



Lamar Community College President's Report February 2022

Transform the student experience.

Transfer Fair

The Lamar Community College Transfer Fair was held in the Bowman Building on Wednesday, November 10. Students took the opportunity to speak with recruiters from nine universities, from in and out of state, to explore their transfer options. Students who participated were also given a swag bags compliments of the LCC Tutoring Lab.



Celebrating a Healthy End To Year Two Of The Pandemic

Even in the midst of a pandemic, LCC proudly accomplished the first half of the academic year with less than a dozen positive cases among campus residents. Student Life events were carefully planned with COVID guidelines in mind. Thanks to everyone's compliance, we were able to remain in-person. The LCC Safe Return to Campus Plan for Spring 2022 is in place and the campus is going into the new year cautiously with hopes to complete this academic year "safe, in-person, and active"!

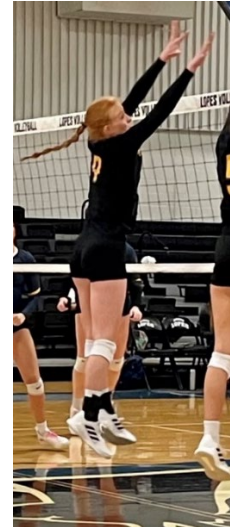
Parade of Lights

Students from the Ag Club and Softball team worked together to decorate a float and represent Lamar Community College in the Lamar's Annual Parade of Lights. LCC did end up winning first place for their float. Go Lopes!



Number one in Region IX

LCC's very own Randi Crandall ended the fall Volleyball season being ranked #11 in the nation and #1 in Region IX for solo blocks. Randi was a middle and finished off her sophomore year at LCC with a bang.



Phi Theta Kappa Welcomes New Members

Lamar Community College is proud to present our newest Phi Theta Kappa members. LCC's Beta Eta Gamma Chapter inducted 17 new members this past fall, which is a 20% acceptance rate, twice the national average for Phi Theta Kappa chapters. Dr. Stagner Stulp, Dean of Instruction, was selected by the members to provide the keynote address at the fall induction ceremony and inspired all.



Transform our own workforce experience.

Holiday Breakfast

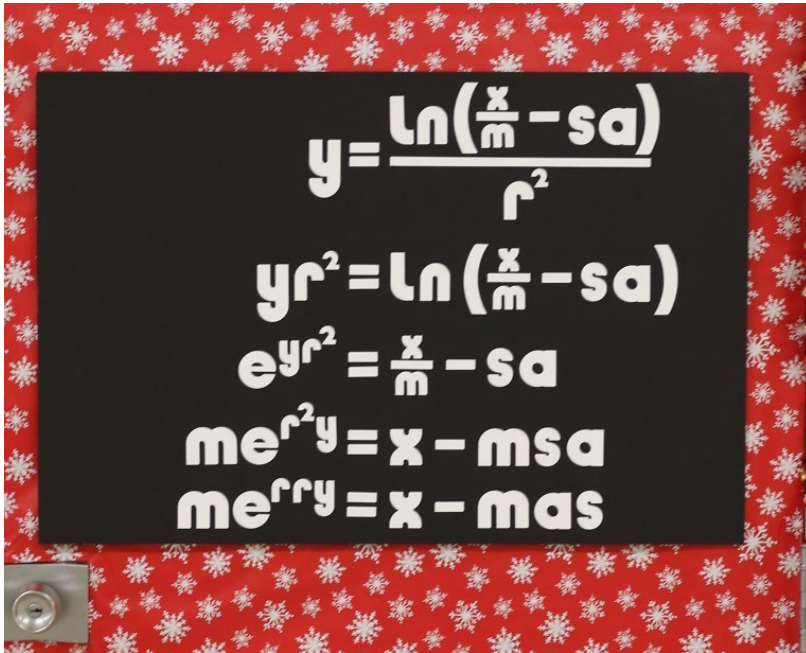
The LCC leadership team showed its appreciation for employees at the 5th annual end-of-semester holiday breakfast on December 13th. Due to the pandemic, this year was done a little differently with employees having their food delivered to their desk to minimize possible exposures. Breakfast was served by President Linda Lujan, Vice President Chad DeBono, and Interim Vice President Janet Stienkamp.



