith in a meaningful way.



80's Day at the LCC Salon

The Lamar Community College (LCC) salon recently took a trip back in time with an '80s-themed day that was a blast from the past for students and staff alike. The salon, known for its innovative and fun events, transformed into a nostalgic paradise, complete with '80s music, decorations, and attire.

Students and staff enthusiastically embraced the theme, dressing up in their best '80s-inspired outfits, from neon leg warmers to big hair and bold makeup. The salon was adorned with neon colors, cassette tapes, and iconic '80s memorabilia, creating a fun and lively atmosphere.

The '80s day at the LCC salon was not only a fun event but also a great opportunity for students to showcase their creativity and have some lighthearted fun. It also served as a reminder of the importance of self-care and taking time to relax and enjoy life's simple pleasures.

LCC Softball Record Breaking Year

Lamar Community College (LCC) Softball made history in the 2024 season, breaking several records, and achieving remarkable milestones. The team's outstanding performance and individual achievements have set a high standard for future seasons.

Team Records

Category	2024 Stat	Record	Previous Record Year
Walks	172	144	2018
Walks / Game	4.53	2.90	2021
Triples	23	23 (Tied)	2013, 2014
Triples / Game	0.55	0.41	2022
Runs Scored / Game	7.92	7.60	2018
Stolen Bases / Game	2.34	2.25	2021
Stolen Base Percentage	97.8%	92.3%	-



Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

Lamar Community College (LCC) is excited to announce the formation of a new student organization, the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). Comprised of student-athletes

from various sports teams, the SAAC serves as a platform for student-athletes to voice their opinions and provide feedback on matters that affect their experience both on and off the field.

The primary goal of the SAAC is to promote communication between student-athletes and the athletics administration. By fostering open dialogue, the SAAC aims to address issues related to student-athlete welfare and enhance the overall student-athlete experience at LCC.

In addition to communication, the SAAC also focuses on organizing community service efforts, promoting a positive image of student-athletes on campus, and facilitating better communication among student-athletes, coaches, and administrators.

National Intercollegiate Ranch and Stock Horse Association

The Lamar Community College (LCC) Ranch & Stock Horse team had an exhilarating and rewarding experience this week at the National Intercollegiate Ranch & Stock Horse Association (NIRSHA) competition. Competing against a diverse array of schools, our team showcased their skills, determination, and passion for the sport.

Throughout the competition, each student demonstrated a remarkable level of improvement, reflecting their dedication to honing their craft. From precision maneuvers to intricate horsemanship, our team members displayed exceptional talent and commitment to excellence.



2024 Student Excellence

The Colorado Community College System (CCCS) and Aims Community College joined forces to celebrate the achievements of more than 80 community college students at the 2024 Student

Excellence Awards. This annual event, in partnership with the Credit Union of Colorado and the State Student Advisory Council (SSAC), recognizes students for their exceptional service and scholarship across three categories. Recognized this year were:



Christiana Montanez, Inclusive Excellence Champion, has exhibited a profound commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) at LCC through the initiation and leadership of the LCC Yahweh Christian Club. By establishing this club, she has created a platform that fosters a sense of belonging and inclusivity among students of diverse backgrounds, providing a space for open dialogue, understanding, and support.

Her efforts extend beyond the club, as she has consistently advocated for initiatives within the broader community, including through her Church. Through events, discussions, and collaborations, Christiana has played a key role in breaking down barriers, challenging stereotypes, and promoting a campus culture that embraces diversity in all its forms.

Destiny Morales-Forney, Rising Star, has exhibited strong problem-solving skills and a proactive approach to addressing challenges on campus more specifically with the nursing program and its intensity. From spearheading tutoring initiatives to implementing mentorship programs for those students who are having difficulties with learning the information. Destiny has consistently sought innovative solutions to complex issues, demonstrating a genuine commitment to improving the overall student experience. She is dedicated to improving their knowledge of the subject matter.

Destiny has displayed unwavering dedication to making a positive impact on campus and beyond. Her leadership not only enhances the vibrancy of our community but also serves as a source of inspiration for future generations of student leaders. Through her actions and accomplishments, Destiny embodies the values of integrity, empathy, and resilience, making them an exemplary candidate for this prestigious recognition.





