

The Pronghorn Pronk

Volume 4 Issue 4

October 2014

Moving forward by
leaps and bounds...



Monthly President's Report

John Marrin, President

August 2014



Student Success Goal: The demands of Colorado businesses and communities shall be met through the development of a high skilled work force.

Lamar Community College hosted an all-campus student orientation on Friday, August 22. Everyone on campus was involved in welcoming the new and returning students. LCC employees wore blue shirts with the new logo in order to be easily identified by students and family members in an effort help ease new student/parent anxiety. Approximately 100 students, along with their parents, attended the various seminars that were designed to help students and their parents make a smooth transition into the college experience. Community members and businesses accepted LCC's invitation to set-up booths at a Community Expo in the Bowman Building where they introduced parents and students to information about the local area and the services they provide to the community.

On Monday, August 25, students were treated to a welcome to campus breakfast to launch their first week of classes. A variety of evening activities took place on and off campus during the first week to help students with the transition to college life. The students were entertained by Mad Chad Taylor the Chainsaw Juggler on Tuesday night; attended an ice cream social on Wednesday night; and participated in Student Bowling Night at Lamar Lanes on Thursday night.

Student Success Goal: Colorado students shall have the opportunity to succeed through high quality, cutting-edge instruction and educational services.

Lamar Community College announced the continuation of the Online Pilot Program initiated in the 2013 fall semester. The program is designed for students who like the flexibility of online courses and are seeking to complete a college degree or certificate. Every student in the program will be assigned an Academic Advisor to assist in course selection. A \$1000.00 scholarship is available to those students who enroll in the program and meet all of the requirements. Additionally, there are many academic benefits to the program: online support, an online orientation, mentoring, tutoring, and access to LCC's computer lab for all online students.

President John Marrin attended the Kane Family Foundation Scholarship award reception to honor deserving young

students. Freshmen Ashlyn Hess and returning student Kyle San Agustin were the recipients this year for the Kane Family Foundation Scholarships.

Lamar will host a reunion for LCC's "Old Cowboys," in conjunction with the LCC Antelope Stampede Rodeo on October 3-5. The major events will be: a social on Friday afternoon, lunch and dinner on Saturday, LCC rodeo performances, and optional golf outings. The group is reaching out to students who were in Ag or Equine programs, and participated in Rodeo, Livestock Judging, Saddle & Sirloin Club, and other programs before Lamar Junior College changed its name to LCC in 1968.

Lamar Community College was, once again, a visible presence at the 2014 Lamar Sand & Sage Fair. Many LCC staff and students helped serve hamburgers and hotdogs for Family Night at the Sand & Sage Rodeo. It was a great opportunity for LCC to be involved in the community as well as help make the fair a success.

The Lamar Community College women's volleyball team began the season by hosting their annual LCC Invitational Tournament on Friday and Saturday, August 22-23. Besides LCC, other teams that competed included: County Community College, Cisco College, Clarendon College, Trinidad State Junior College, Otero Junior college, Seward County Community College, Dodge City Community College, Garden City Community College, Laramie County Community College, Bethany College JV. There was a great turnout from fans of all teams. It was a first-rate tournament!

Former LCC baseball standout, Austin Moore, who finished last season with a 9-1 record and a 2.03 ERA represented Lamar Community College at the NJCAA USA National Team this summer. Austin completed his LCC career as the all-time leader in ERA at 1.92, second all-time in innings pitched (164) and strike outs (200). He is tied for third all-time in career wins with 18. The team USA was made up of the best NJCAA players in the United States and played in the NBC World Series in Wichita, Kansas.

Operational Excellence Goal: The financial stability of the system's institutions and the physical safety of its students shall be ensured.

Following in his father's footsteps, Donny Ortiz, Jr. became a Runnin' Lope this semester. In 1992 Donny Ortiz came to Lamar Community College to play baseball under the direction of Scott Gadd. One year later, a young Scott Crampton took over as the head coach for the Runnin' Lopes. After the 1993-94 season, Ortiz graduated from LCC with his Associate of Arts and transferred to Metro State University to continue his baseball career. Donny Sr., who played outfield for the Runnin' Lopes, has kept in contact with Coach Crampton since he graduated in 1994.

