

# **LCC Connections**

## **September 2009**

### ***Academic Affairs Initiatives***

The Academic Affairs office launched two significant initiatives this fall. The first is a Strategic Horizons conversation with the academic divisions, asking the simple question “What would LCC look like if it were functioning at its very best?” The process has no preconceived outcome; rather, its mission is to involve faculty and staff in decision-making and in creating a shared vision of the future. Questions of process, procedure and structure that best support and enhance teaching and learning will be addressed.

Departments will engage in facilitated conversations both within and across traditional department boundaries. Open forums will also be held in October. From these meetings, the ideas collected will be distilled into tangible plans to enable a positive work environment for all and improvements in structure and process.

The second major initiative is a process for Program Analysis (PA). This is distinct from the Program Review Effectiveness Self Study (PRESS) that programs conduct every four years. The PA process will involve information gathering, analysis, brainstorming, and institutional action with the goal of making programs sustainable.

The Academic Affairs office is also collaboratively developing a Program Review process for academic service areas such as Counseling and Advising, Tutorial Services, and Library Services. The lead counselor made this request during the budget process as these areas have not had the opportunity to engage in the PRESS process that academic programs utilize. The Provost is working with several faculty and staff from service areas across campus to develop a meaningful process.

The college is working on a partnership with Michigan State University that will expand opportunities for LCC students interested in a study abroad experience. Provost Stephanie Shanblatt has designated LCC Political Science Professor Marc Thomas as the college liaison with MSU’s international program. Marc is committed to helping LCC students gain meaningful international learning experiences.

### ***Enrollment Update***

On the first day of class this year, the College welcomed nearly 20,000 students representing an 8.8% increase over last year. (See current enrollment data below.) With increasing numbers of returning students and a more diverse population, Lansing Community College is well-positioned to continue as the region’s leader in workforce development, transfer, and technical programs. According to information provided by MACRAO, LCC is illustrative of a state-wide trend of record community college enrollment.

The College’s increased enrollment also included some important demographic changes such as a 10% increase in 30-60 year olds. Also on the first day, the College was more diverse with 37% more African-Americans, 16% more Asians, and 3% more Hispanics.

While enrollment growth at Main Campus (8.9%) closely reflected the growth of the College as a whole the downtown Campus actually had the lowest percentage of growth of any LCC location. Each LCC location saw a marked increase in enrollment with East Campus showing the largest growth at 16.2%. Enrollment at the College's West Campus grew 10.2%, Livingston Center grew 12.6%, St. Johns grew 12%, and the College's other off-campus locations saw a 10.4% increase. In addition to in-person instruction, online enrollment grew at a record 15.7%.

The College's aggregate growth translated into some programs with skyrocketing enrollments. The fastest growing programs on a percentage basis at the College are: Alternative Energy (58%), Community Education (53%), Sign Language (37%), and Aviation Maintenance (35%).

As of September 15, following the drop and add period, enrollment was up 8% or 1,500 students.

Admission applications increased by 2,649 students (30.5%). Registered students from the applicant pool increased by 1,152 students (33%). The College exceeded goals in each market segment as follows:

HS Graduates	Goal was 1,459 students (exceeded goal by 68 students)
Young Adults 19-23	Goal was 1,415 students (exceeded goal by 126 students)
Adults 24+	Goal was 1,205 students (exceeded goal by 190 students)

*Submitted by Jason Mayland*

### ***Financial Aid Refund Management Plan***

The college has selected Higher One as the firm it will contract with for financial aid disbursements to students beginning Spring semester. Higher One is a financial services and payment company focused exclusively on higher education. LCC issued a Request for Proposal in June 2009 and the RFP was awarded to Higher One in July 2009. The only financial obligation to the college is a 40¢ transaction fee (ACH, check or OneAccount debit card). LCC is the thirty-third institution in Michigan to partner with Higher One.