Jami Jo Quick, Rising Star and Phi Theta Kappa All Academic, is an engaged student leader. She fostered the growth of the Ag Club this year by rallying fellow students to attend club meetings and organized the club members to support the Regional FFA CDE contest hosted by LCC. She created a new design for our Ag Club shirts. Jami leads Phi Theta Kappa into new engagement with our surrounding community and service to our campus. Under her leadership the chapter achieved the prestigious designation of a 2023 REACH Chapter. This remarkable recognition is part of Phi Theta Kappa's esteemed REACH Rewards program, celebrating chapters that exhibit exceptional membership development. She is a facilitator among her peers able to connect with students from a variety of backgrounds. She is well read on issues about food production, beef production, and sustainable agriculture. Jami is a tutor for her fellow students in Chemistry, Biology, and Math in addition to lending help in agriculture classes.

TRANSFORM OUR OWN WORKFORCE EXPERIENCE

New Employees

Welcome Shelby Hawkins

My name is Shelby Hawkins and I have lived in Colorado all my life. I grew up in Elizabeth, CO with my parents and three siblings, but my mom is from Wiley, so we spent a lot of time in the Lamar area, as most of her family is here. I went to high school in Parker at Chaparral High School and graduated May 2016. After that I came down to LCC and played basketball while studying for my Associates of Science degree in exercise science. I graduated from LCC in May of 2018. I then transferred to The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs to finish up my bachelor's degree in exercise science. I graduated with that degree in December of 2020. It took a while to figure out what I wanted to do, but I am currently going back to school to pursue my master's degree in exercise science with an emphasis in human movement. I am doing that online through Concordia University Chicago and if all goes well graduation will occur after summer 2025. Ultimately, I would like to get into teaching some of the exercise science courses here at LCC, but I plan to be here for a long while hopefully in the Financial Aid Department. I am very excited to be working here at Lamar Community College and I'm excited to be working with the amazing faculty and students that are here.



Employee Excellence

The Colorado Community College System (CCCS) honored over 50 employees from 13 community colleges and the CCCS System Office at its sixth annual Commitment to Excellence Awards ceremony. The event, sponsored by Colorado PERA and the Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges, recognized employees who demonstrate dedication, teamwork, and excellence in their roles. Recognized this year were:



Laurie Ybarra, Administrator of the Year, started in uncharted waters. She has worked tirelessly to learn her role and be successful in the student admission process promoting student success from day one. Laurie has gone above and beyond working tirelessly organizing LCC presence in local parades, service to Sand and Sage rodeo and coordinating the late-night college fairs allowing for our service area to be reminded again of the Lamar Community College Vision.

Jordan Martinez, Classified Employee of the Year, takes great pride in his work and in his team. He has high expectations of himself as well as his team members. Jordan always has a smile and is easily approachable. He is willing to lend a hand to anyone at any time. He is constantly on the move maintaining several sites as well as assisting others. Jordan always has a can-do attitude and a never-ending determination to succeed. Jordan is a team player, he is reliable, and is committed to be the best in his trade. Jordan is willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done. LCC is very fortunate to have Jordan Martinez.

Rebecca "Becky" Young, Faculty of the Year. Since 1991, the faculty at Lamar Community College (LCC) has worked closely with Becky, witnessing her exceptional work ethic, dedication to teaching, empathy for students, and involvement in various responsibilities over 32 years. Becky's contributions at LCC include leadership roles, managing processes for Special

Populations, mentoring faculty, assisting with staffing issues, attending meetings, supporting students at events, and providing summer advising. As Becky concludes her final year at LCC, the collaborator expresses gratitude for her role as a workplace role model, her support during challenging times, and her consistent professionalism, respect, and problem-solving skills, which have been instrumental in LCC's success. Becky will be greatly missed in retirement.

Becky's long-standing commitment to LCC, her passion for math and science, and her active involvement in the Faculty Senate, Academic Review Committee, and representing LCC at the state level demonstrate her dedication. Her willingness to assist others, institutional knowledge, and overall contributions to the college and community make her highly deserving of recognition.

Ian Blacker, Adjunct Faculty of the Year. Mr. Blacker leads up the welcoming committee in the Bowman building the days he is on campus. Each student that comes through the doorway is greeted by Mr. Blacker. With his cheerful disposition and genuine interest in student success, Ian is perfectly placed in the classroom overseeing the busiest entrance to the Bowman building. He has a brief conversation with every student that typically expresses how wonderful the day is, how happy the student has made it to class, or how great it is to be alive. Students will perk up just simply being in Mr. Blacker's presence – even if they are still rubbing the sleep from their eyes. To top it off, those students who are lucky enough to be in Mr. Blacker's communications classes are sure to hone their skills in public speaking. We are lucky to have Ian Blacker as an adjunct faculty at LCC.

CREATE EDUCATION WITHOUT BARRIERS THROUGH TRANSFORMATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.