Donny Jr. grew to be a fan of the Runnin' Lopes; his father brought him to Lamar to watch LCC games, sit in the dugout, interact with the players, and play in the alumni games. A recent graduate of Columbine High School, Donny Jr., will make history this fall at Merchants' Park when he plays second base and infield for the same coach for which his father played. Ortiz, Jr. will receive a Wade Parker Memorial Scholarship for the 2014-2015 academic year. This scholarship honors former Runnin' Lope, Wade Parker, who perished with 18 of his fellow firefighters while fighting an Arizona wildfire in the summer of 2013.

**President John Marrin
Welcomes
LCC's New Employees**



**Sue Bowles, Administrative Assistant II for
Nursing and CTE Programs**



Tamra Repshire, Custodial

President, John Marrin welcomes LCC's new employees is continued on page 2.



Lamar Community College Head Baseball Coach Scott Crampton stands with two generations of LCC Runnin' Lopes baseball players, Donny Ortiz, Jr. and Donny Ortiz, Sr.

Finding Satisfaction in Your Work

(Continued)

By: Curtis Turner

This is part two of a three-part article: the first part appeared in the Volume 4 Issue 2 August 1, 2014 edition of the Pronghorn Pronk.

“Vocation is the place where our deep gladness meets the world’s deep need.” —Buechner

If you recall from Part One of “Finding Satisfaction in Your Work,” we took a look at this topic using Fredrick Buechner’s quote, above, as a sort of guide. In Part One we zeroed in on the first part of the quote and discussed “deep gladness,” or, to put it more simply, enjoying one’s work. I gave a series of four questions which I have found to be helpful to students who are trying to figure out what career to pursue.

Now I want to talk about the second part of the quote: meeting “the world’s deep need.” My comments will probably back off a bit from Buechner’s intended meaning because I am addressing secular vocation, as opposed to some type of humanitarian or mission work. The religious sense of meeting the world’s deep need is a topic for another conversation. The way I am using the phrase here, we can just translate it as ‘meeting a need.’

I believe that in order to find satisfaction in your work, it must meet a need. You might object that for many if not most jobs, this is too high a standard. I disagree. If you think about it, all work can be seen as meeting a need.

Consider an occupational area which doesn’t get much respect: fast food. We tease about the person who will end up flipping burgers, but I have seen people who seem to take real joy in this work, and as a result do it very well. Furthermore, the work is certainly meaningful to me as a consumer. When I walk into a fast-food restaurant, I am hungry. I want someone to meet a basic human need, and anyone who works there has the opportunity to meet it. Granted, some don’t meet it very well, and many don’t appear to find their work very satisfying. In those cases I am less likely to go back to that restaurant, because I not only want my needs met, I want them met in a certain spirit.

Take, for example, Chik-Fil-A. My Chik-Fil-A (CFA) is on Powers Boulevard in Colorado Springs. (I am not claiming that all CFA restaurants are equally well-managed.) I love going to this restaurant because the food is good, but more important to me is the quality of the service I receive. Each employee is friendly and happy to serve you. I have found no exception to this. When they give you your food, if you say thank you, they will reply, “It’s my pleasure.” These food service workers have convinced me that they enjoy their work and that they truly take pleasure in serving. I believe it is because they realize they are meeting a need, and so are inspired to do their work with excellence. At first, this was probably the result of a good training program, but I have to think that what they were initially taught, they eventually came to feel and believe. The newbies have to fake it; the veterans can make it. In fact I am sure that this was how things must have happened, because of the consistency of quality service.

The feeling that you are meeting a need is as important to your work satisfaction as doing something you feel well-suited to. According to Buechner, the combination is where you will find your vocation. It’s an easy idea to sell to a doctor, nurse, teacher, or minister, but I hope you can see how it can go far beyond that, and apply to just about any occupation.

