

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
March 21, 2011

Regular Meeting
Adopted Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Hollister, Meyer, Proctor, Rasmusson, Smith, Woods, Canja
Absent: None

Trustee Meyer attended by telephone.

Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Proctor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Smith and supported by Trustee Hollister that the minutes of the February 28, 2011 Regular Board of Trustees meeting be adopted.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Hollister, Meyer, Proctor, Rasmusson, Smith, Woods, Canja
Nays: None
Absent: None

The motion carried.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

The following additions were made to the agenda:

- Trustee Smith asked that the Foundation Board Report be removed.

Resolution Presentation

The following resolution was presented to Officer James Terrill

The Board of Trustees of Lansing Community College resolves as follows:

WHEREAS, it is indeed a pleasure to offer words of encouragement and praise for LCC Police Officer James Terrill, who in his first year of service demonstrated selflessness, courage and commitment to the core mission of the LCC Police to serve and protect; and

WHEREAS, we as a board are proud to recognize Officer James Terrill for his quick-thinking that helped save the life of a despondent woman. On the evening of March 3 while on routine patrol, Officer Terrill was flagged down by a female civilian who described witnessing a woman jump – in an apparent suicide attempt – from the high point on the Kalamazoo River into the icy waters of the Grand River below; and

WHEREAS, Officer Terrill immediately notified LCC Police and Lansing PD of the situation and then quickly grabbed an emergency rope bag from his patrol vehicle and rushed to help. He ran down the east river bank and, after attempts to verbally communicate with the woman failed, tried twice to toss the rope in the vicinity of the 43-year-old woman. She was unable to aid in her own recovery attempts because the icy waters had robbed her of her strength; and

WHEREAS, as the river current continued to push the woman northward and her struggle to keep her head above water intensified, Office Terrill was joined by Lansing PD Sgt. Guy Pace and others who decided their best vantage point to affect a rescue was from the banks near Museum Drive. Disregarding their personal safety Officer Terrill and Sgt. Pace removed their holsters. Pace jumped into the frigid waters and swam 30 yards to the woman where he latched the two together. Officer Terrill helped drag the exhausted woman and sergeant toward shore. Officer Terrill entered the darkened water to help pull the woman safely onto shore where a waiting ambulance rushed her to Sparrow Hospital. She survived her physical ordeal; and

WHEREAS, Officer Terrill and Sgt. Pace were also conveyed to the hospital where they were treated and released for mild hypothermia due to the acute cold water and air they voluntarily exposed themselves to while saving a woman's life; and

WHEREAS, Officer Terrill, age 21, earned an associate's degree in criminal justice from LCC, is a 2010 graduate of the LCC Police Academy and is working on a bachelor's degree from Siena Heights University, and has chosen to follow in the proud footsteps of his father, James, a DeWitt Township police officer; so

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees honors and commends Officer Terrill for his selfless actions that night; and may he continue to enjoy a distinguished career in his chosen profession.

Limited Public Comment Regarding Agenda Items/Public Comments

Stephanie Shanblatt: I would like to take this opportunity to update the Board of Trustees, the campus and our community on the Program Analysis feedback process. The Deans and I held an open forum last week and will hold two more this week. Through these forums, through email and through face-to-face conversations with faculty, students and community constituents, we have listened carefully to questions and ideas. The faculty association has made several data request; as of the end of the day last Friday, all outstanding requests had been answered. Most centered around reviewing the detail behind published numbers, such as all of the expenses included in the Revenue to Expense Ratio. The integrity of the data is sound; we have and will continue to be transparent regarding the sources of all data. At MAHE's request we have extended the feedback period from 30 to 37 days, because of time lost during Spring Break. Concomitantly, all other contractual deadlines have extended by one week. I want to address a perception that has been bandied about regarding the meaning of a "high wage" job. What we are talking about is a job that pays at least \$12-14/hour. We believe attending college should add value to your earnings potential and marketability. Many students leave our college with significant student loan debt, often exceeding \$30,000. It simply is not possible to repay those loans with a minimum wage job. It is essential and imperative that students have the ability to pay back their loan. The president has discussed the need to gain a credential before leaving the college. Does that mean that someone is not welcome if they want to take Spanish for personal interest? Of course not. But for those students whose intent is to earn a degree or certificate, we want to do all that we might to ensure that the student reaches his or her goal. To that end, many heard me recommend elimination of the Auto Tech program. That is true, but it is not the whole story. We proposed and envision an academy-style program that would begin with the basics and move students through to an ASE certificate in the first year, and then to second year work in a more specialized field, ultimately leading to a degree. This curriculum would be designed with input from our regional employers, so that we can ensure that they are able to hire individuals with the skills needed for today's complex automobiles. Finally, I am pleased to announce that because of good conversations with the State and with our faculty, we will not hibernate the Interpreter Training Program. We still have work to do, but believe that we can do so while continuing to offer our courses uninterrupted. Thank you.

Kathleen Weller: Hello, my name is Kathleen Weller, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. The purpose of this letter is to ask you to reconsider the point system used for evaluating applicants for the 2nd degree accelerated track nursing program. This is a program designed for applicants with a bachelors, masters or doctorate, degree that wish to become registered nurses. My specific concern is with the 10 points assigned to in-district residents. I have attached an explanation of the point system so that you can see how the points are accumulated. I am an out of

district student. When I first started accumulating prerequisites (one at a time due to working full time), the cut off for acceptance was 45 points. It was possible for me to achieve 45 points as an out of district pupil. My understanding is that the most recent cut off was 54 points. Although I have received A's (4 points) in all of my classes taken at LCC and transferred in, and have earned additional points by volunteering, it is impossible to achieve 54 points as a non-resident. It is impossible to overcome the 5 point advantage given to in-district pupils. It ask that you reconsider the 5 point disparity for the following four reasons: (1) Residency does not reflect the quality of the applicant or the potential for success in the nursing program or a nursing career. Other factors in the point system reflect merit but residence does not. (2) The 10 points for residency reflects a poor business model. Out-of-district residents are already compensating for lack of LCC millage by paying higher tuition. To penalize individual out-of-district pupils with the point system does not benefit LCC. It neither encourages localities to pass the millage nor compensates LCC for lack of millage. (3) Another reason that the 10 points for residency reflects a poor business model is that it reduces LCC's revenue. Without the 10 point disparity, pupils would be accepted on merit and many higher tuition paying non-residents would be accepted into the accelerated degree program. You can see this model at work in universities, such as the University of Michigan. That liberally accept out of state and international pupils based on merit. This increases their revenue. (4) Further, the 10 points for residence is inconsistent Dean Margie Clark's nine stated goals in her message and I have given you the link to her message. In fact, the residency points run counter to the dean's goals. Thank you for considering my request. I intend to apply for the accelerated degree nursing program this spring because the LCC program is less expensive and academically superior to the Michigan State University accelerated degree program. It has a higher pass rate for the nursing exam.

Melissa Kamai-Arambula: Hello my name is Melissa Kamai-Arambula. I'm an adjunct faculty for aquatics and I am here today with my petition to help give us some time to save our pool. I know that in the paperwork, we have seen and in the paperwork we were given, the forecasted number seems a little inflated. I know it is a work in progress, but I think if given the time we can find outside money sources for us to have our pool, run and maintain it. I have searched on-line to several different websites, grant.gov, and I found five different grants that we could use to help supplement the funding that is needed for our pool. I have also created a petition to hopefully give us some time to be able to initiate some of these different programs. My petition says that by signing your name to this petition you are in support of keeping the Lansing Community College pool open until one of three points are met. (1) There is supplemental outside funding established; (2) there are grant funds that will be used for the renovation and maintenance of the pool and (3) that the pool will not close until there has been a chance to get a response from the Board or committee about either the outside funding of the grant; whether that takes three, five or ten years. I have some petitions that are signed and am more than willing to give them to you. We have more in the process. Thank you very much.

Richard Post: Thank you Board. I'm Richard Post, president of Altra Products Supply. I drove in from Grand Rapids, Michigan. I am the regional supplier for body shop equipment and supplies in the automotive industry. I am a bi-product of the Vocational School at Ferris State University, 30 years ago. Currently I run a small company that has eight to ten employees seasonally. We rely on places like Lansing Community College to help our local organizations fulfill their needs for employees for technically trained students. My company currently works with many vocational programs in Michigan, as well as automotive repair centers and collision shops throughout Michigan and Northern Indiana. Our shop owners ask us if we can help them find trained technicians because of the shortage going on in the industry. Many shops are looking but can't find trained help. Today more than ever, the automotive industry needs a much higher level of trained technicians. Mechanical aptitude and computer skills are vital to the industry and repairs of today's vehicles. Critical paint color matching and environmental safety are all part of it to make it happen. Good trained automotive repair technicians can earn up to the six figure incomes and are anything but low wage employees. Our company and its auto repair shops, our customers, encourage the Board of Lansing Community College to find a way to keep the program alive. We need the techs and the techs need you guys. Thank you.