Breast Cancer Awareness Presentation

LCC student Christiana Montanez is the 2023-2024 recipient of the Shirley Rosengrants Memorial Scholarship, supporting Nursing Program students. Christiana recently delivered a Breast Cancer Awareness presentation in the LCC library, emphasizing the significance of early detection.

The scholarship was established by 1978 LCC graduate Kathleen Schmidtke and the Hewlett-Packard Matching Gifts Program in memory of Shirley Rosengrants, who passed away from breast cancer in 2000. Schmidtke created the scholarship to honor Shirley's memory and promote breast cancer awareness.

The \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a Prowers County student willing to present a breast cancer awareness project. Schmidtke aims to raise awareness, particularly in rural areas with limited access to medical information, to encourage early detection and intervention.

Christiana's presentation highlights the scholarship's impact and the importance of raising awareness about breast cancer. Through her work, Christiana honors Shirley's memory and educates others about this critical issue.

School Tours

Lamar Community College (LCC) recently offered a series of specialized college tours tailored to diverse age groups, from preschoolers to high school seniors. These tours provided an engaging and informative experience that catered to the unique interests and needs of each age group.

For preschoolers, the college tours focused on introducing young children to the college environment in a fun and interactive way. Activities included storytelling sessions about college life, hands-on arts and crafts activities, and tours of campus highlights such as the library or the student center.



Middle school tours were designed to provide students with a glimpse into college academics and campus life. These tours featured interactive demonstrations in science or technology labs, discussions about different college majors and career paths, and tours of campus facilities such as the gymnasium or the cafeteria.



High school senior tours were geared towards helping students make informed decisions about their future academic endeavors. Activities included informational sessions about the admissions process and financial aid opportunities, meetings with current college students and faculty, and tours of academic departments and residence halls.



In addition to these age-specific activities, all college tours at LCC emphasized the importance of higher education, personal development, and community involvement. By offering tours tailored to different age groups, LCC aimed to inspire a love for learning and exploration in students of all ages and backgrounds.

Pat Bates Scholarship

We are pleased to announce Emily Jones as the 2024 recipient of the Pat Bates Memorial Scholarship. This award honors the memory of Pat Bates, who continues to inspire Level II Nursing students at LCC.

Pat's husband, Jerry, and son, Brent, presented Emily with the award, highlighting the Bates family's unwavering support for nursing students. The scholarship is a tribute to Pat's belief in education and perseverance, serving as a reminder to never give up on one's dreams.

Congratulations to Emily as she begins her nursing career. We thank the Bates family for their support, which makes a meaningful difference in the lives of our students. Their generosity and encouragement are truly appreciated.



Mark Freeman Scholarship

Mark Freeman's connection with Lamar Community College (LCC) began in 1989 when he sent colts from Freeman Ranch to the college. His decision to engage with LCC, the Rodeo Team, and the Horse Training & Management (HTM) program was driven by his deep passion for his family ranch and its horse program.

Mark's involvement grew steadily over the years, serving on the Advisory Board for over two decades and providing valuable insights to LCC's equine programs. In recognition of his dedication, LCC is initiating the Mark Freeman Scholarship, funded through a commission from horses consigned by Freeman Ranch at the Legacy Sale.

The scholarship marks the third generation of Freeman Ranch horses at LCC, highlighting Mark's lasting impact. The announcement of the scholarship will be a surprise for Mark at the sale, honoring his significant contributions to LCC, its programs, and its students.



Presidential and Kane Scholarship Recipients

Lamar Community College (LCC) is thrilled to congratulate the recipients of the Presidential and Kane Scholarships from the LCC Foundation. These outstanding students were honored at the Boots, Bling, and Blessings event, where their hard work and dedication were celebrated by the community. The Presidential and Kane Scholarships are prestigious awards that recognize academic excellence, leadership, and community involvement. They provide financial support to deserving students, enabling them to pursue their educational goals at LCC. This year LCC was honored to present Audreauna Shahan, Amber Hines-Lanckriet, and Hailey Ebright with the Kane scholarship.



Kinesiology Tape Workshop

Lamar Community College's Equine Business Management (EBM) program received a special visit from alumna Amanda Hallock, who graduated from the Horse Training & Management (HTM) program. Amanda shared her expertise in kinesiology tape with the EBM riding class, providing valuable insights into its use in equine sports and rehabilitation.

Kinesiology tape is widely used in equine sports and rehabilitation to support muscles and joints, improve circulation, and aid in the recovery process. Amanda's demonstration not only enhanced the students' understanding of this important tool but also showcased the practical applications of their learning in real-world settings.

