



## Lamar Community College President's Report March 2023

Transform the student experience.

### Student Life



### Black History Month Celebration

February is Black History Month. Throughout the month of February, we provided opportunities for the students to learn about influential people of color and the importance of Civil Rights and the Civil Rights movement. We started this journey early by tying in January's slavery/human trafficking awareness to the theme of Black History and began by showing footage of Martin Luther King Jr.'s involvement with the Civil Rights march on Washington in 1963.

### Make a Valentine's Card

LCC Staff and students were invited to make customized Valentine's cards at the Innovate & Make Space on campus through February 14<sup>th</sup>. This is just one of the many fun projects that Michele Girard, Make Space Manager, puts on for the students, staff and surrounding communities.

### Bingo Night

Students enjoyed a relaxing night of Bingo and winning prizes on February 16<sup>th</sup>. The prizes ranged from something as small as snacks and soda to headphones and gift certificates to local businesses.

### Just Dance Wii Game Night

This was the perfect opportunity for students to enjoy quality time with one another while listening to their favorite music and watching their friends "dance". This game night was held on Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> and since the students were out of class for the week they were allowed to be noisy and let loose in the dorm lobby.

### Texas Hold'em

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Student Life held a card playing event and invited all students to attend. Students were encouraged to dress up as if they were playing in Vegas and enjoy refreshments while they participated. While gambling with money is illegal, instead the students used poker chips and played towards the chance to win the grand prize of a portable sound system. The game went late into the night and was enjoyed by all.

### Spyderball Tournament

Spyderball is an interesting game similar to ping pong in equipment and in rules. Instead of a platform for a hard plastic ball to bounce off of, the platform is a net that students use to bounce larger air-filled balls than a regular ping pong ball. This game provided students with a chance to learn a new game and show off their skills.

### Spring Break

March 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> 2023 was Spring Break for most Colorado Community Colleges. Students took this chance to travel to popular destinations like the Florida Keys or even just home to see family and friends. This was a much needed mid-semester break for students and faculty alike as everyone prepares for the final exams and commencement.

### Cowboy Coffee

Dr. Brian Gauck has resumed the morning coffee chat and snack for all students on Tuesdays in our Student Union until the end of the Spring semester. This gives our students the opportunity to grab a quick cup of coffee before class and get to know the members of the Ag and Equine Faculty. The students from these programs have enjoyed the opportunity to spread awareness of Ag and Equine programs to their fellow students and the events that come with it such as rodeos and the LCC Equine Banquet. With our campus spread out, the Student Union is the perfect place to hold such an

event as the students are grateful to be able to access a quick pick-me-up before classes begin.

### **End of Basketball Season**

As the 2022-2023 basketball season comes to an end, we look back and see that we did not have as much success in the Win/Loss Column as we would have liked. However, we did still have success on and off the court. Lamar Community College had two players, Jada Dupree and Emily Schumacher, who were both nominated for the All-Region team, along with their other teammate, Shanah Estangel, who was nominated for Conference Defensive Player of the year. The individual accolades some of our players were granted are a direct reflection the hard work, dedication, and time put in this year for the team. For some of the players, Women's basketball coach Delino Lewis was their 3<sup>rd</sup> coach here at LCC in the past two years. Even though he did not recruit any of the players for this season, they all built a bond that will last beyond basketball. One of coach Delino's goals was to help build young women into responsible and fortified young adults as they leave his program. The Coach Lewis Era is in full swing for the next year as recruiting is underway with some really promising talent coming in that will help us with on-court success even more so than we had this past year. To round out the year, of the 8 sophomores on the roster each of them held an offer/opportunity to continue their academic and athletic careers with 4-year universities. This was an enormous accomplishment for the young women that coach Lewis had the pleasure of supporting this year. LCC looks forward to next year with continued support from our school and the community that supports our teams, as it is our community and students that drive us.

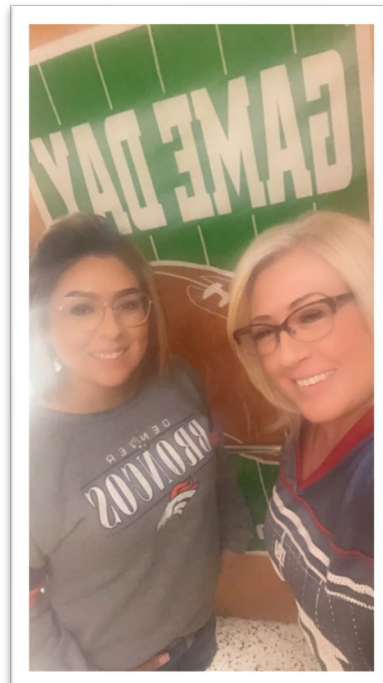


## Phi Theta Kappa

Lamar Community College was overjoyed to invite over 150 students to join Phi Theta Kappa this 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 orientation on February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> and Induction will be held on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Phi Theta Kappa officers selected Dr. Reyes as their keynote speaker in honor of her new presidency and look forward to her words of wisdom.