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 hallway-sized gingerbread house, to math problems, to COVID wreaths. This activity is a great way for employees to get a small break from their workload and it was especially helpful this year to have some time to focus on something other than the pandemic. Students loved coming back to some holiday cheer.





All Employee Meetings

LCC's all-Employee Spring Kick-off Meeting was January 8th. With focus on the changes that are coming to campus, and updates about the college. With pandemic numbers increasing, this semester was done in a series of mini-meetings split up by department. The week also included department budget and planning meetings and professional development.

Title III and Academic Services collaborated to bring in Sean Glassberg, who presented in hybrid format to the entire college on "The Value of Students in Higher Education" and then to faculty and academic support staff on "Establishing and Communicating Academic Expectations" and "EPIC Goals to Prepare Graduates to Communicate in the Workplace".

2020-2021 Employees of the Year

LCC's 2020-2021 Employees of the Year, who were selected through a competitive nomination and voting process. Last year was one of the most challenging ever experienced, and each of these employees (and all the other nominees) really rose to the occasion.

Administrator/Professional/Technical (APT): Robert Vazquez, Director of IT

Robert is a dedicated LCC employee who goes above and beyond consistently. He works long hours but is always cheerful and has a true love for LCC and our students- and it shows. No matter how stressed he is, he will always stop what he is doing to try to help you. He is always courteous and always listening to what you have to say. His heart is in the advancement of this college, and he is always looking for ways to make everyone's experience better through technology. He has a great blend of IT and academic knowledge, unusual in an IT director, which makes him invaluable to LCC. His talents and skills and attitude are valued and appreciated.

Adjunct: Micah Middleton, Barbering Instructor

Micah goes above and beyond to encourage and support students. His infectious positive attitude is an added blessing to the Cosmetology department. He brings a different set of life experiences and challenges that he has overcome, which helps him work with students in a different way. Micah is a pleasure to work with every day. He is a positive role model to other students and demonstrates how education can change lives. Students can relate to him, and he provides a great education for them. We hope all of you have a chance to meet and get to know Micah.

Faculty: Mittie Helm, Business Professor

Mittie is a Rockstar! Mittie sets high standards for her students and doesn't settle for mediocracy. Mittie is highly knowledgeable about the business world, and she shares her love of the industry and her experiences with her students. Mittie has helped revitalize the LCC Business Department. She gives students, such as those in her Social Media class, practical hands-on experiences. Her energy is contagious, and she is one the best things about LCC. And she does all this while being a doctoral student and business owner. Mittie also works hard to ensure curriculum is relevant, rigorous, and relatable. She is a true educator, and her students appreciate her, as do we.

Classified: Tamera (Tammy) Repshire, Custodian

Tammy has had to deal with COVID lockdowns, drastically increased sanitation procedures, modified furniture arrangement, and increased maintenance across the board. She's cleaned in an active construction zone in the Bowman building. Tammy cleans areas of high traffic including the Library and has witnessed firsthand the creativity of students in making interesting messes, all while handling what can be an impressive volume of trash from the Library. And she's done it all under a *staffing shortage*. It is impossible to overstate how important Tammy is to the operations of LCC. Tammy is always willing to do that little bit extra any time it is needed. She always goes out of her way to make sure her task is completed to the fullest with a smile on her face. She never has any negativity. She is just a great human being.



Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.

Art, Craft and Food Festival

Lamar Community College welcomed people to shop local and support small businesses this holiday season during its 46th Annual Art, Craft & Food Festival on November 13th. There was everything from kettle corn to jewelry, to blown glass figurines, as well as plenty of holiday decor. The day-long festival showcased 60 vendors and almost 800 attendees in the LCC Wellness Center.

On-Site COVID Testing

In an arrangement with the state, Affinity Care Colorado on the LCC Campus every Thursday to offer free COVID testing not only to LCC students and staff, but also to the community. This helps LCC stay on the front lines of defense. Unfortunately Omicron is spiking in Southeast Colorado and the college is seeing a number of students, faculty, and staff testing positive. The onsite testing has been a huge help in catching it early.