Higher One's OneDisburse® Refund Management® streamlines the disbursement process in which all disbursements and reconciliations are managed electronically and customer service needs are handled directly by Higher One. This will replace our process of printing and mailing checks, as well as reducing student traffic at the Student Finance windows.

Through OneDisburse®, LCC students will receive a OneAccount card in the mail which will enable them to log into a secure website and select the method in which they would like to receive refunds from the college. Students will have three choices: (1) Easy Refund option of activating the OneAccount debit card, (2) direct deposit to the

OneAccount, an optional, no minimum balance, no monthly fee, FDIC-Insured checking account provided by Higher One, or (3) electronic transfer to a bank account of his or her choice. If the student does not select a refund option, Higher One will call and email the student every few days to notify them of their available refund. If the student does not act, Higher One will mail out a check by the 21<sup>st</sup> day.

This program will allow the College to serve our students more effectively and efficiently, getting the refund in the students' hands more quickly. A communication plan is in place for students and employees.

### ***Early Childhood Center Receives Grant***

Senator Debbie Stabenow's office has informed the college that our new Early Childhood Center will receive a U.S. Department of Education CCAMPIS (Child Care Access Means Parents in School) grant. The award is for our requested amount of \$132,288 per year for four years. This is the third time LCC has been awarded a CCAMPIS grant, the process for which is extremely competitive. The funds will support staff compensation and stipends for our students who need financial assistance for child care. The grant period begins October 1. Congratulations to Marcia Rysztak and her team for the excellent job they did in competing for the grant.

### ***LCC Named Military Friendly School***

LCC has been named by *G.I. Jobs* magazine as a Military Friendly School for 2010. This honor ranks LCC in the top 15% of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide. LCC will be included with a basic listing in the *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*, which publishes in September 2009.

"This is a tremendous honor for our college," said Vanessa Bell, Assistant Director, Admissions, Registration and Records. "We offer a very individualized 'hands-on' approach in our dealings with this population. We provide one-on-one support throughout the application, certification and financial aid process and we act as a liaison with the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs. This award is a wonderful recognition of the work that my staff does."

The list was compiled through exhaustive research starting in May 2008 during which *G.I. Jobs* polled more than 7,000 schools nationwide. Methodology, criteria and weighting for the list were developed with the assistance of an Academic Advisory Committee consisting of educators and administrators from a variety of colleges/universities.

A full story and detailed list of "Military Friendly Schools" will be highlighted in the annual *Guide to Military Friendly Schools* and on a poster, both of which will be distributed to hundreds of thousands of active and former military personnel in September. A new web site, [www.militaryfriendlyschools.com](http://www.militaryfriendlyschools.com), will launch in September with interactive tools and search functionality to assist military veterans in choosing schools that best meet their educational needs.

Criteria for making the "Military Friendly Schools" list included efforts to recruit and retain military and veteran students, results in recruiting military and veteran students, and academic accreditations. A plaque has been presented to LCC commemorating the distinction.

### ***LCC Receives Excellence in Procurement Award***

LCC's Purchasing Department is the recipient of the 14th Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement (AEP) Award. Lansing Community College has received the award for seven consecutive years and is one of only four government agencies in Michigan to receive the national award. The award is designed to recognize organizational excellence in procurement through efficient and effective practices within an organization's procurement policies and processes. It acknowledges measures in innovation, professionalism, e-procurement, productivity and leadership attributes of the procurement function. Congratulations to Beckie Beard and her staff on this achievement.

### ***3D Technology Program Launched***

Lansing Community College invited students, employees and the community to a preview of the new interactive three-dimensional (i3D) programming in an IMAX theater environment on September 17.

The newly built learning center boasts a 9 foot x16 foot screen, seating for 65, and a powerful sound system. The new i3D technology combines 3-D computer graphics with sound, video, animation dimensional drawing, and human interaction creating a multi-sensory teaching and learning experience. A separate computer lab is available for individualized hands-on learning opportunities for students.