Dwight Luick: Good evening to the members of the Board and to the people that are gathered here this evening. Thank you in advance for hearing my comments. I've been an automotive repair shop manager for over 25 years. I've been involved in the parts departments and dealership. I've been involved parts stores, sale and management. I also currently hold State of Michigan certifications in auto repair. In my career I have interacted with so many technicians that I can't count; anywhere from entry level to ASE master techs.; some with formal training and others without. In the past technicians could start in an entry-level position and over the years work their way up the ladder with no formal training. Those days are over. The industry has changed and evolved over the years. I don't see that happening nowadays. The vehicles have become more complex and the days of "Johnny Joe Lube Tech" moving up to the head tech without training are over. Technicians today face a multitude of new problems and recurring repair issues. The up and coming tech will need mechanical skills, electrical skills, and computer skills. In a competitive job market, the entry-level tech will not be able to achieve on-the-job training. They will need formal automotive repair training to excel in this field. Also, please remember that technicians can obtain some education in the, take an ASE State of Michigan test and obtain a job without having a full degree or certificates. I assume that most of the people here this evening arrived at the meeting in some sort of motor vehicle, whether it be a privately owned automobile, a taxi, or a mode of public transportation. At some point any of these vehicles will require repair. Without available mechanical training in this area, who will repair those vehicles when issues arrive? I urge you to save the LCC Auto Program and keep Lansing moving in the future. Thank you.

Ed Carpenter: Ed Carpenter, I'm a Lansing Businessman and own a Liskey's right around the corner. I'm here to speak on the behalf of the independent garage guy. Don't take our place away we need it bad. That is probably the most expensive equipment that you have and if you do close it, I'm afraid it will cost so much to get it updated in few years if we decide we need it back. It will never happen. Lansing has one of the best facilities in the state. It is terrible if we lose it. Independent repair facilities do not have other options. The dealers have some type of training. An independent depends on schools like this to get our technicians trained. When I started the business, I went to Ferris. You could learn on the job. Today without that technical training....these cars think of the systems they have. You are not going to learn that working in a garage, you have to come to a facility. The idea of not getting diplomas; our industry is guilty of that. We don't require diplomas for kids to come to work for us. If I need a brake technician, if he came to LCC and took brakes and maybe front ends, I'll put him to work. Then two or three years later, he might want to upgrade his skills and become a tune-up technician so he will come back to school. Last year we sent two students to diesel program, with no intentions of getting a diploma, only to upgrade their skills. The pay situation is probably true. We start the students out a little low, but it is not a reflection on the school. These students just don't have the experience and they are working on sophisticated systems. The first couple of years they make some mistakes out there that cost the garage man quite a bit. I feel like they are continuing their education for maybe a year or two years outside. However, you follow that student three years and his pay is going to be right up there. For instance, my son attended here and he is running the Liskey's. My daughter went to Ferris and became a schoolteacher. It took her five years to become a school teacher and in that five year span my sons pay is right about where she started about \$32,000. Ten years later they are still equal. Thanks so much.

Jay Meyering: Good evening I'm Jay Meyering. I am an equipment sales rep by trade and sell equipment to the aftermarket. I worked for Michigan for most of the years that I have been involved. I've been involved with the advisory committee with Lansing Community College, as well as several other community colleges in the area. Community colleges throughout the state are a very important part of the aftermarket of being able to provide the training and promote on-going training for the technician. The cars have gotten so complicated and sophisticated. We are going into electric cars now. We have about six versions of electric. If you went to a class and learned about the first version of electric, you probably won't know how to fix the six versions. You have to be specialized to be able to look at the Volt. These aftermarket technicians need to be able to do that. Even the manufacturers are cutting back on their training, the hands-on training especially. They are doing a lot of training on-line. Letting them get the training hands-on is the best that you guys have to offer. I think you have a good facility here, compared to downtown. Between you and Grand Rapids, you have the best facilities. Because technology is advancing so fast if you shut down for even a

couple of years, it's going to cost an awful lot of money to get it back up running.
Thank you.

Jerry Carpenter: Good evening Lansing Community College Board of Trustees. My name is Jerry Carpenter from Liskey's Auto & Truck Service. First, I would like to thank you for taking the time to listen to us talk about the automotive program at LCC. Twenty-two years ago, while in the US Navy, my father wrote me and asked if I had any interest in some day running the family auto repair business. While not having any formal training, but having a great interest in the automotive industry, LCC has given me the training and skills that have not only made me a good technician but the ability to run the family business. Most of our technicians have attended the LCC Automotive Program. We currently employ one of your graduates from the program. We have also in the past had some of our technicians as part time instructors, helping to educate and grow our upcoming employees. Losing the auto program would make it hard for us as independent auto repair shops to stay on the cutting edge of information and technology. We need this program to ensure there is a place for us to get this education, not only for the young technicians but also for experienced techs, to help them stay current with our constantly changing field. Without the automotive program here at LCC it would be tough for us to survive. We want to thank you.

Denise Shaver: Good Evening. My name is Denise Shaver and I have been an Interior Design, Fashion Technology & Graphic Design instructor since 1989 and with LCC since 2004. I have been a store manager and am currently a web designer. When our program began, all courses were offered on main campus. We enjoyed full classes and waiting lists for our EISD programs in Fashion and Interior Design. At that time, the Interior Design program was part of the Art Department. In 2004 the Fashion Technology program was created with instructors from the Interior Design program and it flourished. Enrollment in that program has progressively increased. When the college built the West Campus facility, we were moved out of the Art Department and placed in Technical Careers. After this move, many students had problems with transportation and thus we lost students. It is ironic that most of the programs that are being cut are those offered on West Campus and that a lot of the enrollment issues are on the West Campus facility. One of the reasons is that there isn't any shuttle service or public transportation offered to West Campus, and that continues to cause major issues for our students. Since we have been located at West Campus, we have seen our enrollment in Interior Design dwindle which has caused the snowball effect we now find ourselves in. Low enrollment equals classes canceled. Lack of enrollments equals students struggling to follow their curricular guide, which equals low number of completers. Ours is a program that is unique in Michigan. We are the only community college that offers both design opportunities to students. We understand that the Provost & Deans Council have recommended that Fashion Technology be eliminated and that Interior Design be modified into the new Design & Construction Technologies Program. However, we feel that we can make some different modifications that will revitalize our program and provide our students with the education to secure positions

in the industry or with a transfer institution. This evening you will hear from several of my colleagues, our students from Interior Design & Fashion Technology, and parents as well. Please listen to what they have to say. Thank you for your time and for listening.

Christine Conner: Good evening. My name is Christine Conner. I have been an educator in Interior Design and Fashion for 11 years and with LCC since 2006. My personal education in design resulted in an AAS from a technical college in Indiana and a BA from WMU. My professional career of 27 years experience has provided me with an unusual background of designing in the mid-west, east coast and the Middle East in residential, commercial, retail, high-end boutiques, resorts, and a wide variety of other project types. You have heard Denise Shaver speak about where & how our program originated and you will hear more information from my other colleagues. I will be addressing our program's transition and how we would like the opportunity to make the changes necessary to provide our students with degrees that matter. Tech Careers has had a rocky existence at West Campus. Frequent changes in leadership have led to mismanagement at many levels, and I feel that it would be safe to say that these matters have played a large part in the position that we, in the Interior Design & Fashion Technology program, currently find ourselves in. Our current leadership is very good. Denny Morse has been our Dean for approximately 1 ½ years and George Berghorn has been our Chairperson since July of 2009. I feel that Denny and George have done a fine job in turning the division around and that there is a lot more to be done. I feel confident that we will begin to see the results of their hard work in the near future. In late December Denny Morse assigned me to the Lead Faculty position for Interior Design & Fashion. Today is my 78 day in the job. I understand that the Provost & Deans Council had a charge to fulfill, but I personally feel that our program has been cheated by their decision. We, as a team had begun to make changes, but we received the news of Program elimination & modification 52 days into my charge. Rome wasn't built in a day and neither can a college program be. We have worked hard in the past weeks and have created a business plan for why our program should be retained and how we will make it worthy of the college, the faculty, and most importantly – our students. This plan will be finalized at the end of this week and forwarded on for your consideration. This plan involves a complete overhaul of our curriculum and a revision of our degrees. We are committed and prepared to bring our program to a new level through a radical process. However, currently only half of the faculty has participated in the plan's creation. Our plan involves, but is not limited to, collaboration with other programs to eliminate courses that are being duplicated; combining and revising courses that are redundant or will benefit from the combination; deleting courses that no longer serve our students needs; revising our degrees so that our students receive the technical background they need for educational or professional advancement. This process is not only be easy to accomplish, but also we strongly believe that we can make these necessary changes with a 2-year extension. This will allow us time to graduate those students who are near their degree completion. Make the changes to our curriculum & degrees this Summer so that we can get the approvals necessary to move forward. Have time to gain confidence from the remaining faculty

and all the while we will be cultivating the students into this new path. This is not all that we plan to accomplish, but we wanted you to have an idea of our plan. We can make these changes and have written a business plan that we are going to give it to you at the end of this week. We want everybody to take a look at it and consider it. It is very viable. You will continue to hear from several more of my colleagues, our students and their parents. Please listen to what they have to say. Thank you for your time and for listening.