## Super Bowl Thursday at LCC Salon

On February 9<sup>th</sup> Kendra King, the CTE Cluster Department Chair and head of the Cosmetology Department, organized a party function in the LCC Salon to celebrate the NFL Super Bowl. The Salon served finger foods and let clients draw prizes for discounts on haircuts, colors, and nail services. The Salon is open to the entire community as well as employees and students on campus and offers a wide range of services to both men and women. This discount party served to bring in lots of clientele and provided ample opportunity for the students to not only practice their skills, but to also network and gather their own clientele for when they complete their certification and move on to bigger and better things. March Madness is a similar event that the LCC Salon participates in annually and was held on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.





## Transform our own Workforce Experience



### **Dr. Lujan's Retirement**

On the night of February 17<sup>th</sup>, Lamar Community College staff, faculty and community members gathered to celebrate the career and accomplishments of Dr. Linda Lujan. What started out as a jovial reunion of friends new and old turned bittersweet as the night progressed with many wonderful stories being shared over delightful refreshments. Heartwarming, awe-inspiring, and funny moments were shared about Dr. Lujan's career from the members who attended. A short, but powerful, speech regarding the important work that Dr. Lujan's accomplished since joining the Colorado Community College system as the President of LCC was given by Chancellor Joe Garcia. In recognition of Dr. Lujan's achievements, she was selected and awarded the Michael Bennett Lifetime Achievement Award. Retiring college presidents, campus chief executive officers and state community college directors, nominated by their Phi Theta Kappa chapter, are selected for this award based on many years unwavering dedication to student success and mentorship of student leaders. Dr. Linda Lujan has touched so many peoples' lives and will forever hold a special place in the hearts of the Lopes she leaves behind, but as they say, "Once a Lope, always a Lope".

### **Lamar Community College's New President**

Dr. Rosana Reyes joined Lamar Community College as President on February 6th, 2023. Small welcome receptions were held throughout her first week to introduce the newest LCC member and allow Dr. Reyes to meet the staff, students, and faculty that make up the Lopes family. Immediately upon arrival, Dr. Reyes was met with an already incredibly booked schedule and attended the SBCCOE and President's Council meetings held in Denver, Colorado. It has been a true trial by fire. Still, Dr. Reyes has handled everything thrown at her in this new position with grace and enthusiasm to understand the needs of her new community and meet individually with each stakeholder with a focus on sustainable growth.

Along with new initiatives, challenges, and transitions, Dr. Reyes has increased the transparency of operational activities within LCC by distributing internal biweekly updates with all staff and faculty to keep everyone informed of the most recent reports,

project updates, grants, and so much more. It has been stated that this has made our Lopes family feel so much more informed and involved in the College's proceedings and its future actions. We are excited to see what Dr. Reyes's leadership and her LCC team will bring to Lamar Community College and the students we serve in the years to come.

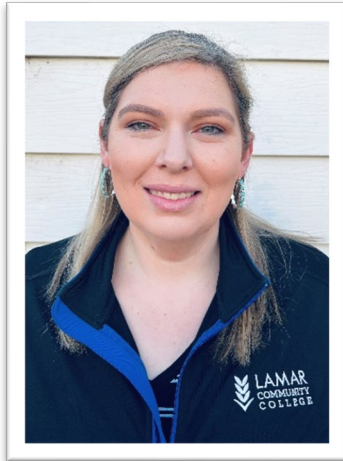


## **New Employees**

### **Welcome Casey Emick**

Casey Emick joins the LCC team as our new Information Technology Specialist. Casey earned an AAS in IT & Networking with Honors from DeVry University and plans to pursue his bachelor's degree as well. Casey served as an Avionics Technician in the United States Marine Corps from 2015 to 2020 and is married to his wife, Shayla, and has 2 children. When he isn't working, his hobbies include playing chess and fishing. In this role, Casey will be working to make sure the technology behind the scenes is working optimally. Additionally, he will be supporting Jason Raines, our Instructional Technology Support Specialist, with technology that touches the students and staff. Casey will be working to make sure the technology behind the scenes is working optimally.