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President John Marrin Welcomes LCC’s New Employees



Rebecca Babcock, Director of Learning Support Services and the TRiO Program



Sharon Grasmick, Academic Services & Program Coordinator and CSU CO Pals Navigator



Debbie Wilson, Custodial

More of “President John Marrin Welcomes LCC’s New Employees” will appear in the November 2014 edition of the Pronghorn Pronk.



Welcome

LCC's New Dean of Arts & Sciences

Fred Hampel

This is part two of a two-part interview
By David Frankel

You've been here about a month. What's it been like?

I've been at enough different schools that I always have something to compare it to, and the truth is, I've never had a bad experience. There are always challenges, of course, but I've enjoyed every place I've worked, and I've enjoyed the people I've worked with. And certainly LCC's no different. There are outstanding people here. I guess I kind of measure things based on relationships: how committed people are to the work, how friendly they are, how collegial – collegial's probably the word I'm looking for – because those are the things that make us want to come to work every day. And certainly Lamar ranks way up there. People work together, people know each other, people care about each other. It's evident every day in my conversations.

I guess coming here, I was a little apprehensive because it is such a small college, it is a relatively small town, so they're bound to be close-knit, and I didn't know how well they'd accept an outsider. I've found that the folks here welcome outsiders with open arms. And they're *interested*. They're *interested* in you.

Well, also we really needed you. [Laughter.] I mean, sometimes you can start a new position and someone's thinking, "I should have gotten that job." Here it was, "Thank goodness he's here."

I know my predecessor, Curtis, was very influential and respected, and was doing a lot of things, and it's a big hole when someone like that leaves. It's probably fortunate for me that I came in when Curtis had been gone for a year, because I don't have to pick up *exactly* where he left off. I can mess some things up, and people'll be a little more forgiving, because they've already had a year when there was a disconnect.

When I decided I was going to move into the academic ranks this year, and I was looking around at positions, I'll be honest, Lamar was not at the top of the list. Honestly, it didn't start moving up until I got well into the process. I actually was a finalist at some good schools, and for higher-level jobs, even, than Dean. But then things changed.

First of all, I enjoyed the interview a lot. Cheryl's my point of contact, and I value her commitment to the college, and her common-sense approach to leading and managing. It just came through in spades—she and I always seemed to be on the same page. We value the same things. And she spoke a lot about how much she cares about the people here, the faculty and the staff. She rattled off a lot of names, how good everybody is at their jobs – that's what really sold me. That's the kind of place we all want to work.

Some of the positions I was looking at were not solely academic positions. Some were more administrative in other areas of the college.

With your background, there must be lots of ways for you to get pulled into stuff that's more purely numbers.

Yeah, that's exactly it. I could easily get drawn into a controller job, or something on that side of things, but I've spent quite a few years now on the academic side of the house, and that's really my comfort zone. It took me going through a search process to see that that's where I'm drawn to. I want to be close to the academic environment. That way I don't feel like I'm leaving academics cold turkey.

Plus, with my farm background, there's a little bit of nostalgia for me to get back out of the city again.

Another full-circle thing.

Yes. Another full-circle thing.

I'm really enjoying it so far, and I'm looking forward to when classes start, and seeing this place with students in it. I'm anxious for all of the faculty to get back so that I can start interacting with them: find out what they need, what they would like to see happen. When they're not sure what they need, I'll just move forward and do what I can to help. That's my mindset.

What do you see as the most significant challenges of your new job?

Well, right now it's about learning the college's processes, the way of doing things. It's very important not to come in like a bull in a china cabinet and just do it the way I've seen it done at other schools. I've got to learn how it's done here, and then I'll evaluate processes over the course of the year.

The biggest challenge, of course, is what the challenge of the college is, as a small college, and that's that we have to create new sources of revenue. There's no way around it. But I look forward to that challenge. I like to build programs; when I was a faculty member, it was always fun to do that. I certainly enjoyed my time at Colorado Mountain College, particularly when we built the new bachelor's degrees there. That was a project I got to lead, particularly on the curriculum and instruction side – setting the academic policies, getting HLC approval, all those sorts of things. I have a real strong background in that, and I enjoy that kind of project, because people can get excited about it, and it's fun to build something and see it work.