Rebecca Clark: Hello. My name is Rebecca Clark, I am an instructor at LCC, but moreover, I am a business owner here in Lansing. I returned from NY last year, after working for top designers for 12 years, to work in Michigan and help establish the fashion industry in Michigan. I own both Rebecca Clark Design, a fashion consulting firm in Okemos, and Michigan Fashion proto, an apparel manufacturing business specializing in apparel sampling and production in Lansing. I have met with Mayor Virg Bernero, Ed Reed from MEDC, and Bob Trazise from LEDC and can confidentially say that this industry in Michigan and in Lansing is on the rise and have their full support. This industry is happening here in Michigan with or without LCC, and it would be a shame for LCC to throw away a program with such potential, which would feed this industry and help to put Lansing on the map in a new way. Remember that 10 years ago, California had little to no fashion industry, and now it is known worldwide for its knitwear, organic fashion and menswear. It has become a fashion industry destination. I know about this industry in this state and in this country overall and hope to bring to light some exciting facts about what is to come. I have heard the LCC report that there are few to no fashion designer jobs in MI and want to clear up some misunderstood facts. Michigan currently has over 260 apparel manufacturers based within the state, many of which make well over the million dollars per year mark. Another title I hold is Director of Design for Detroit Fashion Week, and because of this, I personally know over 117 designers here in Michigan who are not associated with the manufacturers just mentioned. Many of these designers hire assistants and other workers that I know of. Additionally, it is important to note that if one looks for "Fashion Designer" jobs listed in the NAICS list or the Bureau of Labor Statistics, they will not find an accurate count. There are a lot more titles. Other jobs our students get are, softline designers, assistants to designers and other fashion executives, technical designers, patternmakers, accessory designers, costume designers, CAD designers, textile and print designers, showroom associates, merchandisers, production assistants, retail managers and buyer assistants, quality control associates, sample making assistants and stylists. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Annie Wojtkowski: Good evening, I am Annie Wojtkowski. I have been employed in the fashion and interior design industry for over 20 years, both in the mid-west and the east coast. We are not here to say that we don't have issues but we feel that we have a good team. We also have a team of people who have really come from the community and we represent community college. We're a group of instructor who have started at all different ages and continue in our education and we're passionate about

our students. The biggest thing that I see and really believe in, is that they are coming to explore. We are a creative industry. We are a community college and we have students that come and they really want to see what they can do, but they don't know what it is. We get many students ready to prepare portfolios to transfer to school without completion. There are things that we know we need to address. We have many successful students that have transfer to very good schools like FIT and Pratt. I am very proud of the students and they love the program. Rebecca just spoke; she has a company called Michigan Proto. She's been mentoring our students. We have students who are interning with her and doing fabulous work. We are trying to really look at a marketing strategy that is going to encompass project based learning. This fall I worked with Yonkers and I've been establishing a relationship with them. We did a project for them for their cosmetics division. A teach a display and visual merchandising class. The students came up with a concept call "Freak to Chique." Yonkers said that they wanted something that was carnival and that is what the students came up with. They gave us the entire main entrance of their store. We increased their sales by 42%. Since then they have allowed my student and others students to go in and do projects and merchandising. Our staff really believes that these are the types of things that will bring our student into the community, make the community aware of our program and will promote jobs. Because I know that retail is kind of sketchy, I did talk to quite a few people in retail management division recently; Yonkers and Macy. When I left the fashion industry to start to teach, I couldn't get a job without a degree. Our students are not going to be able to get high-end retail management positions without a minimum of an Associate. In a very high volume store, they have to have a Bachelor Degree. So it is very important to them to be able to complete and have a degree. There aren't very many schools were they could come, explore, and figure out whom they are and what they are going to end up doing. Thank you.

Jaime Brink: I'm Jamie Brink and I'm a graduate from LCC's 2010 Interior Design Program. Ever since I was a little girl, I enjoyed beautiful homes, and the not so beautiful. I would ride around on my bike and try to imagine the different floor plans. I would envision how to make them better and more appealing. I have always had a passion for interior design. My passion was soon given overcast because growing up in Michigan, I was told to take the practical choice. So, when it was time to start planning for my career I chose nursing. I care greatly about people, but after working as a nurse assistant for two years and having a child, I was burnt out. It wasn't for me, and I wanted to pursue my dream. So, after being out of school for 4 years I decided to go back and earn my degree doing what I loved. I looked into a few colleges and found that my local college, LCC had an accredited Interior Design program. Excited and nervous, I enrolled. I was trying to make a change and to better life for my family and set a good example for my son by showing him it will pay off to work hard for something you really want. I was determined to succeed. I knew that if I pursued a career that I would enjoy and I would be happier in the long term. I would someday be an Interior Designer with strong will and determination. LCC's Interior Design

program was a wonderful experience for me. I chose to major in Kitchen and Bath design. I found that it was challenging, but with the help of my teachers and their passion for design, I succeeded. In the spring of 2010, I graduated with honors with an Interior Design degree, major in Kitchen and Bath Design. Without the Interior Design program at LCC, I could not stand before you today and be proud to say that I'm an Interior Designer. After only one month of looking for a job in Michigan's "not so" good economy, I now work at DreamMaker Bath and Kitchen as a design assistant. I absolutely love my job! Every day I help clients make their homes and spaces more functional for living whether it is for handicap purposes, or general aesthetic reasons. There is a demand for designers. It may not always be for things like choosing the right paint color, but more for choosing the right layout in the home for a blind person or making sure a wheel chair bound person can get in and out of the shower. I am proud to say that on a daily basis I am able to help the growing population with these needs. Without the support of LCC and the Interior Design program, I would not be doing that today and without it in the future, students like me cannot make the same change as I did and do today. I ask that you please keep the Interior Design program at LCC. Students like me appreciate LCC for offering programs like the Interior Design program that help to make a difference in the quality of everyday living. Thank you.

Heather Clarke: Hello my name is Heather Clark and I am a current LCC Interior Design student. In these hard economic times, it is very important for everyone to make their dollars stretch as far as possible. This is true for individuals, businesses and schools. The ability to attend LCC and remain living with my family has helped me to reach my goals of a formal education while keeping my education debt to a minimum. If it had not been for the LCC Interior Design program, I do not believe that I would be where I am today in my career. I'm currently employed at two jobs in my career field and am nearing the completion of my Interior Design Associates Degree and my education debt remains manageable. During the course of my education at LCC, I have been provided many wonderful opportunities that I do not believe I would have received at this early stage in my education at a major university. The exposure to some of these opportunities has assisted me in obtaining employment in my career field while continuing my education. I not only was I provided the opportunity to participate in a National Design competition, but I placed in the top Gold awards along with several other classmates. This experience is invaluable to someone in the design field. You get the opportunity to create your own design and present it to current design professionals, who provide you with their personal expertise on how to improve your work and presentation skills. This is like having two or three personal mentors to help guide you to success by learning from seasoned professional and their personal experiences. I was also provided the opportunity to work in a real life design project for a local merchant where our class provided a design for their merchandise. They not only liked our design, but allowed us to set the design up for the event being held. This type of opportunity gives students hands-on experience in the career they are working towards. This also gave us the opportunity to experience visual merchandising allowing us to decide if it was the direction in design we wanted or didn't want to pursue.

Without this exposure students might spend large amounts of money and years of education only to find out they don't really like this type of work. The LCC's Interior Design program is credited by the National Kitchen and Bath Association. This has allowed students to have access to programming for a fraction of the cost. By joining the National Kitchen and Bath Association as a student for a credited school, students gain the benefit of purchasing a software program originally costing \$900 at one tenth of the cost. This helps students learn a well-known program and have that program for a year on our own personal computers allowing us to work on and learn the software program inside and outside of the classroom. I am speaking to you today because, I know that LCC has to make budget cuts the same as everyone else and that the Interior Design program is one they are looking to eliminate. However, I feel the Interior Design program has very valuable programs with wonderful instructors who are not only experienced at teaching but also have professional experience in the design field. I feel that there should be a creative way that LCC could combine their many design programs together to assist in keeping enrollment at a sustainable level. This would provide the opportunity to a diverse group of future artistic design students like me. In closing I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak to you this evening about the Interior Design program and I am willing to discuss ideas of how to incorporate your many design programs together.

