



Lamar Community College President's Report April 2023

Transform the student experience.



New Student Orientation

New Student Orientation (NSO) was held April 21st. 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 was the first New Student Orientation that Dr. Reyes, the new LCC President, has led the welcome and Parent Info sessions. Parents and potential students enjoyed the presentation that she prepared and felt more at ease about the future separation from their children after discussing some fears during the Parent Panel.

“What I love about LCC is how nice and reassuring staff is! I felt beyond welcome!” – Makayla Huffman

“I loved seeing everyone connected socially. Seems like a little family.” – Lydia Crespin



Student Life

Mentalist

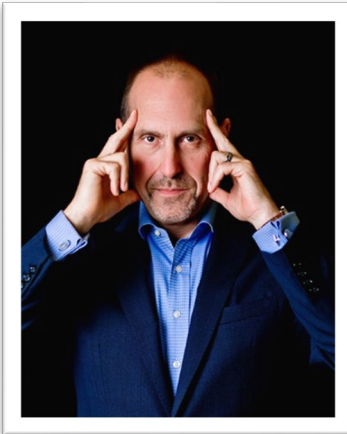
LCC Students were invited to attend an ESP performance from Mentalist Chris Carter from our Interim Residence Life Coordinator Delino Lewis. Students were astounded by Chris' ability to predict their thoughts and answers as they participated in the show. Chris even went as far as to explain how he used facial cues, body language, and other factors to determine facts about participants.

Family Feud Night

In April, Residence Life held a Family Feud style game event for LCC. Students were encouraged to form groups and use this as an opportunity to demonstrate how much they truly knew about the friends that they have made since coming to college. This was a wonderful experience for our general education students as well as our athletic students as it encapsulated the inclusive and welcoming atmosphere at Lamar Community College.

Last Open Mic Night of the Year

New in its development and implementation, Open Mic Night at LCC didn't draw an enormous crowd, but it did bring in unique individuals. This event allowed students to slowly trickle in and share a talent that we wouldn't normally see. Although April 7th was the last date for Open Mic Night for the semester, we received requests to continue this event in the future semesters to keep a safe space that students can feel comfortable in and share a little about themselves.



Phi Theta Kappa

Lamar Community College was overjoyed to invite over 150 students to join Phi Theta Kappa in the Spring semester. These students have all completed at least 25% of their certificate or degree and hold at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA in their degree/certificate coursework. Phi Theta Kappa is the oldest and largest academic honor society for two-year colleges, and it has an excellent national reputation for the quality of its students. Joining Phi Theta Kappa is an excellent way for students to expand their college experience, meet other high performing students, build their resume, gain leadership and service skills, and take advantage of many scholarship and career-building opportunities. Phi Theta Kappa held New Member Induction on April 5th. Phi Theta Kappa officers selected Dr. Reyes as their keynote speaker and were excited to meet LCC's new president and to hear her inspiring speech.



Transfer Degree Meetings

Meetings were held in April for students who were either returning to LCC in the AA/AS/AAS degree programs or graduating from said programs and transferring to 4-year Universities. These sessions were held for any students to ask questions regarding transferring and access information on 4-year universities to help them make the right decision for their educational journey.

ClickClick Photography Club

Library Director, Jennifer Goodland, has created an on-campus Photography club at LCC. This stemmed from an extremely successful mini-mester Photography class that she held in January 2023. Jennifer covers topics such as the usage of individual cameras and the purpose of their settings and provides photographic opportunities such as portraits, hands and scenery at different light levels. Jennifer even led the group in photographing students to update the Lamar Community College Commencement Program and hopes to continue to provide frequent and current photos for staff and students to choose from when posting on platforms such as Social Media. Below is an example of work by an LCC photography student.