I'm visiting with a lot of folks – I like to get people to talk. That's how I'm going to get a sense of what the possibilities are here. And I don't believe in doing anything that faculty aren't excited about. If faculty aren't behind it, it's not going to work here. It's simple as that. So I'm trying to pick brains. That's kind of my approach right now.

But there's no question that finances are *the* challenge. I see we have nice facilities; they're old, but they're well-kept. It's a good space. We have a supportive community. We have a lot of things going for us. Otero and us, we're really it out here in a large geographical area. I think the new law that allows community colleges to have Bachelor's

I was standing in front of about eighty people, and the person introducing me said, "This is Fred Hampel, and he was instrumental in developing Colorado Mountain College's bachelor's degrees." Pause. "Mission creep." She actually said that in front of everybody. And she was joking—but not completely.

Honestly, a lot of people at community colleges, that's the way they feel about this. They're not nearly as excited about offering bachelor's degrees as some of us are.

Well, it might not particularly make sense in metropolitan areas, because there are four-year schools right around the corner. But we don't have that out here.

One of our adjuncts was in here the other day, and he pointed out that there isn't a public four-year college between Pueblo and Wichita. There's Fort Hays, up north in Kansas, but there's nothing in the entire Arkansas River corridor. So I think we need to move forward as much as the legislature will let us, because we'd be doing this community a lot of good.

The long-term economic health of this community depends so much on helping its educational levels.

It's different now than it was just ten or fifteen years ago. In my field, business, an A.A.S. in Business just doesn't mean a whole lot to employers anymore. The gold standard is a bachelor's degree. It's either a bachelor's degree or we don't care. And it's not just business: I think some other fields are going that way too. Some have told me that they feel that nursing is going in that direction. An RN is fine, but we also want a bachelor's degree.

Those are competitive fields, and a lot of people want to enter them, so the bar can just naturally keep rising.

And we've got to rise with it. I think as a college, the challenge for us is to innovate along with society and not get left behind, so we constantly have to be re-evaluating our program offerings. That's hard to do, because every school has their sacred cows. But it's not just the curriculum that has to be constantly re-evaluated, but our offerings and what we do and how we do it. Obviously communications technology has evolved, and we're trying to stay with that. But also the expectations out in the job market have changed a lot. The influx of online degrees around the country has made education very accessible, so the supply of people with bachelor's degrees has increased. Therein lies the problem with associates' degrees.

I wonder sometimes whether this country is moving towards a system of two tiers of bachelor's degrees. Because I'm not convinced in my heart that online degrees are as good as traditional degrees.

In the advisory committees I've met with over the years, I'm pretty point-blank with some of my questions. You get these industry professionals and employers together, you might as well take advantage of it. And one of my favorite questions is to ask a group of accounting and finance professionals – controllers, accounting firm partners, people who hire entry-level and mid-level professionals in accounting and finance – I'll go around the room and ask, "What bachelor's degree schools would you recommend our community college graduates transfer to? And are there any schools you would recommend they *not* transfer to?" The response has been immediate and universal: with for-profit, and particularly online for-profit schools, these employers say when they see

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of Applied Sciences degrees, that's got to be something that could excite the community here. So, along with faculty, I'll be exploring that.

There are a lot of people around here who can't get up and go to Pueblo or Colorado Springs to complete their education.

We have a mission to fulfill for our community, and I think offering bachelor's degrees is part of that mission. It's kind of funny, though: not everybody believes that. Certainly up on the Front Range, a lot of people in the community college system aren't enthusiastic. In fact, one job I had, when I was first introduced to the faculty – it was in August;

one of those schools on a resume, they just throw it in the trash. They don't even look at it. That was extremely meaningful to me.

So yes. There are two tiers. No question about it. And we have to be real careful we don't look like a diploma mill. I think the fact that we have D2L and online, we need to make sure we don't misuse it and use it as a crutch for inadequate teaching. It's one of my passions, and I know a lot of the faculty here share that concern. We want to make sure we use D2L, we use hybrids and online, for the right reasons: to make the instruction environment richer and to give an opportunity for more students to learn more things. What's not a good reason for using online technology is the convenience of the instructor. The technology is there for a purpose, and we want to take advantage of it, but for the right reasons.