Shawn Buitendorp: Hello everyone. My name is Shawn Buitendorp and I will be graduating with an Associate's degree in Fashion Technology this coming May. As a student enrolled in the Fashion Technology Program since 2008, I can solely credit my current successes and knowledge gained to this fabulous program and thus, believes that it is truly an asset to Lansing Community College's curriculum. Upon graduating high school, I was so grateful that a fashion program existed at LCC, as I was unsure if a degree in the fashion industry was an appropriate choice for me. The Fashion Technology program allowed me to test the waters of this field without having to move out of state and away from my family. Additionally, with such an affordable tuition rate, LCC provided me with a chance to get an education that I could afford in a field that I was interested in. Furthermore, as I have a twin sister that was attending college at the same time, had this program not existed at LCC, I would not have been able to afford the education that I desired, even at another school in Michigan. After completing several classes within the Fashion Technology program and visiting many transfer schools, I can attest that LCC's program is comparable if not superior to other fashion programs within the state of Michigan. I would attribute the quality of this program to the broad range of courses offered and to the skilled and knowledgeable staff who give valuable insights into this trade as they all come from diverse backgrounds with varying experiences. However, I do not believe that Lansing Community College's Fashion Technology program is without flaws. The current curriculum offers a wonderful foundation for students, but does not include courses such as patternmaking and draping, which would make this program more competitive with other schools. Additionally, due to scheduling complications, students find it difficult to graduate within 2 years. If fashion technology classes were offered more

frequently, more students could graduate on time, reducing the number of students who start the program but fail to complete it. From my personal experience as a student within the Fashion Technology program, I believe that this program is exceptional and provides a vital resource for our community. Thank you.

Claire Buitendorp: Hello, my name is Claire Buitendorp. I have been a member of Lansing Community College's Fashion Technology program since the fall of 2008 and will be graduating this spring with an associate's degree. Today I would like to discuss the fabulous opportunities that LCC's Fashion Technology program has provided for me and why this program should continue. Last fall, over the course of several weeks my sister and I were given the opportunity to accompany our professors to Detroit fashion week. There I was able to assist designers with fittings, and be exposed to the intricacies of the production of a fashion show. This opportunity also enabled me to mingle with acclaimed members of Michigan's fashion industry. This experience would not have been possible without the influence that our instructors and this program have within Michigan's fashion community. Currently, I have the opportunity to intern as an assistant patternmaker at a local design studio, due to my involvement with Lansing Community Colleges' Fashion Technology program. In this position, I am learning many new skills and am utilizing the knowledge that I have gained throughout the entire program. One's aptitude at acquiring and applying new skills is vital to obtaining a job within this industry and I am extremely grateful that LCC has provided me with this ability. Most importantly, Lansing Community College's Fashion Technology program has enabled me to find employment. This program provided me with the knowledge and skill to be hired at the Lansing Community College Costume Shop in the fall of 2009. Before entering the fashion technology program, I had little knowledge about sewing and garment construction. The program at LCC is so comprehensive that within one year I had learned enough to be employed as a costume seamstress. Since then, as I have progressed through the program, I've been promoted to a support staff position. It is apparent then that the LCC fashion technology program offers individualized, intimate and personalized instruction that empowers students and gives them the knowledge to excel and compete within the fashion industry. Thank you!!

Christine White: My name of Christine White and I returned to LCC in the spring of 2010 to take classes in the Fashion Design program. I am an intern at Michigan Fashion Arts. This opportunity came about because of LCC. I knew that I wanted to have a career in Fashion Design and to someday start my own apparel construction and design company in Michigan. It made sense for me to first attend LCC before transferring to Center Michigan University to receive my Bachelor's. LCC saved me thousands of dollars in tuition and the location is ideal. I received a quality education from instructors that have either actually worked in the fashion industry or have finely honed their craft. The flexible class times have ensured that I could return to school and still be a mother to my two young boys. I love being able to attend during the day while my children are at school. Every day after school my boys ask me "What did you do in school today, Mommy?" I take great pride in my education and LCC has helped

me every step of the way in achieving my academic goals. I have several friends that are in this program and it would be a great disappointment if they were not able to finish out their degree that they have worked so hard for. We have the opportunity through this program to help bring the fashion industry to Michigan. There is already a budding fashion community and new designers emerging with their own businesses. We need to open our minds and see that there are other ways to make a career in this industry and in Michigan. We are learning more than designing skills in this program, we are also acquiring skills such as textile design, apparel construction, retail management, and CAD design. A business is not limited to operating in a brick and mortar store, the internet has opened the doors to online e-tailing. I myself have found success in selling my designs online and I am proud to say they are made in Michigan. There is no reason why Michigan, and specifically Lansing, cannot be known for creating apparel manufacturing and design. If the Fashion Design program is taken away, it will be a great loss not only to the students but to community. Thank you for your time.

Bryenna Reinell: Hi I'm Bryenna Reinell and I'm currently a fashion student at LCC. I think this is an amazing program, above and beyond what I think some of the other schools offer. We have some amazing instructors here today. The LCC fashion program is one of the main reasons I stayed in Michigan. I prefer to be on a beach somewhere, but this program like I said is so amazing that I don't know why I would want to leave. I think there is misinformation in what is available in the fashion industry in terms of jobs and money. I was advised that as fashion student I might want to check out somewhere like Peckham for example for a factory job; not that there is anything wrong with Peckham. As a fashion student, that was not quite what I was looking for. I was also told that my passion would not make me any money. Seeing this is what LCC might be thinking, I can see why they might not think fashion is necessary, but again there are tons of jobs here. I am dedicated and determined to make my business work. I want to make my own clothes and have my own store. The program is constantly opening my eyes to different jobs that are available. Jobs that I didn't even know I'd liked are possibilities for me now. It is something that is more affordable. There isn't anywhere else I think I could find this program locally. I have no qualms about paying off my loans. I think it is very realistic and feasible as a community college. I hope you keep the program. It is very important. I don't know what I would do without it.

Ashley Batterbee: My name is Ashley Batterbee. I am an interior design student here at LCC. Going into my senior year at DeWitt High School I was struggling with decisions that needed to be made, such as choosing a career path and where to attend college. With an interest in interior design, I completed the EISD Interior Design course at LCC during my senior year. During my time in the EISD course, led by Ms. Christine Conner. I received outstanding instruction covering the expected objectives related to an introduction of interior design principles. Unanticipated was the depth and quality of instruction, mentoring and commitment to my personal success that was provided by

Ms. Conner. Not only was I able to achieve a 4.0 grade in the class, but I was able to earn 12 LCC college credits, induction into the National Technical Honor society, and a gold medal at the FCCLA competition for completion of the project I have with me here today. Upon graduation, I was confident that I wanted to move away to college. Ms. Conner provided many hours of consultation and advice to help me select the best program fit to match my goals. During this past fall, I successfully completed my first semester at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. While academically successful, I came home every weekend, realizing that I wanted to remain at home while pursuing higher education. Both my mom and I spent numerous hours by phone, email and in person with Ms. Conner to assist me in making a well thought-out, educated decision; responsibilities above and beyond her job description. This 2011 spring semester I moved back home and resumed my interior design studies here at LCC, thanks to support and encouragement from Ms. Conner. I was thrilled to learn that Ms. Conner had assumed the role of lead faculty for the Interior Design department and based on my experiences here, excited to experience the quality of education and passion for interior design that I had not experienced at WMU. This was the reason that I chose to return here instead of applying to MSU or CMU. It is my opinion that this is terrible timing to discontinue the interior design program. You have just tapped into leadership with the motivation and new ideas to really move this program forward. I ask you to give them a chance. Thank you for taking the time to hear me.

