



LAMAR
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

President's Updates | May 30, 2024

DEAR ESTEEMED COLLEAGUES,

Last Friday, I initially planned to take the day off, but I decided to come to work while the campus was quieter than usual, as many colleagues had taken the day off for the long weekend. I wanted to use this time strategically in my office, sipping warm tea with lemon, listening to the Gypsy Kings, and preparing for several upcoming events, including next week's extended executive team retreat. As I engaged in these tasks and gazed at our beautiful campus, my thoughts wandered to our future, the blessings of the past, and the challenges of today.

Last week, a former mentor and dear friend, Dr. Catherine Chew, the retired president of Craven Community College, sent me her regalia. She attended college as an adult single mother and led an incredible career in higher education. She included a beautiful note in the box and wrote in her professional blog about passing the mantle and her hope that she touched someone along her journey. She certainly has! Dr. Chew was an exceptional leader who often reminded me to lead with both heart and mind. A well-planted legacy cannot be denied. I will wear Dr. Chew's regalia with immense pride and humility, honored to be entrusted with such a meaningful token of her academic and professional journey.

You are helping build the legacy and impact of LCC. Your unique perspectives, experiences, and gifts can have a lasting effect on a student, a colleague, a community, and our small rural college. The example you set and the work you do will create ripple effects beyond your comprehension. You are planting seeds that will bear many fruits. May our collective harvest demonstrate a thriving LCC with the accelerated transformative power of enriching hundreds and hundreds of lives through learning. Plant well!

Warm Regards,

Dr. Rosana Reyes

President

Lamar Community College

Updates

May 30, 2024



- The College has secured a Department of Higher Education Inclusive Higher Education grant for \$250,000 aimed at providing access and support to individuals with disabilities.
- We are also thrilled to announce that the College has secured the Skill Advanced \$859,145 Mobil Learning Lab grant focused on helping the College expand Industrial Technology programming, focused on manufacturing principles to elevate safety and efficiency across industrial processes. This Mobil Lab will provide comprehensive industrial mechanical training options in the manufacturing, electrical construction, transportation, renewable energy sectors, and beyond. The lab will be available to support Otero and Trinidad Colleges in their workforce development.
- Implemented the first Skill Advance customized training in rural CO, outside of Pueblo. We trained over 30 employees from Colorado Mills on electrical manufacturing machinery.
- Through the COPERR grant initiative, our Construction Trades program received additional funding & extension to academic year 2027. The College program completed and sold the College's second home renovation in Wiley. We also acquired two lots for new builds, with one home scheduled for completion this summer and the second new home construction set to begin in Fall 2024.
- Re-launched and expanded LCC food pantry. Fundraised over \$1,200 in cash, a freezer, and over 38 pallets of food donations. The Pantry has 991 visits from students since last Fall, a 300% increase in students served.
- The LCC Foundation and held an exceptionally successful Boots, Blings, and Blessing fundraising event, surpassing our goal of \$50,000 and raising close to \$60,000. Since February 2023 we have raised \$309,204.
- We have invested \$418,115 in institutional upgrades, capital repairs, innovations, and services for students while also increasing the College reserve to continuously enhance our fiscal stability.
- LCC will be presenting a balanced Fiscal year 2025 budget with strategic allocations, aligned with institutional priorities, employee increases, staff, increases, and equity salary adjustments to 31 positions.
- Our newly re-launched and expanded LCC Melisa's Love Food Pantry has raised over \$1,200 in cash, a freezer, and over 38 pallets of food donations. The Pantry has 991 visits from students since last Fall, a 300% increase in students served.
- This year the College has received \$3,404,457 in grants and currently has \$6,371,750 in pending grants applications to help advance institutional goals and services to students.
- LCC proudly announces the launch the Adult Career Enrichment Center (ACE Center), scheduled to begin this summer. Dedicated to empowering adult learners, the ACE Center focuses on assisting individuals in attaining a secondary (high school) equivalency certificate, or GED, thereby ensuring that education is accessible for all.
- New staff welcome
 - Counselor - Jannet Martinez-Chavira
 - Head Rodeo Coach - Travis Greenlee
 - Mech/Trades 1 - Chase Morris