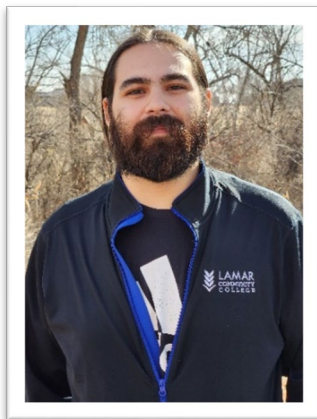


### **Welcome Courtney Morris**

Courtney has joined LCC as the new Work-based Learning Program Director. She will be working with the Title III team to build a program utilizing work-based experience toward credit and non-credit certificates/programs. Courtney has a Bachelor of Science from Kaplan University and has a non-credit Paralegal Certificate. She started working in the legal field and then changed careers to community-based careers working with individuals to gain employment, job skills programming, and educational opportunities. When Courtney is not at work you can find her with her husband Chase and son Ryland. You will find a lot of DIY projects around the home, a love of raising dogs and chickens, and running Ryland around for sports and activities.

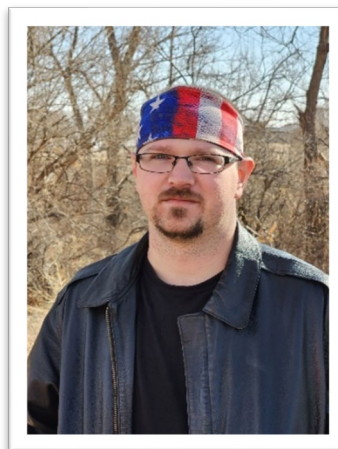
### **Welcome Eric Flores**

LCC would like to welcome Eric Flores to our Custodial Department. Eric will provide our Bowman East building with custodial services. He has a background in the service industry and has worked as a cashier in multiple convenient stores. Eric is a prior resident of Holly, Colorado and currently resides in Lamar.



### **Welcome Joshua Khoen**

“Josh” Khoen joins LCC in the Custodial Department and will provide care for our Wellness Center. Josh served in the US Navy from 2013-2016 and has background in security. He served many roles at the Bent County Correctional Facility and has basic medical training provided from both his employment and service in the Navy.

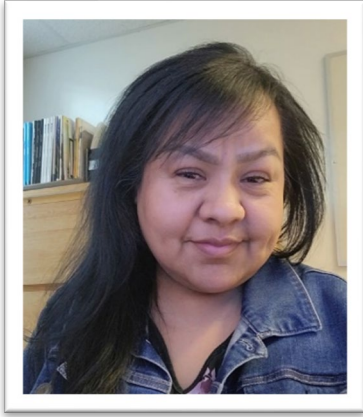


### **Welcome Michael Wright**

Michael, also known as “Mike”, joins LCC in the Custodial Department. He previously worked at the Lamar branch of People’s Credit Union and has extensive background in the service industry. Mike has been assigned as a “floating” custodian and will be assisting other custodians in multiple buildings such as Todd Burch Hall dorms, Betz Technology Center and the Mainstreet View housing.







### **Welcome Alma Gallegos**

A huge welcome to Alma Gallegos as she joins the Lamar Community College team. Alma holds the position of CTE and Nursing Coordinator at LCC. She has many years of experience working with students and their families. In her short time with us, she has come full circle and has enrolled as a student a future nurse who she taught as a preschooler! Alma is a proud LCC alumni and feels comfortable in this environment and the new position.

### **Biweekly Updates Highlights**

The Office of the President strives to maintain transparency and increase ongoing communication with all community members. Below is a summary of highlights from the most recent biweekly updates:

- An introduction letter from the new LCC President, Dr. Rosana Reyes, was sent to every student on and off campus. These letters were placed on each student's dorm room door, on boards in high-traffic areas such as the cafeteria and library and emailed to students. Below is an excerpt from these letters that students received.