Deb Batterbee: My name is Deb Batterbee. I am an adult graduate nursing at Michigan State University. My daughter Ashley is an Interior Design student here at LCC. It has been brought to my attention that a recent analysis of the programs currently offered at LCC has resulted in a recommendation to not only eliminate the interior design program, but to eliminate all remaining interior design courses as well. I understand that economic times are tough and that this is a financial decision. Today I ask you to consider placing a hold on this recommendation for a period of 1-2 years. As Ashley just spoke, her journey to the field of interior design has not been without some tough times. Her strong academic start and development, along with the encouragement and career coaching received while in the EISD program here at LCC promoted the development of a passion for interior design as a career choice. Her time at Western Michigan University was personally challenging for her and our family, not to mention, financially costly. Her commitment to the pursuit of an interior design degree, however, did not waiver event slightly during this time of uncertainty. She was able to achieve academic success in the WMU program despite personal dissatisfaction; this reflects well on the LCC-EISD program. She made the decision to return to LCC to complete her associate's degree, after numerous hours of consultation with your now-new lead faculty, Ms. Conner. She was excited to hear of planned improvements and leadership changes in the program; even more excited to hear that Ms. Conner would play an integral role in facilitating these changes. Ms. Conner has a personal passion for excellence in education, the interior design profession, and for each of her students. I have not experienced this level of personalized student guidance for any of my three children (Ashley being the oldest) – until now. As in all areas of life, change is hard;

but change presents opportunities for improvement. As stated on your web site, Lansing Community College was established to fulfill the demand for specialized and technical education opportunities for the Greater Lansing industrial workforce. It states that LCC is strategically positioned to provide not only what students have determined they will need, but also what our society will need in the future. Interior designers draw upon many disciplines to enhance the function, safety and aesthetics of interior spaces. They plan interior spaces of almost every type of building, including offices, theaters, malls, restaurants, hotels, schools, hospitals and homes. Good design can boost office productivity, increase sales, attract a more affluent clientele, provide a more relaxing hospital stay, and increase a building's market value. Interior designers must be able to read blueprints, understand building and fire codes, and know how to make space accessible to people who are disabled. They frequently collaborate with architects, electricians, and building contractors to ensure that designs are safe and meet construction requirements. These are all essential functions, and a workforce that we should strive to both educate locally and retain in and around the greater Lansing area upon graduation. I understand that economic times are tough. Today, in every area of Michigan, we are struggling to prioritize between what is best and what we can afford. In our home, we are struggling with paying for both a mom and child to attend college simultaneously. Tonight I should be home writing a research paper, but I believe that LCC has recently acquired the administrative and faculty leadership with the vision, commitment, expertise, personal drive, and even the personalities required to transform the program. This new team of faculty has the potential to reinvent LCC's interior design program into one that not only educates, but recruits students into careers that can benefit the mid-Michigan region as a whole. I ask that you provide them with the type of commitment they have shown to my family personally. Give them the chance to show you what they are capable of becoming. Thank you.

Todd Boettger: Good evening Board of Trustees I'm here to have you reconsider the closing of the auto program; especially the auto body program. Myself, I'm an account rep. I'm employed with Finished Master, one of the largest suppliers of paint and auto body. I've been very involved with the auto body program here at LCC. Prior to that, I was involved with another vendor that also dealt with LCC when they were on this campus. I've seen the advancement with the new technology of West Campus. I need to stress you that there is a need for these kids to come out of this community college. Right now, the average age of our auto body system is 49 years old. Many people are going to be retiring. I cannot stress to you the need for qualified technicians upcoming in the next 5 to 10 years. I know there are many situations of students not graduating from the program. I've been an active sales rep for many years. There are many people in the body shops making good money that never graduated from LCC but attended some of the programs to get a feeling of what was out there for them. Many of them out there are very successful today. They may not have that associate degree, but because of LCC they were able to see what they wanted to do, found what they wanted to do and been very successful at what they do. I just really need you guys to

reconsider the auto body program because I think there's a huge need in our industry. Thank you.

Tom Shira: Hi my name is Tom Shira and I've been involved in the automotive industry for 33 years. I'm a student of vocational education at one time. I commend LCC for having the insight to build a facility such as you have. It truly is state of the art. The State of Michigan has a very heavy dependency in automotive. Automotive has struggled a great deal over the last few years in the State of Michigan. We've seen a significant turnaround. We're seeing manufacturing, as well as repairs continue to improve. I just ask the Board to continue to stay with that insight. You've built the infrastructure and there is a greater career opportunity out there for these students. I ask that you don't give up on it prematurely. Thank you.

Ben Ramboe: Hi, my name is Ben Ramboe, I'm with Finished Master, Automotive Industrial Paint Suppliers. Before that I was enrolled and employed by a local body shop in this area. I was employed there for 8 years right out of high school. LCC gave me my first start out of high school into the industry. If it wasn't for LCC, I may not have advanced as far as I have now. In the future, I hope to continue my education and hope that the program will be there for me to fulfill that dream. If you take a look at the truck outside, that is just a glimpse of what they have to offer and the skills they learn in the program and how available it can be and will be for the future. Appreciate your time, thank you.

Cameron Clark: My name is Cameron Clark, I'm a student enrolled in the Automotive Technology Program here at LCC. I hope the importance and the continuation of jobs in automotive technology and collision repair has gotten across to you from those who have spoken to you that work in the industry. It is not only important to keep the program, but the manner in which the program will continue to grow forward is important as well. I'm not exactly sure of the details of how it will completely go forward. I'm currently enrolled and my declared major is a 2+2 transfer to Ferris State University in their Automotive Engineering Technology Program. I don't know if the changes in this program will affect the transferability of credits and not sure how this will work. As an academy style program, will the program continue to be transferability to Ferris State, to Lawrence Tech and to these other colleges that offer higher education options in automotive in terms of management and engineering? The proposed end for these programs is spring semester 2012. I started in the Automotive Technology Program in the fall 2010 and currently in my second semester in the Automotive Technology Program. A prerequisite of that transfer is an Associate's Degree in automotive technology; a minimum of 71 credit hours, which I will not have by the end of spring semester 2012. I would encourage you as the Board to consider extending the time period in which the program will remain in its current state so that students like myself will have the ability to obtain that degree and transfer to colleges and obtain the higher education we are seeking. Thanks you very much for your time.

Paul Phillips: Thank you everyone, I'm Paul Phillips with the BASF Corporation. I've been servicing our community college with paint for the last few years. We are not heading towards a vacuum we are in a vacuum. Our industry doesn't have enough technicians to go to the next level. We don't have enough people in this industry because it is dirty, dusty and isn't fun sometimes to work in the automotive trade. How many people here rode in a car tonight or drove a car? Have you ever been in an accident? Unfortunately, I've hit nine deer in my career over 20 years with BASF. It is qualified technicians that put your cars back to where it belongs; original equipment manufacturer. Have you ever heard of the term unside or aperture or upper-lower rail, and water-based paint? All of these things are designed for your safety. The instructors at LCC know all of those terms and their students know all of those terms when they work at automotive collisions centers. They are prepared to enter at a starting level to learn this trade. Save our industry and make our cars safer because when we get in a car accident we need these technicians to make it a better and safer world for all of us. Thank you.

Don Willcutt: Good evening my name is Don Willcutt. Thank you for taking the time to let me make a few comments. As a former student of Truck Driver Training and instructor, I have personally benefited from this program. Over the years Lansing Community College's Truck Driver Training program has given thousands of individuals a basic. I want to repeat....a basic foundation to build a career and improve their lives for the rest of their lives. A career with income starting around \$40,000 a year plus benefits. I would also like to remark that UPS drivers with seniority can make up to \$100,000 a year. In last week's Wheeler Dealer, there were 28 ads for transportation jobs. That is down a few from the week before it. Community is the key work here. Remember where we started and why this institution was created; for the community. For 46-years, truck driver training has trained individuals to work in the service industry; much like the automotive school and the heating and air-conditioning. Our society needs the service industry just as it needs doctors, bankers etc. Who delivers everything that you touch, everything that you eat, wear, the gas you bought in your car today, the propane you heat your house with or may want to cook your burgers on this summer? Please think long and hard before dropping this program. A 46-year old program with a positive proven track record deserves to continue as the best public Truck Driver Training School in the nation. Thank you.

Tammy Rondeau: Hello and thank you for allowing me to speak tonight. My name is Tammy Rondeau and I am from Green Transportation in Holland, MI. In the past six months, we have employed two teams from LCC full-time, working and paying taxes here in Michigan. We have tried other schools and found the safety and responsibilities of the LCC driver's above and beyond our expectations. The instructors teach safety, responsibility and dedication to this industry. With a big semi driving down the road, what we want employed is safety from Michigan to California and back again. Without LCC, Green Transportation would seriously reconsider its finishing program, screen students from other schools and would probably not have a finishing program due to

the others schools not being safe. With everybody driving on the road, truck driving safety issues are a must. At Green Transportation, we want safe drivers out on the road. We cannot say enough good things about the Lansing Community College instructors. We just want to employ safe drivers out there on the road. Thank you.