The EBM program appreciates Amanda's visit and her contribution to inspiring the next generation of equine professionals.



REDEFINE OUR VALUE PROPOSITION THROUGH ACCESSIBILITY, AFFORDABILITY, QUALITY, ACCOUNTABILITY, RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, AND OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE.

Remembering Melissa Smith-Zuniga

Lamar Community College (LCC) recently held a touching memorial event to honor the memory of Melissa Smith-Zuniga, a beloved member of the LCC community. Melissa, who tragically passed away late 2023, was known for her kindness, generosity, and dedication to helping



others. To commemorate her legacy of service, LCC dedicated their food pantry in her honor on April 3rd, 2024.

Following the speeches, a plaque was unveiled at the entrance of the food pantry, officially dedicating it to Melissa's memory. The pantry, now known as the Melissa Smith-Zuniga Food Pantry, serves as a lasting tribute to her commitment to helping those in need. It is a place where students facing food insecurity can access nutritious meals and essential pantry items, reflecting Melissa's belief in the importance of supporting others. The dedication of the food pantry in Melissa's name serves as a reminder of the positive impact that one person can have and inspires others to follow in her footsteps.



Horse Training Management Program New Equipment

Lamar Community College (LCC) enhances its Horse Programs with cutting-edge equipment funded by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Grant. This grant sets LCC apart, offering students hands-on training with industry-standard facilities. The new setup includes round pens, an alley, and a cutting pen, enriching the colt starting process and preparing students for successful careers in the horse industry. LCC's commitment to excellence ensures students receive the best education and resources available, making it a premier institution for aspiring professionals in the field. Join LCC and embark on your journey to leadership in the horse industry.



Boots, Bling, and Blessings

Lamar Community College (LCC) recently celebrated the success of its 6th annual Boots, Blings, and Blessings (BBB) Foundation fundraising event. This year's event, led by Rachel Evans and her dedicated planning committee, that included Tiarra Williams, Tara Silvey, Laurie Ybarra, Annissia Forney, Jaelin Parker, and Paddy England. BBB was a remarkable success, raising over \$10,000 more than previous years and exceeding the current year's goal of \$50,000.

The BBB Foundation fundraising event is a testament to the generosity and commitment of the LCC community. It demonstrates the collective effort to support students and ensure they have the resources they need to succeed. LCC extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in making this year's BBB event a resounding success.

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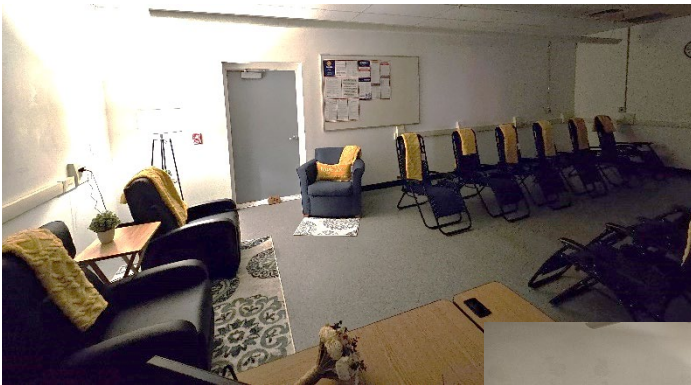


New Student Behavioral Health Relaxation and Wellness Space

Lamar Community College (LCC) has recently unveiled a new student behavioral health relaxation and wellness space, providing students with a dedicated area to unwind, de-stress, and focus on their mental well-being.

The relaxation and wellness space, located on campus, offers a tranquil environment designed to promote relaxation and mindfulness. Equipped with comfortable seating, soothing decor, and calming music, the space provides students with a peaceful retreat from the demands of college life.

In addition to providing a space for relaxation, the area also offers resources and information on mental health and wellness. Students can access self-help materials, learn about stress management techniques, and find information on local mental health resources.



LCC's Equine Program Riding Clinic for Regional 4-H Members

Lamar Community College's Equine Program and Ranch Riding Team received praise for their outstanding support and instruction at a recent 4-H clinic. The event showcased the college's dedication to community engagement and equine education, thanks to the expertise of its team members. Attendees, eager 4-H members, received hands-on learning and insights into horsemanship from experienced instructors and the Ranch Riding Team. The collaboration with the Prowers County Extension demonstrated LCC's commitment to supporting the community and promoting horsemanship excellence. The success of the clinic underscores LCC's commitment to providing top-notch equine education and community support.