CCCS Student Excellence Awards

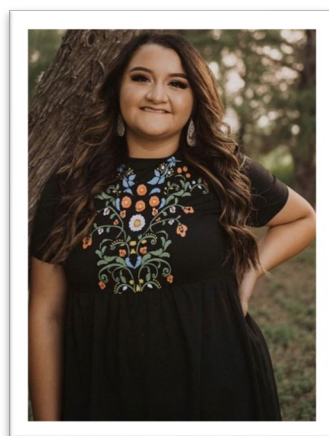
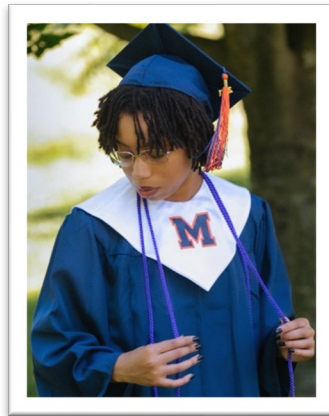
These awards recognize and honor students for their academic accomplishments, exemplary leadership, and commitment to Inclusive Excellence.

Inclusive Excellence Champions – This award is sponsored by the State Student Advisory Council and recognizes students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion on their campus. The students selected to receive this award may be involved in supporting or creating diversity activities and services; working to address issues of inequity; expanding the scope of inclusivity on campus; and/or demonstrating advocacy for social justice and intercultural awareness.

Rising Star Award – This award is sponsored by the State Student Advisory Council and recognizes students who have increased the level and quality of student engagement on campus. The students selected to receive this award may have facilitated meaningful engagement by either broadening the scope of student engagement or by deepening the engagement of other students around a particular issue or initiative.

Phi Theta Kappa All-Colorado Academic Team – This award recognizes the academic accomplishments of high-achieving student members of the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society from across the state of Colorado and their induction into the PTK All-Colorado Academic Team.

This year, Lamar Community College nominated Ny'Jayda Jones (Inclusive Excellence and PTK), Ja'Navia Jones (Rising Star), Aliyah Macias (Rising Star), and Waytynn Wollert (PTK). Congratulations to all the award winners and we are so proud that you came from LCC!



Transform our own Workforce Experience

CCCS Employee Excellence Awards

On April 11th, 2023 The Colorado Community College System (CCCS) held its fifth annual Commitment Excellence Awards ceremony today, celebrating 54 employees from across the System for their contributions to the overall success of their college, students, and communities. Among many achievements, awardees helped colleges implement learning management systems, secure housing for students, and forge partnerships with community organizations to provide new learning opportunities for students. The Lamar Community College winners this year are Anne-Marie Crampton (Administration), Joe Shields (Faculty), Deborah Elam (Adjunct Faculty), and David Martinez (Classified Employee). Congratulations to the recipients of this year's awards and thank you for all that you have done for LCC students!



New Employee Reception

A new event that Dr. Rosana Reyes has brought to LCC is the New Employee Reception. Every quarter, any new employees will be invited to have donuts and coffee at this meet and greet event with leadership. This quarter we were happy to welcome Casey Emick, Alma Gallegos, Aubrey Lawrence, Eric Flores, Michael Wright, Josh Koehn as new employees and we were ecstatic to welcome back Kristie Face and Michael Grudt in their new roles as Full-Time employees.



New Employees

Welcome Aubrey Lawrence

Aubrey Lawrence has joined Lamar Community College as the new Marketing Coordinator. Aubrey graduated from Colorado State University with a BS in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing and a minor in Entrepreneurship and Innovation. She is currently working to earn a certificate in Google Data Analytics, and plans to pursue a Master's in Marketing Research as well. Before LCC, Aubrey worked as an Ambassador for CSU's Honors College and as a Communications and Engagement Intern for the Town of Severance. In her current role, Aubrey will be working to bring LCC's marketing efforts in-house and to increase enrollment and retention. She is excited to use marketing as a tool to connect individuals with educational pathways that will help them achieve their personal and professional goals. Outside of work, Aubrey enjoys reading, walking, and traveling.





Welcome Rachel Evans

Rachel Evans joins the LCC team as our new Interim Foundation Director. Rachel is a former Army Officer and Iraqi War Veteran with experience in communications, management, administration, and other duty assignments the military saw fit to throw her way. She received degrees from the United States Military Academy and Texas Lutheran University. Rachel, her husband, and their three children enjoy rural living, including caring for a few farm animals and gardening. They sometimes explore historical sites and are involved with their local church and other parts of the community. As Interim Foundation Director, Rachel looks forward to working with Lamar Community College and ensuring students are well supported as they pursue their education. She is thrilled to be part of the team.

Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.

Stories of Our People

Lamar Community College Library, in partnership with Colorado State University Extension, started the “Stories of Our People” oral history project. The project will feature recorded interviews of community members of all demographics in the Lamar area. On Monday, April 10, LCC Librarian Jennifer Goodland interviewed the family of science educator Howard Hobbs about the meaning of research, Hobbs’ passion for teaching, and the internal organs of turkeys. On Friday, April 14, Goodland interviewed student Lirda Ndonga from Belgium about languages, her impressions of America, and her love of tacos. The “Stories of Our People” series will continue throughout the summer, and community members will be trained to conduct their own interviews using equipment funded by the CSU Extension’s Rural Action Project grant.

Arvada High Tour

Lamar Community College excitedly welcomed the Arvada High School students to campus on April 4th. Admissions Coordinator, Laurie Ybarra led the tour, and each department had a special activity prepared for the group. The students got to engage in the Construction Trades, Cosmetology, Business, Art, Nursing and Horse Training Management programs while on campus. This is particularly influential to students who would have not otherwise gotten to explore these types of career paths and programs in the area that they reside in.

Story Hour with the LCC Women's Basketball Team

LCC's Women's Basketball enjoyed a morning of reading to children at the Lamar Public Library. All the athletic teams support the communities through a variety of service projects throughout the year. This engagement benefits children, elders, service organizations, and municipalities. Students report feeling valued, engaged, and productive. We are so proud of our teams, coaches, and communities for these great partnerships.



DG Cuts Barberologist

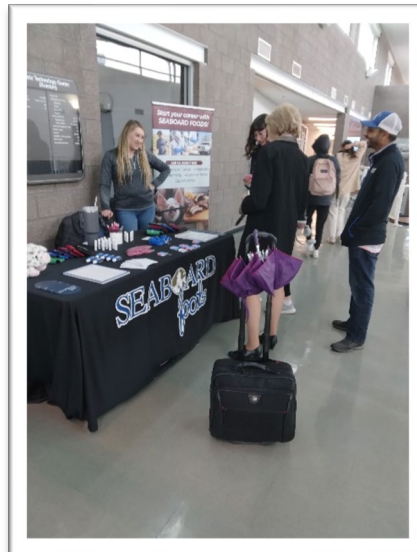
The LCC Salon welcomed renowned Barberologist DG Cuts on April 25th – April 27th, 2023. Cosmetology students witnessed cutting edge barbering and styling techniques that DG Cuts is known for. These kind of guest speakers are so important to the culture of Lamar Community College due to the diverse hair types and styles that our students work with on a daily basis. Having these types of demonstrations and experiences introduced to our students gives them a step up in preparing to head out on their own and create their own salons with their unique styles.





Seaboard Foods

On April 26th, a recruiter from Seaboard Foods visited campus. The purpose of this recruiter coming to campus to talk to students is to not only provide information about careers available with SeaBoard Foods but to also explain how our programs and degrees lead into these careers. The majority of the positions that SeaBoard Foods has available require experience in marketing, business, agriculture and so many more programs and courses that are already being offered by LCC. Students can have a one-on-one conversation with actual recruiters from these companies to explore what they need to study and progress in, in order to make the most of their educational journey with us and take the next steps in going from learning to career practice.



National Intercollegiate Ranch and Stock Horse Association (NIRSHA)

This year, the Lamar Community College Ranch Horse Team competed at the NIRSHA Collegiate National Finals in Amarillo, TX for the first time. We had three outstanding students competing against students from up to 18 other schools. One of the EBM & HTM Freshmen, Aubrie Brown, was chosen as a finalist for a \$6,000 scholarship from the Fort Worth Stock Show. This is a great honor for LCC! The judges expressed how impressive our team was for their first year and we are excited to take our team back next year!