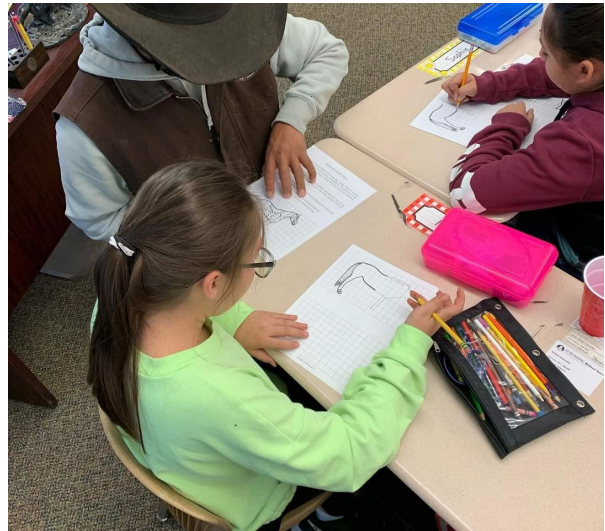
Stockings for our troops

The LCC volleyball team worked with Peacock funeral home to fill stockings for our troops overseas. These stockings were stuffed with movies, books, hygiene products, candy and other treats.



The Student Becomes the Teacher

December 7, the LCC Equine Club has an afternoon with the 3rd Grade Class at Alta Vista Elementary School. They learned about different breeds of horses, horse colors and tack. It was a fun day for everyone involved.



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

LCC Foundation Purchases Motel

While the Lamar Community College Foundation will always make scholarships a priority, they have taken a leap of faith to assist the college to move forward by purchasing a local motel. Housing has been a significant obstacle to growth in recent years, but it is expensive and not eligible for State or Federal Funding. This facility has 40 rooms and will accommodate 75+ students. Renovations are underway and rooms will be ready for use by fall 2022. This will allow LCC to expand athletics to add mens' and women's soccer as well as providing housing for older students who may not enjoy the shared living experience in a traditional dorm.



Completion of the CTE Building

Lamar Community College is very excited about the new addition to the LCC campus. Designed for Construction Trades, Precision Agriculture, and Renewal Energy, this new building is approximately 10,000 square feet with high bay doors

one classroom, three large lab areas, a conference room, and restrooms. This building will be ready for students by spring. LCC is planning a grand opening/ribbon cutting in March.



COPERR Project Coming Along

The Colorado Attorney General's Office awarded \$1.66 million to Lamar Community College (LCC) in 2021 for a workforce training program to remediate blighted housing in the southeastern part of the state, and LCC students are well on their way to completing their first home as part of the initiative. LCC, along with Trinidad State College and Otero College, were each awarded funding for the Colorado Partnership for Education and Rural Revitalization Project (COPERR) to help develop skilled workers in construction and remediation trades.

As part of their first project, LCC students have been working on a complete remodel of a single-family home. Students are installing new framing, windows, sub-floor, concrete, and insulation throughout the structure. They are also replacing several doors, including the exterior, main and garage doors and working on the garage approach pad and steps, garage roof and fascia and restablizing the carport. Once finished, the house will go up for sale. The hope is to get the home on the market around May 2022. The LCC Foundation recently accepted a second property in Wiley and plans are underway to give the property to the COPERR project so the students and faculty can start work on the second home.

Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation Grant

Lamar Community College was awarded a \$1,000 grant from the Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation for the On-Campus Pantry Program. The LCC food pantry has been a part of campus for three years, serving approximately 10 students/families every semester. As many as 40 students have been accommodated with targeted outreach to quarantined students. The pantry provides food, toilet paper, tissues, dish detergent, laundry detergent, feminine hygiene products, shampoo and conditioner, soap, lotion and diapers. The pantry can also assist student who have special dietary needs—vegan or gluten free with supplemental foods.

Micro-Pathways Program

The Colorado Community College System (CCCS) announced it will build five micro-pathways in energy and healthcare in partnership with the Education Design Lab (The Lab), a national nonprofit that designs, implements and scales new learning models for higher education. Designed with input from learners and employers, micro-pathway programs combine two or more stackable credentials in high-growth, high-paying fields that can be completed in a year or less. The Lab awarded The Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges a \$262,500 grant to build the program and will advise colleges on best practices. EDL will also provide an additional \$1 million in technical support to CCCS for a total investment of more than \$1.25 million. Lamar Community College was one of five colleges chosen to pilot the program. According to The Lab's research, micro-pathway programs often offer more flexibility and a clearer return on investment for adult learners. Collaborating on micro-pathways can also strengthen relationships between employers and community colleges.