"Dear LCC Student,

Allow me the opportunity to introduce myself. I am Dr. Rosana Reyes, the new President of Lamar Community College. I recently relocated to this region from Northeast Pennsylvania, and I am thrilled to be here learning everyday more about our community, our students, staff, and about Southeast Colorado. I am a student-centered educator with over 25 years of experience supporting equitable pathways for students to engage and transition effectively from school to college to career. My previous work has always been focused on creating meaningful academic and career pathways coupled with wrap-around supportive services to help ensure success is achievable for all. Please feel free to stop by my office to say hello, ask a question, or give us feedback. I look forward to serving you as you strive to reach your goals." – Dr. Rosana Reyes

- The following *positions* have been created and will be advertised shortly: FT Marketing Coordinator, and 2 PT Admission Recruiters, in addition to the current FT role being searched.
- An application was submitted to the NJCAA Foundation to start an *Esport* Athlete team at Lamar Community College.



- As part of our work in standing up CO Online and the Rural College Consortium, the decision was made to align prerequisites/corequisites across our colleges. The alignment conversation began at the 2021 2:2 Conference. It was formalized at the 2:2 2022 Conference, where disciplines were asked to align prerequisites/corequisites and submit to the System Office by December 1, 2022. Approximately 150 disciplines did not submit prerequisites/corequisites. Most of these disciplines were CTE and often don't meet as a discipline to discuss these matters. Approximately 120 disciplines did not have any online classes. Those discipline prerequisites/corequisites will remain as they are currently and have until September 2024 to align for AY2025-26. Approximately 25 disciplines had online classes. Those discipline prerequisites/corequisites will remain as they are currently and have until September 2023 to align for AY2024-25.
- CIP codes and "like program" names are now aligned across the system. User acceptance testing (UAT) wrapped up on February 24th. Some findings will require rework and edits to the Banner scripts utilized in this solution, and as a result, there will be an impact on the timeline previously communicated.
- Key enrollment dates are now aligned system-wide, including semester start date, registration start date, census date, drop date, and last day to withdraw date.
- The Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges scholarship application is now open with an April 16 deadline. The application has multiple scholarships available to students, including LCC. LCCF Presidential and Kane Family Foundation *Scholarships deadline is April 7*, geared primarily toward HS seniors.
- Lamar Community College was awarded, through CCCS, as part of SB22-181, up to \$875,000 via the Department of Behavioral Health Administration the Behavioral Health Pathway Grant. This grant supports programmatic expenses, including curriculum development, instructional design, remote instruction, career pathway development, work-based learning/apprenticeship program development, recruitment, partnership development, and supplies.
- President Reyes has been appointed to serve on the Colorado Office of Education Equity CO Hispanic Serving Institution Consortium Steering Committee.

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

### **Love Yourself Breast Cancer Awareness Event**

Emily Jones, Lamar Community College Nursing student and the 2022-2023 LCC Foundation Shirly Rosengrants Memorial Scholarship recipient did a presentation on breast cancer awareness, self-screening, and next steps. Prowers Medical Center team

members were on hand to provide additional information and materials to interested parties. This event was hosted by Anne-Marie Crampton, Foundation Director, at our local small business coffee shop Brew Unto Others on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. Brew graciously donated complimentary Valentine's cookies and the LCC Foundation provided free beverages to attendees.

### **Lamar Rural Action Project**

Colorado State University Extension has given a \$5,000 grant to the Rural Action Project. The funding will be used for a series of storytelling events taking place around Lamar in April and May. Lamar Community College Library Director Jennifer Goodland will be training interested Lamar residents in storytelling and interview techniques. Trained interviewers will be able to check out a storytelling recording kit at the LCC Library. Goodland will be conducting additional storytelling sessions on Fridays throughout the month of April at the LCC Library. All sessions will be transcribed, recorded, and posted via YouTube to the Aspencat/KOHA library catalog as an e-resource.

### **Local School Updates**

Lamar Community College is still seeking Construction Trades instructors for Eads, Granada, and Springfield, with promising leads. We held our first counselor's workshop since the pandemic on Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> and had 12 in attendance. A few of the Lamar High School teachers have agreed to teach summer courses for LCC and we are extremely grateful for them. Anticipated enrollment of concurrent enrollment students could increase with the addition of the Construction Trades courses being offered to high school students. LCC is looking to add Cheyenne Wells High School to our growing list of schools that offer concurrent enrollment. We are also working to determine the technological needs of our service area schools.

### **FFA Career Development Event**

Hosted by Dr. Brian Gauck and the Lamar Community College Ag Department, the FFA Career Development event brings nearly 850 area high school students to campus to participate in demonstrations, interviews and contests that all support their chosen field of Agriculture. This event is a huge collaboration amongst the agricultural community of rural Southeast Colorado and many people from ranchers, farmers, flower shop owners, and so many more volunteer to help make this event a success and to help educate the regional FFA students. Students from our region use this time to test their knowledge, network with their peers and mentors, and explore other interests within the agricultural field. This year the event will be held on March 29<sup>th</sup> and will span the entirety of the LCC campus, from the Equine Center to classrooms in our Betz Technology Center. Events such as floriculture, crop soil testing, Ag merch and sales, and food science.



