



## President's Updates

**February 7, 2024** 

## Dear Colleagues,

I hope the spring semester is off to a strong start. Thank you for all the ways you continue to challenge and support our students. I write today with important updates.

In recent weeks, we initiated several crucial searches for diverse roles, such as Coordinator of Student Accounts, Director of Financial Aid, Athletic Trainer, Marketing Coordinator, Biology Faculty, and Math Faculty. Moreover, in a strategic effort to enhance efficiency and retention, we underwent organizational restructuring, transferring the Student Accounts position under the purview of the Dean of Enrollment and Student Success. We extend our sincere gratitude to Paddy England, Michelle Crown, Dorothy Choat, and Jordan Kemp for their invaluable assistance in managing the Student Accounts functions during this vacancy.

As many of you may be aware, our System, through a shared governance committee, developed a new policy and System procedure for Shared Governance. I am attaching here this draft for your information. The policy will be presented next week at the Board meeting for final approval.

Exciting news on the enrollment front! As of now, our headcount and FTE numbers are showing a promising uptick compared to this time last year. Stay tuned for the finalized enrollment figures once last year's "adjusted" fake numbers are removed from the equation – we're making strides.

As you know, we recently completed LCC's Strategic Plan action priorities for 2020 – 2025 – attached here. During our recent President's Leadership Council meeting, we conducted a comprehensive review of our progress and achievements in Year 4, reported the successful completion of priorities from Years 1 to 3, and shared the latest updates on Key Performance Indicators for the institution. I encourage you to take a moment to review the document. It's important to note that this Strategic Plan is a dynamic and living document, continuously evolving as we track and measure our progress. Your insights and contributions have played a crucial role in shaping our planning, priorities, and efforts.

I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge a milestone for me – yesterday marked my first anniversary at LCC. It's truly astonishing how time has flown! Our shared dedication, established connections, and ongoing accomplishments makes it feel a lot longer. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your unwavering commitment to working alongside me in the ongoing journey of maintaining the legacy and impact of our remarkable institution. Together, we've achieved much, and I am deeply appreciative of the collaborative spirit that propels us forward.

I value the privilege of undertaking this meaningful work, and it is especially rewarding to do so in the company of such a dedicated and talented team.

Looking forward to many more milestones and shared successes ahead!

Sincerely,

Dr. Rosana Reyes President Lamar Community College

## **UPDATES**

- Our budget planning and request process has began. This process serves as a compass that will guide us through the upcoming fiscal decisions. As you develop your department/unit's plans, please keep in mind that each effort must be strategically aligned with the institution's overarching goals outlined in the Strategic Plan for years 4 and 5. Between now and February 9th, I encourage you to collaborate closely with your Vice President and/or supervisor to craft a comprehensive request connected to our strategic plan and that reflects our shared commitment to excellence and growth.
- Please help us welcome Benjamin Griffin, as the new LCC Athletic and Wellness Director. Benjamin is replacing Scott Crampton who is formally retiring from Lamar Community College after an impressive and impactful career at the College.
- The College held a successful Winter Semester this past December and is planning a robust Spring Late Start Semester to continuously support student persistence and enrollment growth. Stay tuned for further information.
- The College Executive Team had a recent visit with Attorney Angela Gramse. The College took the opportunity to review several key areas with Attorney Gramse, including Due Diligence, campus safety, student grievances, FERPA, etc.
- We're thrilled to have High Plains Community Health Center at the Lamar Community College Campus Wellness Center. Please encourage students and staff to feel free to utilize these convenient services at our site.
- The first round of Career Advance for Spring 2024 was awarded this past week. Of the 67 students identified as eligible, 31 were initially awarded for the spring, for a total of \$71,338.50. This brings a total of **\$161,714.87 in Career Advance** total awards so far.
- Please remember to nominate a student for the <u>Student Excellence Awards for Lamar</u> <u>Community College</u> under the categories of Rising Start Awards and Inclusive Excellence Champions. The nomination form is due February 16, 2024.
- The LCC Foundation's Sixth Boots, Bling, and Blessings fundraising event will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2024, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM in the LCC Equine Complex Indoor Arena. Tickets will go on sale soon. Please contact the Foundation Director, Rachel Evans, if you are interested in sponsoring the event or providing items to the auction. We look forward to seeing you there!



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