I think the most important thing is that I'd like people to see me as a resource. Yes, I act on behalf of the college, and I'm always thinking about what's good for the college, but I'm also thinking about what's good for the students, and the faculty, and all the various constituents.

What do you think are the biggest potential rewards of the job?

I don't think anybody gets into this line of work for the money. Coming from the business world, where money measures everything, and everyone's concerned about their career track and so forth – I left that behind a long time ago, and I don't think about things that way anymore. The rewards of the job, as cheesy as it may sound, are being able to work hard, and on Saturday morning, when I'm out on the trail contemplating what we accomplished that week, to be able to feel good about it. I don't want to be out on the trail thinking I created more trouble than I resolved, or that everything's getting out of control. To be out there on Saturday morning, that pretty much is my reward. To feel I had a hard week, but I got a lot done, and things are going well; there's still more work to do, but things went well, and I'm comfortable out here. That's my reward.

There are some jobs where everything snowballs constantly, particularly non-academic jobs, and they're no fun. You really don't get a weekend: you're always just trying to dig out. I know a lot of people in those jobs, and I don't want to be in that situation. That's my motivator – I don't want to be in that situation – and that's my reward.

The reward is also in being able to see students excel, and move on in life, and know you had some impact. One of the coolest things I ever got to do had to do with that bachelor's degree up at Colorado Mountain College. When we rolled out that program, our first students were the freshmen and sophomores who were already in the pipeline. It was a small school, like Lamar, and I knew these students when they were freshmen. And then I got to teach the capstone course when they were seniors, our first crop of seniors. To make it even better, I had left for the year at Red Rocks when they were juniors, so I hadn't seen them for a year.

They had grown *so much*. It was absolutely incredible, and I didn't expect it. When I looked at my roster at the beginning of the term and saw who was in the class, I was thinking, "Oh, boy. This is going to be a long semester." Some of them, when they were freshmen, I wouldn't have had high hopes for them getting through school. But to see them perform in that capstone course – to see them analyze case studies, and use the jargon, and speak with authority, and have some great ideas – they were ready for the professional world. As it turned out, there wasn't a bad apple in that group. They just fed off each other. They were confident, and they were proud of themselves. And I realized, Hey, they actually got something out of college. They're ready to get out of here and hit the ground running.

To see it all come together like that – and I think it took four years. You don't really see that in two years.

Is there anything in particular you'd like to impart to the readers of the *Pronghorn Pronk* (whoever they may be)?

I think the most important thing is that I'd like people to see me as a resource. Yes, I act on behalf of the college, and I'm always thinking about what's good for the college, but I'm also thinking about what's good for the students, and the faculty, and all the various constituents. That's my mindset. If there's one thing I want people here to understand about me, it's that I want to be a resource for them.

Foundation News

Anne-Marie Crampton

Plenty has happened in the Lamar Community College Foundation to prove we are headed in the right direction. We just completed the thirteenth LCCF Antelope Classic Golf Tournament, netting what may be our largest profit *so far* at \$9,000 in unrestricted funds. This could not be possible without a great deal of work from the golf tournament committee, adding Prowers County Development, Inc. (PCDI) to the effort with networking and extra hands. In addition to existing committee member, George Gotto, PCDI officers Rick Robins and Lawrence Brase joined to the effort. Brenda Brown assisted by rounding up sponsors. Many of the LCC Foundation Board members worked at the tournament, sponsored holes and found other ways to offer support. LCCF would like to recognize and extend their gratitude to those teams and sponsors that made it all possible.