### **New Class**

From March 30<sup>th</sup>-April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, a new class on Artificial Insemination will be offered to students and the community for college credit and non-credit certification. This course will include a classroom lecture and extensive hands-on training with live cows. Topics will cover; AI and the cattle industry, herd health, record keeping, semen thawing, and handling techniques. Live cows, reproductive tracts, and all needed course supplies will be provided for the student. This course will be taught by Schleining Genetics, LLC in coordination with Lamar Community College.

### **Prowers County Horse Clinic**

March 11<sup>th</sup> brought the Prowers County Horse Clinic to Lamar Community College and was hosted at the Equine Complex. The Horse Clinic is a horsemanship workshop open to all 4-H members in any county in Colorado. During the workshop, LCC's Equine

Business Management students instructed interested 4-H students on basic horsemanship skills. Each of the 4-H members brought their own horse to LCC and learned about the basics in boxing, reining, barrels, and showmanship.



### **Lamar Community College's First Ranch Horse Team**

Lamar Community College's Ranch Horse team is home from their first collegiate competition, and this is the first time that LCC has had a team join in the competition. The event was held at the B.W. Pickett Equine Center in Fort Collins, CO on February 24-26<sup>th</sup>. They competed alongside tuff competition and came home with several top placings. Each horse and rider competed in nearly "perfect partnership" and did a fantastic job! The team consists of Aubrie Brown, Bela Meza, Gains Lunsford, and Teale Luther. The team is coached by Savanna Mauch. LCC's Department Chair for Equine, Rodeo, and Agriculture.





Results of The Spring Celebration Show at the B.W Pickett Equine Center in Fort Collins CO, February 24-26 follows:

- Aubrie Brown Limited Non-Pro: 6th overall, tied 2nd in working cowhorse, 4th in ranch reining, 10th in ranch trail
- Bela Meza Novice: 11th overall, tied 5th in working cowhorse, 7th in ranch reining, 11th in ranch trail
- Gains Lunsford Limited Non-Pro: 16th overall, 14th in ranch trail, 15th in ranch reining
- Teal Luther Novice: 13th overall, tied 5th in working cowhorse, 14th in ranch pleasure

The team is preparing for its next competition in April at the Intercollegiate Ranch and Stock Horse National Championships at the Tri-State Fairgrounds in Amarillo TX. There they will compete in 4 events: Ranch Trail, Ranch Pleasure, Reining, and Working Cow Horse. There's no better place to get a hands-on education in the horse industry than Lamar Community College!

### **LCC Rodeo Banquet**

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, Lamar Community College held the annual Rodeo Banquet in the Equine Complex. This banquet helps LCC fundraise for the rodeo team and this year approximately 150 attendees purchased tickets. Brisket dinner was served by the members of the rodeo team as well as the Equine faculty, Savanna Mauch, Ryan Bray

and head rodeo coach Larry “Mitch” Waltisperger. Along with being served dinner, attendees are encouraged to explore the many silent auction items donated by the community.

### **The Partnership for Rural Educator Preparation (T-PREP)**

Lamar Community College (LCC) will join CU Denver’s School of Education & Human Development initiative to help curb Colorado’s dire teacher shortage. This expansion of *The Partnership for Rural Educator Preparation* (T-PREP) program is happening thanks to a \$6.4 million Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) grant award from the United States Department of Education. Fall 2023, bachelor’s degrees leading to teaching licensure in early childhood, elementary, and special education may be completed in their entirety without leaving the LCC’s service region. A launch event was held at the Lamar Community College Wellness Center on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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

#### **Fun Fridays at the Innovate & Make Space**

This year our I&MS Manager, Michele Girard, has created a new opportunity for community members and their families to join us on campus for some reasonably priced crafts and education. Every month on alternating Fridays, Michele facilitates a family-friendly creative activity open to students elementary age to high school age. Crafts such as embroidery dish towel, router hot pads, leaf collage scrapbooking, etc. are just a few of the activities available to the public. Not only does Michele provide materials for these activities, but she also organizes classes such as learning to quilt, 3-D printing, and on occasion, pottery. If anyone young or old has an interest in the creative and textile arts, Lamar Community College is there to provide a creative outlet.