"The examples of 3-D in healthcare, the automotive industry, construction, law enforcement and teaching are limitless," said LCC President Brent Knight. "This cutting edge i3D learning experience will help prepare LCC students to pursue careers in informational design or as 3-D simulation modeling technicians."

The technology is part of a newly created certificate program in the Business, Media, Art, and Information Technology (BMIT) division in the Art, Design and Multimedia program. The program begins with two new courses: a 2D Information Design course and an Introduction to Simulated Reality, using EON Reality hardware & software that powers the i3D learning experience.

The new digital material will be designed for inclusion in existing and new programs for the classroom, e-Learning and professional improvement, as well as enhancing marketing capabilities for Lansing Community College.

### ***LCC-TV Takes Sports Talk Show Live***

The "Every Spin on Sports" talk show was broadcast live for the first time on July 17 on LCC-TV and was simulcast on LCC Radio, WLNZ 89.7 FM. Local sports legend and host Bob Every, along with WFN radio personality Dave "Mad Dog" Demarco, started

the season with a new format, a new set constructed specifically for the show, and a new look. The show airs on WLNZ on Fridays from 11 am-12 pm and on LCC-TV at 6 pm and midnight and on Saturdays at 7 am and 2 pm. Since July, Bob's guests have included Denny McClain, Suzy Merchant, Dean Look, Mark Hollis, and Tom Izzo.

### ***TechSmith Corporation Scholarship***

TechSmith Corporation has recently established the TechSmith Corporation Computer Science Scholarship with the Lansing Community College Foundation. Founded in 1987, TechSmith, located in Okemos, is the world's leading provider of screen capture and recording software for individual and professional use.

The scholarship was established to provide tuition and fee assistance annually for five LCC students majoring in the LCC computer science program. The scholarships will be awarded for the 2009-2010 academic year. Applications for the scholarships were accepted through the college-wide scholarship application process.

### ***University Center Update***

As of September 16, University Center unduplicated headcount for fall was 586, an increase of 107 students over Fall 2008. Two new programs began this fall: BS in Elementary Education from Ferris State University and Graduate Certificate in Alcohol and Drug Abuse (counseling) from Western Michigan University. Also new this semester, Siena Heights and Ferris State began offering daytime classes. You will also see a new sign on the north side of the building that enables traffic traveling on Capitol Avenue to clearly identify the facility.

### ***Parking Update***

Construction for Parking Lot U at the University Center site began in July and the lot was opened for student and staff use on August 20, the first day of fall semester. Project completion is anticipated in late September or early October. Contractors are finishing up the landscaping and security camera installations.

Due diligence for the purchase of the Saginaw and Capitol properties is in progress. The Phase I Environmental Site Assessment has been completed and the final report is expected the week of September 14. The closing will be scheduled pending a successful conclusion of the outstanding due diligence items.

### ***Department of Language Skills Receives N.A.D.E. Certification***

The National Association for Developmental Education (NADE) has awarded the Department of Language Skills a seven-year certification at the Advanced Level. The NADE Certification process requires applicants to demonstrate application of theory, use of quality practices as defined by professional research and literature of the field, and analysis of baseline and comparative evaluation data to demonstrate the use of continuous and systematic assessment and evaluation. Thanks to Sally Pierce and Leslie Lacy for their time and effort in preparing and applying for the certification.

### ***American Chemical Society Renews Chemical Technology Accreditation***

The LCC Chemical Technology program has been re-approved by the American Chemical Society (ACS). The program was first approved five years ago and came up for renewal again in 2008. To receive the nationally recognized approval, chemical technology programs must demonstrate that they meet ACS standards in quality of faculty and instruction, academic rigor and quality, and partnerships with industry and other employers to meet their need for chemistry laboratory technicians in the workforce.