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

American Historical Association

LCC Librarian Jennifer Goodland has been accepted to present her research on “An Unorganized Crime Family: The Childs of New York City” at the conference of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association. This talk covers document analysis and research methodologies concerning fraudulent criminal activity in the 19th century. The conference takes place at California State University-Northridge, August 9-11, 2023. Jennifer also delivered a lecture, Q&A, and discussion on “Where did They Settle, and How do I Find it?: Researching Homestead Act Land Records” at the Big Timbers Museum in Lamar, Colorado. Over 50 people were in attendance, with some coming as far away as Kansas.

College Updates:

- Summer 2023 FTE enrollment is currently 16% up compared to last year. Headcount is 18% up in comparison to last year at this time.
- COSI grants for the workforce, concurrent, and Finish What You Started initiatives are actively reviewing and seeking additional opportunities to support current and future students in attaining educational opportunities. Since February, the College increased the number of Back to Work Grant from 13 to 20, with 5 additional potential students in verification. The goal of this grant is for LCC to serve 65 completers when the grant ends in June 2024. Finish What You Start Grant increased from 6 to 13 since February, with 5 pending documentation to move to completion status. This grant aims to serve 45 completers by 2025. COSI Grant also increased from 39 to 44 students. This grant seeks to help 106 students.
- The Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (DHSI) Program provides grants to assist HSIs in expanding educational opportunities for and improving the attainment of Hispanic students. These grants also enable HSIs to expand and enhance their academic offerings, program quality, and institutional stability. The College is currently preparing an application for this grant, which will be submitted in early June 2023.
- Skill Advance Colorado grant funding is set for a new grant cycle; LCC will be engaging in Workforce related programming to support local industries in various training aimed at meeting the needs of incumbent workers and re-skilling and up-skill training to advance our regional economy further. Launch dates will begin at the beginning of the next fiscal year; planning is underway.
- CCCS has established a 5% tuition increase (In-State & Out-of-State), a 2.5% online courses tuition increase (In-State & Out-of-State), a 5% staff and full-time faculty salary increase, and a 10% adjunct salary increase.
- Chancellor’s Summit on Adult Education will be held in Denver on June 1. This conference will allow us to learn best practices around prior learning assessment, adult recruitment, engagement, competency-based assessment, etc. This initiative is part of the system REACH Collaborative, focused on creating clear

paths for more Black, Hispanic, and Native American adults to grow their skills and advance their careers.

Construction Updates:

- Dayne Crockett of Skyler Design has provided updated schedules on the roof replacement for Bowman, Wellness, Trustees, and Betz. Recent rains have helped to identify some of the problems. Ready Roofers and Skyler Design were on campus on 4/25/23, addressing many of these problems. Please remember that regular assessments and inspections occur throughout the project. These are done by the Engineers, RoofTech Consultants, and the State Inspectors, Steve Hall. In addition, following these final inspections, all roofs will be flooded, drains will be tested, and verification of no leaks will follow.

IREPO Updates:

- The IREPO Grant has been instrumental in enhancing LCC's teaching and learning experience by incorporating state-of-the-art technology to fostering a more engaging, active learning environment. As a result, both students and instructors have benefited from improved access to resources and more interactive classrooms. We transformed 22 classrooms with the addition of 2-4 85" flat screens each and new projectors, enabling seamless connectivity for instructors and students. Our lecture halls have also been upgraded with 3x3 ft and 4x4 ft display arrays. To make the technology even more accessible, all instructors have been equipped with Microsoft Surface Pros, allowing them to connect in any room via docking stations effortlessly. In addition, we have implemented a Microsoft Surface checkout program through our library, enabling students without personal laptops to borrow a Surface for the entire semester at no cost. Complementing this, we offered a Wi-Fi/hotspot checkout service for students and athletes who may experience connectivity issues at home or while traveling. In line with our vision of active learning, all classrooms have been furnished with new, versatile furniture designed to facilitate collaboration and integration with technology upgrades. All classroom furniture is mobile and can be shifted to complement the technology or curriculum. Our commitment to education extends beyond LCC, as we have equipped 15 local high schools with flat screens on mobile carts to support concurrent enrollment learners. The IREPO Grant has been extended to September 2023, allowing us time to finalize cosmetic enhancements and the launch of pedagogical trainings.