#### **High School Counselor’s Workshop**

On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, Lamar Community College hosted a High School Counselor’s Workshop in our library. This supplied our service area high school counselors with an opportunity for learning and discussion. LCC’s academic staff met and discussed the following: new academic programs at LCC, Scholarship opportunities, concurrent enrollment fall courses and enrollment process. Presentations were shared by our staff on the COPERR grant (Colorado Partnership for Education and Rural Revitalization) as well as a presentation from Melissa Goble, McClave School’s Counselor on Industry Credentialing.

#### **IREPO Updates**

The IREPO Grant has been instrumental in revolutionizing the learning experience at Lamar Community College (LCC) by incorporating state-of-the-art technology and 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.

#### *Classroom Enhancements:*

We have successfully transformed 22 classrooms with the addition of 2-4 85" flat screens each, enabling seamless wireless connectivity for instructors and students. Our lecture halls have also been upgraded with 3x3 ft and 4x4 ft display arrays, with final adjustments and programming to be completed shortly.

#### *Enhancing Accessibility:*

To make technology even more accessible, all instructors have been equipped with Microsoft Surface Pros, allowing them to effortlessly connect in any room via docking stations. 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 offer a Wi-Fi/hotspot checkout service for students and athletes who may experience connectivity issues at home or while traveling.

#### *Supporting Active Learning:*

In line with our vision of active learning, all classrooms have been furnished with new, versatile furniture designed to facilitate collaboration and integration with the technology upgrades.

#### *Exploring Communication Tools:*

We are in the early stages of exploring communication tools to further enhance the classroom experience, fostering inclusivity and catering to various learning styles.

#### *Community Integration:*

Our commitment to education extends beyond LCC, as we have equipped local high schools with flat screens on mobile carts to support concurrent enrollment. We are actively exploring ways to further assist high schools in this regard.

#### *Grant Extension:*

With the IREPO Grant extended to September 2023, we are excited to finalize cosmetic enhancements, develop comprehensive technology training programs, and continue to uncover opportunities to benefit LCC and the broader community.

## **Construction Updates**

In order to enhance equity of access to library learning resources, the system is collaboratively proposing centralized online library services and collections to all students, faculty, and staff regardless of instructional modality system-wide. More information to follow in the near future.

Lamar Community College held a Bowman building renovation kickoff meeting in February where we reviewed the project scope, goals, phases of implementation, and plans for potential disruptions. The project is expected to be completed by June 2026. Here is a list of all intended individual projects within this initiative:

- HVAC equipment and system replacement
- Restroom plumbing replacements
- Fire sprinkler system addition & Fire alarm system improvements
- Electrical service upgrades (switchgear, interior lighting, exterior lighting attached to building, EM generator)
- Electrical distribution upgrades
- Energy efficient lighting & controls upgrades
- Curtainwall replacement
- Plumbing systems (primarily replacement of waste lines)
- Roofing
- Floor and ceiling finishes
- Restroom finishes replacements
- Auditorium accessibility improvements
- Asbestos abatement/mitigation
- Gas line replacement

## **Capital Projects Update:**

- Replace Roofs, Trustees, Bowman, & Wellness Center Ph. 1 of 1
  - Wellness Center – 98% complete – Working on punch list items
  - Bowman Building - 80% complete – Complete EPDM/Synthetic Rubber Roofing Membrane this week.
  - Betz Atrium - 40% complete – Projected to complete by 3/17
  - Trustees - 40% complete – Projected to complete by 4/15
- ADA Code Compliance, Campus Wide, Ph. 1 of 1
  - In design, 75% CD Phase – Anticipate bidding in May
- Replace Chiller, Valves, Pipes, and Controls, Bowman Building (SLFRF)
  - In design, 90% CD Phase – Anticipate bidding in late April
- Nursing #205 Remodel: HB21-1264
  - In early design phase – Anticipate bidding mid-to-late May
  - Library/Learning Resource Center renovation – Bowman Building is in design
- Bowman Building Renovation (Capital Renewal) Phase 1 (SLFRF)



- In design, anticipate phase II funding in June
- Upgrade Building Door Access Control & Campus Safety - Ph. 1 & 2
  - Under construction – Electricians are 6 weeks ahead of schedule. Expected completion by 10/2023
- Replace Pumps, Controls, and Valves, Campus Irrigation System (SLFRF)
  - Contract negotiations/finalize 3/10/23.