### ***LCC Administrator Appointed to Ingham County Board of Health***

Nancy M. Hayward, RN, BSN, MPH, LCC Director of Clinical Placement and Outreach for Nursing Programs, has been appointed to a three-year term on the Ingham County Board of Health. Ms. Hayward is responsible for recruitment, training, and mentoring of all LCC clinical faculty. The board is responsible for identifying public health problems, advising commissioners on health matters, and recommending health services. This appointment gives LCC another opportunity to have a voice in addressing public health issues.

### ***LCC Trustee Candidates' Forum***

On Wednesday, September 23, LCC hosted a meeting of the seven LCC Board of Trustees candidates who will be on the November 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot. The meeting provided them an opportunity to learn more about the college and to address questions to LCC leadership. Dr. Knight, Dr. Shanblatt, David Hilquist, and Dr. Chase provided information on community colleges, academics, budget and finance, and government relations respectively.

### ***\$40K NSF Award Funds Nanotechnology Partnership***

Lansing Community College in partnership with Claytec, Inc., a Lansing area nanotechnology startup, has been awarded a \$40,000 National Science Foundation Phase IIC grant. These funds will be used to provide fellowships to LCC faculty and students that will enable them to work with Claytec as they develop their products and commercialize their technology. Work under this grant will begin in July 2009.

“This is an incredible opportunity for LCC faculty and students to gain experience in the emerging nanotechnology industry,” said LCC Science Department Chair Thomas Deits. “In addition, the knowledge they acquire and share will inspire their peers to consider nanotechnology as a source of future careers.”

Claytec, Inc. has received an NSF Small Business Innovative Research grant to develop their proprietary mesoporous nanoparticle technology. These new nanomaterials can be used to save energy in the production of chemicals, to strengthen materials for auto parts and other high value products, and in a variety of other high-value applications.

### ***2009-10 Carl Perkins Grant***

LCC was allocated \$1.1 million in federal money for this year's Carl Perkins Grant. LCC adds an additional \$785,728 in local funds to bring the grant total to \$1.9 million. The grant is used to support Special Populations students by providing supportive services,

attendance costs, tutoring, accommodations and supervision. The grant also is used for program improvement projects such as curriculum development, mastery learning, supplemental instruction, tutoring, basic skills assessment, recruiting and outreach for state-approved occupational programs. Lastly, grant funds are used to purchase major equipment for these occupational programs.

### ***New Department Chairs***

**Dr. Kathy Burgis** has been appointed *chairperson of the Math & Computer Science Department*, Liberal Studies Division. Kathy's most recent position was chairperson of the Department of Mathematics at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids.

**George Berghorn** was appointed *chairperson of the Environmental, Design, and Building Technologies Department*, Technical Careers Division. Most recently, he served as director of forest policy with the Michigan Forest Products Council and director of governmental affairs for the U.S. Army Cadet Corps.

**Marvin Ortiz** was appointed *chairperson of the Transportation and Engineering Technologies Department*, Technical Careers Division. Most recently, he served as a Staff Analyst/Consultant, Applied Technology and Services, for RWD Technologies.

### ***A Message from LCC's Police and Public Safety Department***

Just a reminder from your law enforcement team that we're here, we're on duty, and we're working to provide a safe environment in which the educational mission of the College can be fully realized. That team is made up of two command officers, 11 police officers, 2 full-time dispatchers assisted by 10 part-time intermediate officers, and 20 student cadets, all here to help.

Often visitors and first-time students are unaware of the services that we provide.

We provide crime prevention and control, criminal investigations, traffic and parking enforcement and supervision, physical plant security, disaster coordination, and maintain public order. We also provide battery jump starts and open locked cars, at minimal cost; furnish parking information; give safety and law enforcement lectures; and maintain a vigorous college-wide safety program.

In addition to patrolling, our officers are responsible for enforcing all state and local laws, as well as investigating all criminal incidents on campus. And in case of an emergency, all of our officers are trained by the Red Cross to deliver first aid.

We can help with directions. We can escort you to your car or from building to building. We make emergency notifications. And since we make and issue all College door keys, we can open doors in emergency situations and after hours.