Larry Brandes: Good evening and it is a pleasure to be here this evening. My name is Larry Brandes and I'm employed with Star Truck Rental. I came on the scene back in 2007. I was a CDL examiner back in 2000. They were difficult years because there was a struggle between one instructor, the union and the management. However, we are not going to talk about history because we're going to move forward. We prevailed and new instructors came on-board. I'm like the gatekeeper for the CDL examiner school. I was sanctioned by the state to do road tests. Apparently, we road test for other colleges that are 20-weeks long verses LCC's 5-week long program. There is no measurable difference than the quality of drivers. In fact, I see a more positive impact of the drivers. In regards to income, I did payroll today for our drivers. A seasoned driver for Star Truck Rental, with 17 locations throughout the state, can earn \$52K a year to \$55K a year. The entry level is about \$40K. So many times someone will walk up to me and say, "I remember you. You were the guy that tested me." I was making \$20K a year. What a difference a family of four makes. These guys will never be in your shoes. They'll never be Trustees; they'll be Mom's and Dad's. Their great wish job is probably not to drive the long hauls, but that the next job is local. Look at all of our stores. Meijer's is here, Spartan is here. I came out of Grand Rapids today and saw a big billboard, the new Super Service is hiring. There were two columns in the Grand Rapids press this weekend for truck driving. There is a new government study called CSA, which looks at safety. I know every driver from here will know when to do a brake check. If you are going down the road, these guys are really trained and are the most qualified people that I see and I see at other colleges. Thanks for your time.

Terry Braginton: Hi my name is Terry Braginton and I'd wouldn't be standing here right now if it weren't for Lansing Community College and their Truck Driver Training Program. I'm an instructor and I train student from about 16 different colleges that come from Canada and all over to take my training. When I see certain colleges, I cringe. They are not ready to be in my program. It was designed for the professional driver. When I see Lansing Community College on my roster, I know that is going to be a good day. These guys are well trained in 5-weeks and ready to go out and be professionals. LCC did this for me in 5-weeks and with everybody out of work, in 5-weeks I was able to go out and make \$50,000 a year. Most of the guys that I train make a lot more than I do. I love my job and Truck Driving Training at Lansing Community College is one of the best.

Broc Shaft: Hello my name is Broc Shaft and I graduated from the November/December class of the Lansing Truck Driver Training. I have currently been working at Meijer for a decade. I currently make a little bit above of what you guys consider high wage. However, when you work in a real world you find that it is not

really high wage. My options seemed to be going nowhere until I discovered that driving might be the best suitable stuff for me to do. I looked into it and within a day of talking with Sandy, I found that I was able to go ahead and join a class literally the next week. The funds for it were relatively cheap. I know that \$4,000 may seem expensive but when you think of what you are going to get out of it, it's not bad at all. I will recoup that within three months, once I have a driving job. For me it was just do it. You would think that driving a truck would be something scary. It was, but we have instructors here that know what you are going to deal with and know how to train you properly. I never felt stressed. I was comfortable the entire time and within a period of five weeks, I went from never driving anything bigger than an Astro van to be able to drive safely. That is the most important word, safely drive anywhere in this country with in a semi with a trailer. On top of that, I will now double my income. As far as a life standpoint, I'm very happy. As far as employment goes, I personally found out today I will have a job starting tomorrow. With that being said, I am very happy. When I heard that there is the possibility of this program being removed, I was immediately engaged in coming to speak with you. Thank you very much.

Eric Haffner: Good evening, my name is Eric Haffner. I am a faculty member for the Truck Driving Program. I think that sometimes stereotypes hurt programs such as ours. I think that most of us in here couldn't figure out how to release the airbrakes on a truck, back it into a dock, let alone start it. Our students can go out and earn \$40,000 to \$50,000 in their first year. The second year student, with experience, can earn \$75,000 to \$100,000 including benefits. I would like to offer my thoughts on what I think a community college is. I have Bachelors Degree from a university. I don't think that we are a university. I think that there is nothing wrong with the difference. I think that a community college is just that, it is for the community. I think many of these cuts take the community part out of college. Some jobs will never require a degree; An Associates, a Bachelors, a Masters, they just will not require it. Some students will never get a high school diploma. Maybe they have a GED. Our students can come in and in five weeks graduate and week six they will have a job. They will not have two, four, five years of college expense to pay back. They will be a productive member of society, feel good about themselves, and have a job that they will enjoy and love. We have some great companies here that pay a good living viable wage. One of the things that I would like to see redone is the numbers. I'd like the numbers to be re-evaluated. A program that was previously in Fort Custer in Battle Creek, is now exclusively in Lansing Community College West Campus. If we take accurate numbers, I think that we can cover our cost. I don't think the \$4,300 number is accurate and I'd like to see that re-evaluated. We offered previously to put twelve students in a class. We can do that safely. We were told that we were okay at nine. The three extra students will make a difference in our program. They mentioned CSA 2010 (Compliance, Safety and Accountability). There will be a lot of drivers that will not drive once this gets going through the federal government. I would simply like to ask that you help us to work through the subsidy issues, place a hold on the program for a year, and let us re-evaluate the numbers. Our program is perfect for a community college. Thank you.

Richard Burns: Good evening my name is Richard Burns. As a disabled veteran, I was allowed to do certain jobs where the VA would pay for my education. The automotive department was one I was familiar with and one I could get into. My particular field does not require that you have a degree of any kind in order to get a job. The only thing they care about is are you State certified or are you ASC certified. The new vehicle coming out today will be in dealership in five years if not more. Like the gentleman from Liskey's said, if you cut the program you are going to cut their legs as well as mine. Because the first place that I am going to be able to go to is an aftermarket shop. In closing I would like to say, on the sign here it says, "LCC where success begins." How will our success begin if you cut our program?

Justin Gee: My name is Justin Gee. When growing up, I came from a poor family. My father was working fast food and my mother had a temp job. Soon after, my father came to LCC and took the trucking program. After five weeks of training and two days out of the class, he had a job. He was able to support my family. Now I'm here and I'm taking automotive. My father's come back here again for computer technician. He has earned his right to come back. I'm trying to become an automotive and collision specialist and earn an Associate's Degree. I'm not the smartest student. I'm not the best, I try my best and with LCC staff, they make it possible for me to understand this. Without them, I don't know what I would be doing. I'd be making french-fries. Since LCC is here they have been able to support me, and I now work in the cafeteria serving the students. My father might be getting a job here soon to help with Truck Driving Training as he gets his Associate's Degree. We are all here trying to work together; my family. If they cut this, I'll be out of a job and my Dad will be out of a job. I will have to find somewhere else to go and my father will probably join me. So, really if I go, my father goes. When you cut this program, you are cutting my whole family off. Thank you for your day.

Ray Fisher: Members of the Board thank you for this opportunity. My name is Ray Fisher; I'm the President of Automotive Service Association of Michigan representing the collision, mechanical and new car dealerships. On the collision side of things, we are talking about proper repairs affecting the safety of the vehicle. Not just occupant protection, but the detonation and timing of the airbags, which as we read articles about can kill people. When we look at the mechanical side of things, it is no longer the stereotype of just working on a vehicle today. You have to have computer skills to be able to go on-line to get the latest information regarding a vehicle. My colleagues have done an excellent job of talking about some of these complexities and have shown their passion for it. I want to recall the facts on the letter I sent to all the Board members on last week. To just to touch a few of them; these are from the U.S census labor statistics. The number of employee's in general automotive repair grew to 305,000 in 2010. That's up 1.3% over 2009. So trend is upward. The number of employees in the Automotive Industry vehicle manufacturing was down by 134,000. Put the part manufacturers it has increased. Which means the demand is still there for

parts and repairs. Collision repair facilities in 2010 reported under "additional services" that 58% have expanded into mechanical services being offered. The average technician makes \$36,004.80 annually with the top 10% earning \$61,235.20 annually. The average experienced collision technician earns \$55,511.00 and the average experienced painter earns \$64,494.00. When I look at a school who markets such catch phrases as "Where Success Begins", "Learning isn't an end, it's a journey" or "Lansing Community College exists so that all people have educational and enrichment opportunities to improve their quality of life and standard of living" and combine that with its vision "LCC is strategically positioned to provide not only what students determined that they will need, but also what our society will need in the future", based on the facts that have been provided and the average age of our workforce being in their mid-to-late forties today, it is our feeling that the closing of these two programs would fundamentally conflict with the advertised statements and the vision of this Board, its President and Lansing Community College. I thank you for your time.

Larry Stiles: I'm Larry Stiles, and I'm one of the oldest students at Lansing Community College. I have been going to school since 1996 and I've taken up the auto body program. I am one class from certifying as an auto body technician. We have a stupendous program here that we need to continue and keep. We have instructors that are absolutely superior and many of them don't have the degree either. In school, I am known as the Model-A guy. I worked on Model A's. I built a 1931 Model-A from bucket of bolts. I had never built a car or even changed a fender before I came to school in 1996 and it was because I had an instructor that helped me to do the job that I needed to do. Today my girlfriend is in the process of getting her 2011 Buick fixed. We need the young people, the careers, the specifications, and the ownership they can have in knowing how to do the job correctly so everyone is safe. We need the auto body program. It is a must. The auto mechanics position is an absolute must. It is something that has to stay. Thank you for your time.

