

## Improving LCC student life

**David Barker**  
News Editor

**MAIN CAMPUS** — The quest for providing students with something to do on campus has fallen squarely into the lap of Denise Harris, the director of Student Life and Leadership.

While Student Senate was the main thing Harris concentrated on when she came into the Student Life and Leadership office, one of her main goals has been to make LCC's campus a place where students want to be.

"Something I like to focus on in my position is making the campus exciting enough and comfortable enough that students want to hang out here," Harris said.

Harris has been serving as the director of Student Life and Leadership since 1994. In that time she has instituted a few major changes in the department.

"I love challenges and I love opportunities to make things better. The main thing is that I love working with students," she said.

According to Harris she was first approached for the job by then-LCC President Abel B. Sykes and charged with the task of "fixing" the Student Senate.

Harris said one of things she noticed right away was that LCC was spending thousands of dollars on student elections, but less than 50 students were voting.

"What I decided to do was allow everyone who wanted to serve on the Advisory Committee to the President, to do so," she said.

Harris fixed the problem by splitting the Student Senate into three separate groups: the Student Advisory Committee to the President (SACP), Student Organization Council (SOC) and the Student



Photo by David Barker

**Directing Student Life and Leadership:** Director of Student Life and Leadership Denise Harris stands next to one of the many thank-you notes that students and staff have sent to her. Harris has been director since 1994.

**Leadership Academy (SLA).**

"Each branch is structured by how much time and interest the person has in being a part of the student senate at LCC," Harris said.

The SACP brings student concerns to the president's office and meets a couple of times each month. The SOC is made up of students who are in clubs or organizations at LCC.

Their main job is being the first step in deciding whether student organizations will be officially recognized by LCC. The most involved is the SLA.

"The (SLA) is an experience of leadership development in theory and practice," Harris said.

"The theory part is taking classes (in leadership/politics) over four semesters. The practice is being involved in on and off campus service projects."

LCC's leadership academy has been so innovative and successful that it has been adopted by colleges across the nation, Harris said.

"We have been invited to

conferences in Atlanta and other places where we have been asked to present as 'best practice' program," Harris said.

Since 1994 has instituted a few major changes in student life.

One of things Harris has accomplished in her tenure was securing an area for students in the Gannon Building. She also got extra televisions from the Media Department for students to watch during their down time.

"We're coming along," Harris said. "We're a lot better off now than we were in the past."

In the future, Harris said she would like to see a student services building on campus.

"When we visit other campuses we see that they have post offices, stores, printing centers, designated places for clubs to meet, and a variety of eating places," she said.

"If (LCC) wants to keep students down here it should provide the setting for them to want to stay around here."

## LAAN puts on 'Red Ribbon Dinner'

**Courtesy of Nancy English**

**LANSING** — The Lansing Area AIDS Network (LAAN) is hosting its Third Annual Red Ribbon Dinner and Silent Auction on Friday, Nov. 30.

The Red Ribbon Dinner and Silent Auction is the kickoff event for LAAN's weekend observance of World AIDS Day which is recognized internationally on Dec. 1 of every year.

The annual dinner and auction is designed to raise awareness about local efforts to prevent new HIV infections and to raise funds for LAAN's services and programs.

LAAN Executive Director Jake Distell said, "Serving the greater Lansing area to the best of our ability is our most important goal at LAAN."

"The Lansing community has always been very sup-



Illustration by Rachel Harper

**World AIDS Day:** The Lansing Area Aids Network is holding an annual dinner and auction.

portive of LAAN and we hope that many of you will join us at this great event," he added.

LAAN provides both direct care and prevention services for people in eleven mid-Michigan counties.

Currently 300 people are receiving direct care servic-

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The dinner and auction will take place at the Eagle Eye Golf Course, 15101 Chandler Road in Bath. Tickets are \$100 and include Hors d'oeuvres, complimentary wine or beer, cash bar, dinner, silent auction and live entertainment. All donations are tax deductible.

## West Campus

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buildings' appearances are drastically different.

The award-winning architecture at West has a modern edge that LCC Math Instructor Nan Jackson said she uses for teaching her students.

"I use the actual building for helping students understand mathematics," Jackson said.

"The architecture becomes part of my curriculum."

The unique contours present a helpful visual aid to students, Jackson said.

"In tech math we might come out in the hallway, look at the elliptical shapes, the circular shapes and the columns," she added.

Students enrolled at West

are often taking part in technical programs that often ensure employment directly after they finish their chosen curriculum, Menefee said.

"Students who are here are really looking at getting a job right away when they get done," Menefee said.

"That's what courses and majors at West Campus will get you."

Pat Callahan, 30, is in the architecture program at West Campus. He said he appreciates the free parking and roomy atmosphere of the building.

"This is my second semester out here at West Campus," Callahan said.

"I like it (at West Campus) more. It's more spacious and I think parking is great, especially since they put the overflow (park-

ing lot) in," Callahan said.

"Last semester it seemed to be more crowded, but it doesn't seem to be this semester," he added.

People interested in enrolling for classes at West Campus need only to contact one department, making it easier to register for their courses, Menefee said.

"The Student Services Center (at West Campus) is a one-stop process. Advising, testing and enrollment all happen in the same place."

Contact West Campus  
Welcome center  
at  
(517) 267-5452  
or  
e-mail  
wc\_info@lcc.edu.

## Meeting

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the meeting.

"We respect you and your concerns. There's a lot we can't talk about right now. It's very frustrating because there are a lot of things we are not able to share."

Cardenas reassured those in attendance that the school would return to the topic and share more information when appropriate. "We want justice

for everyone," she said.

One student remained unimpressed with the school's handling of the case.

Transfer student Morris "Hassan" Glover, who revealed at the meeting he was a close friend of McCollum, castigated the school for what he described as an "injustice."

"With LCC being a college, the first question that comes to my mind is

"What is preventing something like this from happening to a student like me?" he said.

"LCC needs to issue a public apology," Glover continued, further stating that any future litigation against the school from McCollum could result in a multimillion dollar settlement, which he said would inevitably be a burden placed on students through tuition rates.

"There could have been

several instances where LCC could have prevented this. We shouldn't have to pay for LCC's injustice," Glover said.

Christine Hollister, LCC's director of strategic communications, said in response to Glover's assertion that students would bare the brunt of any lawsuit brought against the school that the school was insured for such an event.

Cardenas reassured the

meeting's participants LCC would not try to dodge the event in the future.

"I think when we are able to come back to it, we will (be able to apologize)," she said.

Glover remained unmoved.

"He's 33 years old now. He has to make up for lost time," he said.

Imeson revealed at the meeting that LCC did not have security cameras in

the A&S and SPS buildings prior to the murder.

Upon revealing this, an LCC student employee voiced her concern over the lack of security cameras in the student employee parking lot on Grand Avenue.

Imeson responded that the logistics associated with setting up a camera and streaming a live feed was very difficult, but that it was "high on the priority list."