Teams

Brase Insurance, Colorado Mills I & II, Colorado East Bank & Trust, Ark Valley Diesel, Cow Palace, SEMCO, Heath & Turpin, Gobin's of Lamar, Farm Bureau Insurance, rfarmer, llc, W.H.O. Manufacturing, Bean/Jones (sponsored by Robert Rawlings), Legacy Bank, Robinson Printing

Sponsors

Social Sponsors: *Tri-County Ford/Lincoln; Frontier Bank; Tri-State Generation & Transmission*
Lunch Sponsor: *JBS/Five Rivers*
Beverage Sponsor: *Colorado Mills*
Exclusive Hole Sponsor: *Weitgenant Trust*
Breakfast Sponsors: *Livewell Prowers County*
Tournament Prize: *Southeast Colorado Power Association*
Golf balls courtesy of: *PCDI & Bob Jarvis/Edward Jones Investments*

Hole Sponsors

Ace Tire Service, Airgas, Anderson & Company, CPA, Austin Repair, Bison Title, BJ's Burger & Beverage, Cash Welding, CCA/Bent Co. Correctional Facility, Cook's Floor & Wall, Core Financial, Chad DeBono, Ian & Jerene DeBono, Fellowship Credit Union, Gobin's of Lamar, Lamar Auto Parts/NAPA, Lamar Thriftway, John & Rosemary Marrin, Bette Matkowski, Pocket Shot, Cheryl Preisser, SE Comm/Southeast Colorado Power Assn., Dr. David & Liz Smith, State Farm Insurance/Anna Carere, Valley National Bank

Silent Auction Items Provided By

A & B Liquor, Jarry Bachmann, Bettian's Gifts, Interiors, & Travel, Colorado Rockies, Coronica's, Denver Broncos, Casey & Jo Dorenkamp, LCC Men's Basketball, Lamar Ledger, PCDI Board of Directors, Cheryl Preisser, Reyman's Grocery

Since the Foundation aligns nicely with alumni relations, it is now assisting a few dedicated alumni to plan and execute an "Old Cowboys" Reunion Weekend on October 3-5 in conjunction with LCC's Antelope Stampede Rodeo. While the college rodeo brings in 300-400 contestants from the Central Rocky Mountain Region, the OCR may attract up to 100 former students and guests. As word spreads, the event gets stronger.

Along the way, the Foundation has been blessed with meaningful donations. Expecting our second installment of \$15,000 in Daniels Fund Boundless Opportunity Scholarships, the Foundation received a check for \$30,000 instead. The accompanying letter explained that the increased amount was to reward our efforts. The Lamar Elks Lodge also donated \$5,000 of its profits from the 2014 Junior Rodeo Association Finals this summer. The donation will be used for Ag, HTM, Rodeo and Welding scholarships. Memorial gifts in honor of long-time resident, Galen Gilbert, contributed an additional \$7,000 for Nursing, Education, and Baseball scholarships.

Moving into the busiest quarter of the calendar year, the LCC Foundation expects to be very busy with fundraising efforts with an annual campaign letter sent to 800+ current and prospective donors and a parallel drive to build Enterprise Zone contributions. Most large gifts toward LCC's new residence hall have been Enterprise Zone contributions making the donation attractive for both the giver and the College.

By the time this is published, I will have attended the SE Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days conference in Trinidad. Like relationships with current and prospective donors, familiarity with major foundations across the state opens doors and keeps existing foundations giving to LCC year after year. The Foundation will actively seek out additional grant opportunities that fit its goals and the college's initiatives.

It is the College and Foundation's intention to start construction on the new residence hall unit in the first quarter of 2015. Although the funding has not completely been secured it will show that the project is moving forward and worthy of further investment. Additional gifts toward the project will help us finish it before the fall of 2015.

As a concerned community member or LCC staff member, join others who contribute to the future of LCC through overall support for the Foundation, capital projects, program development, or scholarships. Consider contributing in one or multiple ways or speaking to others who can give. Your support is critical to LCC's future.

Anne-Marie Crampton | Director, Institutional Advancement | Lamar Community College | ☎ Betz #116 | ☎ 719.336.1520 | 🌐 www.lamarcc.edu |

LCC Events Calendar October

The wealth of activities and events are too numerous to share in this space.

Please view our full calendar of events at <http://www.lamarcc.edu/calendar/>

LCC Sports: Rodeo, Softball, Baseball, and Volleyball

LCC Events: Online classes begin, ACT Testing

Local High School Sports and Activities at LCC