Chair Canja called for a brief recess.

Recess began at 7:46 p.m.

Recess ended at 8:05 p.m.

Dr. Knight: Just to clarify the Provost's earlier remarks regarding automotive mechanics. We concur with what many of the speakers have said thus far, that it is becoming increasingly a very technical field and one needs an education in automotive to be proficient. We are working on the recommendation of an automotive academy so people get the training they need and they can go out into the industry and be proficient. This is our entire goal. I like to say "why are you here?", "Well I'm here to become a fully professional technician in automotive." "That is why I am here and that is what I am doing." We have a consensus among all of us, our Board, our Administration, Faculty and students that we are about the business of preparing competent automotive technicians and that we want to work with everyone with the

establishment of an academy so that we are able to provide the fully trained technicians that have been mentioned this evening. We wish to curtail all the individual courses and concentrate on an academy where people are fully proficient and we believe that to be the equivalent of one year. One year is also reinforced by national studies as the tipping point where if a person attends college for a year, they are likely to benefit from the experience. If you attend college for less than a year, you are not likely to benefit. At the same time, we are increasingly mindful of student debt and the ability to pay off ones' student loan. You have to have an income immediately after college because you have to pay back the loan immediately following college. There are new regulations pertaining to this which will begin this fall. So I wanted to clarify what the Provost has said and what we are recommending. There is no thought of Lansing Community College quitting the automobile mechanics program but rather changing it.

Scott Moor: I am Scott Moor and I received my Associates of Applied Science in Auto Mechanics in 1964 at a community college. Since then, I have added many bricks to that foundation of training with training from independent shops, dealership training and on to a 30 year career with General Motors. That foundation made possible a great deal of things for me and I have always appreciated it. My focus now is a little different. I am very concerned you might change your policy regarding allowing non-degree seeking people to participate or support the community college here. I've only been a student at LCC for a little over 10 years now. My primary interest right now is metal finishing, metal shaping, welding, and painting all of the things that take place in auto body collision. I would just hate to see that it would not be available to a guy like me who is willing to pay taxes, tuition and the lab fees to make that possible. Your facilities are much more desirable, a great deal safer and not too far away. It has resulted in a great deal of satisfaction to continue to learn. Thank you.

Lance Draeger: Hello everybody my name is Lance Draeger and I'm an automotive student at LCC. I enrolled in 2009. Before I transferred to LCC I witnessed training through another college and trade schools, but nothing stood out to me. Nothing said hey I am going to become something great and I'm never going to look back. That's the reason why I chose LCC over everyone else. After meeting with the automotive program coordinator, he gave me a tour of the automotive facility including the welding area and showed me the different trades that were taught at the West Campus. He showed me that not only is there automotive, there is auto body, welding and fabrication. You have people who train you in advanced technology so you can actually go on and become something more than just a technician. You can become a fabricator; you can become a structural welder. I saw that Lansing Community College had the instructors, the technology and the tools to go through and make you more than just becoming a technician; they train you to actually become an engineer. You don't have to go through and just be a factory mechanic for one of these degrees. I witnessed JCC; your program is 10 times far superior to them. They teach their automotive student's how to tear a motor apart from a PowerPoint program. A student that I went to high school and the career center with, ended up getting a degree

through JCC, went on work at Ford and Toyota not knowing actually how a full motor works, is asking me questions that I learned at LCC. Lansing Community College has also given me the ability to go through the propane conversion program. We published in the Michigan Propane Journal. Lansing Community College has a huge graphic on the side of it promoting it. We took first place in our class with the electric conversion truck. No institution around here can do anything like that. No one else in Michigan and no one else around here have the classes that we do. I also think that the reason we have such a low graduation rate is that we don't have the instructors to teach the advanced classes either.

Ryan Oberlin: Good evening. The proposed cuts to Lansing Community College would cut the Automotive Repair, Collision Repair, Aviation, and other programs, that would cut 17 degrees and 36 certificates. They say that there's no real money and no jobs out there for Auto Repair/Collision. That is what I would like to address. What they're not telling you is that there are many, many jobs available to people with these skills. In my research, I've found that Ford, GM and Chrysler are hiring and paying \$15 - \$20 an hour starting. If they restructure the automotive programs, they will cut the basic classes and move more towards hybrid/electric vehicle repair. The reality is that electric vehicles are 8 to 12 years away from being practical for day-to-day use. My questions to the President, the Provost, and the Deans behind this insane decision, is whose going to fix your car when these programs are gone? LCC plans to cut the Auto Repair and Collision programs, while expanding the Construction/Home building and Police/Fire programs, the City and State are expected to continue budget cuts and layoffs for police and fire, and the home building industry is still in foreclosure. They also tell us that we will have until spring 2012 to finish our programs; two semesters to finish a four-semester program. What I found particularly nice was the President and Provost's statements that they were moving to the "high skill jobs" and the "high wage jobs", not the 1970's high school vocational jobs." Congratulations to Miss Shanblatt and the President, they have managed to single handedly offend everyone in the automotive program; and all the technicians everywhere making \$50, \$60, or \$70 thousand dollars a year. Look at it this way, I'm hoping to get a job with Chrysler engineering when I graduate, but to do that, I need a degree. If I am unable to finish my degree in time, is LCC going to pay me the \$20 an hour that I would be receiving? Why should I change my career because they decide that for whatever reason, they don't want to offer it anymore? They say its money, but we (the students) pay obscene amounts of money for these classes. The course fees for the open lab in the summer. \$800. Not including tuition or any other fees. If you have an average of fifteen students in that class, that's an additional \$12,000. The auto program is one of their biggest single programs. They're not losing money on it. We pay for their wages. Yet we don't really have a say. Does that seem right? Thank you.

Mary Jo Hardy: My name is Mary Jo Hardy, Lead Faculty for the Fitness Center in the Department of Physical Fitness and Wellness on faculty since 1978. Thank you for the opportunity to speak regarding the proposed program changes to the Aquatics and

Team and Individual Sports Programs. The stated goal of the all of the proposed program changes on the LCC website is: "LCC: strengthening its programs to give students education for the new economy." The new economy includes, ever increasing health care costs, reduced health care benefits and reduced access to health insurance, the fact that Michigan has some of the highest rates of overweight residents and obesity in the nation; obese individuals' health care costs are on average \$4,500 per year higher than healthy weight individuals are. For LCC to provide students the education they will need for the new economy, we should be expanding and promoting classes that improve the health education and fitness of students and employees, not closing the swimming pool and cutting team and individual sport classes. The swimming pool provides education and exercise opportunities for adults that are not available anywhere else Lansing. Swimming and aquatics classes provide an alternative mode of exercise for individuals who cannot perform weight bearing exercises, students who are obese and overweight students, and those with physical limitations. These individuals are often in the most need of physical exercise and have the fewest opportunities. Our students are often low income, minorities, English as a second language, and non-traditional students. Our students often have limited transportation and limited funds. The LCC pool is one of the very few places that minority and low-income students can access high quality swimming instruction, water safety education and fitness programs. We have all seen the reports about proposed repairs and upgrades needed to the swimming pool. The costs given in the reports are not necessities. Many of those repair and upgrade costs can be eliminated or deferred. The necessary repairs can be done at a very reasonable cost. The focus on the possibility that a breakdown could occur in the pool is overstated. There is no evidence that a problem in the pool is any more likely than a problem in any other building on campus. Our students choose to register for LCC Physical Fitness and Wellness classes in Aquatics and Team and Individual Sports to receive the expert instruction and they obtain the quality of education provided by college level courses. Most of our students want college credit for these classes. These PFW courses include writing assignments, quizzes, tests, and other academic requirements that differentiate them from Community Ed offerings. The credits earned in these classes transfer to nearly every four year college in the nation. Students in Aquatics and Team Sport courses gain academic skills, improved health and fitness, as well as referrals to other services on campus such as the writing lab, women's resource center, computer labs, advising center and others. Students in PFW classes are required to attend and participate. Once they are on campus, they are more likely to attend their other classes. They gain confidence physically, which transfers into confidence academically, and they use the PFW classes as a learning readiness tool to help them succeed in their other classes. I understand that changes are needed in some programs. PFW is affected by issues related to cost, financial aid, completion rates and other issues. Simply eliminating programs or classes does not resolve those issues. The PFW Department is highly capable of making tough decisions and finding creative solutions that will truly allow students to be better prepared to succeed in the new economy. Thank you

Scott Blackmer: Good evening my name is Scott Blackmer. I completed the automotive program the summer of 2010. I've been currently employed by William's Auto World for a year and a half. Your program was good and the fact that your classes broke down the eight certifications that are needed through the State of Michigan, which would include your brakes, steering suspension, heating and air are just a few examples. One of the nice benefits was your electronics class was broken down into two separate classes. You had a basic and an advanced class. Some of the others schools do not do this. In order to change something, we must know what needs to be changed. I think that we too can change and include some of the hybrids classes into the program. I think our program is good and save the LCC automotive program. Thank you.