We also maintain LCC's Lost & Found service. And we coordinate the dispatching, servicing and use of all College-owned and leased vehicles.

But our primary job is to serve as polite, professional problem-solvers and to find answers to questions we're asked. If we're asked for directions, we don't just verbally answer, we walk the person to their destination.

Over the years, we've substantially increased our training to keep pace with changes, and today we are knowledgeable in issues like treatment of the mentally ill, hazardous materials management, emerging legal trends, and, of course, technology. In fact, our in-car cameras are probably one of the most beneficial improvements in the past several decades.

During our existence here on campus we have handled everything from Presidential visits (President Clinton in the late 1990s) to three arsons in one night (which we solved with the perpetrator arrested and convicted) to the week-long Common Ground Festival, which this year attracted some (TBD) visitors to our campus.

Our most common reporting is of larcenies, primarily books and purses. The frustrating aspect of these cases is that most of them are entirely preventable. That's another part of our job – to inform you of ways to protect your own safety and prevent such losses.

To that end, we recently sent three officers to a Crime Prevention School that focused on college campuses. We will be using their new-found knowledge to introduce new crime prevention initiatives at LCC.

So please be aware of your personal possessions, your surroundings, and your personal space. And be especially aware that the LCC law enforcement team is here to help – whatever your needs.

*Submitted by Linda Heard based on a conversation with Lt. Bill French*

### ***Faculty & Staff News***

Catherine Griffin, Professor of Mathematical Skills, was highlighted in the STARLINK Training Network streaming video entitled "Award-Winning Tools, Tips and Techniques for Classroom Instruction." The STARLINK Training Network offers learning opportunities to educational institutions, governmental agencies, and other public entities via DVD and the Internet. This streaming video featured classroom teaching strategies and demonstrations that instructors from across the country have found effective. Topics covered in the video included the following:

- Making Small Groups Work
- Using Pop-Culture Technology for Learning Tools
- Anchoring Subject Matter to Current and Future Learning
- Making Lectures more Meaningful Through the Use of Learning Objects

In the video, Professor Griffin shared how she uses self-directed work teams in her classes, which has resulted in an increase in student persistence and achievement.

**Doug Sjoquist**, Religious Studies professor in the Humanities and Performing Arts Department, recently returned from Japan where he taught a three-credit, three-week course on Japanese religions to American students in a study abroad program through Michigan State University. Three of his ten students were from Lansing Community College. Professor Sjoquist also delivered a presentation on Shinto at the Fox Run Retirement Community Performing Arts Auditorium in Novi last June. Over 70 people attended the two-hour presentation which was part of a series on world religions.

**Michael Wright**, Humanities and Performing Arts, lent his vision, talent and teaching to the collaborative film industry training partnership between LCC, MSU and Capital Area Michigan Works! Prof. Wright was an important member of the team that made this amazing learning experience possible for 60 local community members preparing students to enter the film industry market as it expands into mid-Michigan. The final film produced by the LCC-MSU-CAWM! Collaboration may be viewed at: <http://vimeo.com/channels/47317>. **Jonathan Little**, adjunct faculty in the LCC STEC program, also participated in the venture lending his expertise in set design and construction.

**Jonathon Gewirtz**, adjunct faculty in the LCC Music program, performed with the Tom Butwin Band on the main stage of the Rothbury Festival last July. The Tom Butwin Band earned its spot in the festival lineup as winners of the FOX 2 Rothbury Competition. Jon directs the LCC Jazz Band and teaches courses in The History of Jazz and Blues, Music Appreciation and applied lessons in saxophone.

**Nicole Lloyd**, lead faculty for MATH 107 in the Mathematical Skills Department, upon recommendation by her chair, has been selected as one of 24 for an AMATYC (American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges) Project ACCESS Fellow in the sixth cohort. She will profit from working with other Fellows in 2009-2011 and will be attending the AMATYC conferences in November.