Robert Stasuik: Hello my name is Robert Stasuik, I'm a former student, current landscape designer and adjunct faculty here in the Landscape Architecture program here at the college. I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you. I wish to speak to you today regarding the elimination of the Landscape Architecture and Horticulture programs. In order for you to understand my story, you need a little background on me. Twenty years ago, I began my landscaping career working for a local landscape and lawn maintenance company. I was very successful and in a short time I became a senior landscape supervisor. After five years of working with this company, I wanted something better for my family and myself and enrolled in LCC's Landscape Architecture program. With a full time job and two young children, it took me seven semesters to complete the program. In 1998, prior to the completion of the program I went to work for a local Landscape Architecture company, Landscape Architects and Planners, Inc. I still took the classes remaining in the program while working full time. While working at Landscape Architects and Planners, I have been fortunate to work on a variety of noteworthy projects. Several of those projects were right here on this campus. I worked with a Japanese Landscape Architect on the Shigamatsu Memorial Garden project. I also headed the construction administration. I did the plans for the site work for the University Center project, as well as, many smaller beautification and maintenance projects around campus. I have had the privilege of working on a variety of different projects ranging from parking lots, to barrier free playgrounds, to mine reclamation projects, as well as many area parks, the Lansing and DeWitt River Trails and many Landscape beautification projects. In 2003, I was asked to become a part time faculty in the landscape architecture program. During that time I enjoyed the interaction with the students and they came to appreciate my knowledge and experience in the industry. I thought you should know that I am a success story of this program slated for elimination. I like to think the passion in which I take to work with me every day originated from the instructors that taught me here at LCC. Many of those same instructors are now my colleagues. With so much emphasis on the green industry and going green, I am deeply saddened that they are attempting to eliminate the original green industries Landscape Architecture and Horticulture. Let me leave you with this. I attended the Home and Garden show at the MSU pavilion this weekend and ran into one of my old classmates. He is the successful owner of Snyder Landscaping in

the Lansing area. We talked about the elimination of the program. He took one path Design Build and I took another path working in an office. We both agreed that we would not be where we are today without the education we received from Lansing Community College. Thanks

Ken Argue: My name is Ken Argue, fellow student and I own All Pro Automotive. I came to talk about the automotive department. I am the epitome of what you are talking about as far as kids going to school and not getting their degree here. I was one writing course away from getting my degree and I quit going to college. It didn't make a difference how much I made for a living. It didn't make a difference whatsoever. Ten years later, I have a very successful business and have several employees. A couple of my employees have been through the LCC automotive program. So many people have been talking about the program closing and now you people are talking about turning it into an academy situation. That really scares me a lot. The program the way it is right now is very in-depth. You have 16 weeks of really in-depth training on one single subject with a teacher that is known to be the best in their field. To take and try max it altogether and try to cram it into an academy style format, I just don't think you are going to get the individualization that you need or the in-depth training that you need. Without the automotive program, I guarantee you one of my mechanics would not work for me. He wouldn't have the training. I can't possibly provide on-the-job training that goes in-depth as far as what you people can provide. I would never make a living if I had to train the person on-the-job; it just wouldn't happen. Without the automotive program, I'm just not sure where this community is going to go as far as the knowledge that we have out there for automotive techs. I don't think that cramming it altogether in an academy format is probably the best idea. If you are going to make any decisions, I'd like to see you hold off on making some long enough to get some valuable input on how to do that properly. Thank you.

Ellen Meyers: Good evening, my name is Ellen Meyers and I am here to speak on behalf of the Horticulture/Landscape Program. I work at Gee Farms Nursery, Inc Jackson County. We grow and sell trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals and are best known for our dwarf and unique conifers. At the nursery, we look for new employees that have some education and training in horticulture. We look for knowledgeable employees that come in with the background needed to understand how to grow plants, have information that they can share with customers, and are willing to learn more to be successful in the nursery business. The students who have completed the Associate degree program in Horticulture at LCC are the type of employees that we are looking for. They learn quickly and can progress up from beginning employee to supervisor and managerial roles. Some of those students can get their start working at a large nursery like Gee Farms, gain experience, then go on work for other nurseries or may even go on to start their own businesses. We have had a few students from LCC come and work at Gee Farms nursery, build their experience for a few years, then move on to other horticulture positions. They have been great employees and they generally

become very successful various horticultural businesses. I am also an Adjunct Instructor with LCC's Horticulture Program, and I teach some of the beginning classes as well as some of the more advance classes like Garden Design, Landscape Management, and Bedding Plant Production. I know the quality of the education that our students at LCC are receiving. Our instructors make sure that the courses we offer are preparing students for jobs in the industry. I have also seen how motivated and dedicated many of the students are. They come to LCC to learn what they need to become successful in getting a job in the industry; and with that degree, they will be able to move up the ladder, earn higher wages, and have opportunities that might not be available to them without a degree. The Horticulture Industry is alive, well, and growing in Michigan. I have submitted some information for you that came from the 2009 census that was taken by the US Department of Agriculture. Just to summarize it states that the Michigan's horticulture industry is strong and vital to our local communities and the state's economic well-being. Here are over 11,000 horticultural operations in the state, with more that with \$108 million in retail sales, MI ranks second in the US (topped only by California). Recently Michigan has been named first in the nation in the production of several floral crops (begonia baskets, Easter lilies pots, cut geraniums, hostas, petunia baskets and impatiens). In Michigan, there has been a 10% increase in sales of horticultural crops in the last decade. There are going to be many careers open for our students in production, research, marketing, teaching, landscape design, construction and management, industry support, inspection and communications. LCC's Horticulture Program plays a vital role in education and training students to fill these jobs! I hope you are going to think about that and reconsider keeping our program. Thank you.

Bill Savage: Good Evening. My name is William Savage. I've been a student in PFW for 24 years. My wife, Lynn Savage, former PFW Chair has asked me to read her comments into the record. The following includes remarks to the Board from Lynn Save, retired Chair, of the Physical Fitness Wellness Department. I have asked that it be read into the record, as I am not able to be with you tonight. It is with disbelief that I read and heard that the College is proposing to close the swimming pool and thereby eliminate the Aquatics program from LCC offerings. The reason cited was the cost of repairs, and if I have heard correctly, that cost was in the neighborhood of \$7 million. I have only been retired two years, leaving before the final report was issued. The plans called for completely renovating the entire pool/locker room area, and they were elaborate. A portion of the pool work had been completed before I left the college, including replacing the filters and some of the mechanical work. However, those plans were predicated on the belief by the department that the College was willing to commit resources to this valuable community asset. The same plans do not accurately reflect the true cost of maintaining the pool as it is. That cost is much lower, I think, closer to \$100,000 to \$250,000 for the essential repairs that would make the pool serviceable for quite some time to come. The Aquatics program serves LCC students (some of whom cannot participate in land-based classes); the community, with adult learn-to-swim classes (the only one in the community); children's classes; Delphinus Swim Club and

Waverunners swimming. Despite the increase in lab fees by 200% last year, classes today are very full. Given the new governor's remarks about addressing Michigan's obesity problem, it seems counterproductive to recommend the complete shutdown of a still very functional fitness facility. If the college is willing to serve the "community" as it should, it could address the needs of one of the biggest groups in history, the baby boomers, many of whom have turned to aquatics programs as they age. This group is very willing to spend its resources on instruction, which is the hallmark of the LCC program. If revenue for supporting the pool is an issue, I find it interesting that the Board has yet to approve the recommendations of the Ad Hoc committee of the PFW department to improve service to the community at the same time as it increases revenue. I wish I could be with you tonight. I wanted you to personally know my thoughts about this. I simply see no reason to shut down a facility that is still very functional and still services so many of our LCC students and the community. Just a side note; to include the necessary HVAC "fix" as being solely related to the pool (as it appears in Mr. Strugar-Fritsch's summary letter) is certainly misleading, any use of this area would require a complete revamping of the HVAC, much like what has occurred in moist every building on campus. Thank you for your consideration of considering the entire picture in your deliberations.

Andrew Medley: My name is Andrew Medley. I'm a student at LCC. I'd like to speak briefly regarding the Program Analysis and the proposed changes to the curriculum at LCC. Many people tonight have and will testify to the merits of the threatened programs. I would like to instead address some problems that I, as a student, have with the presentation of the Program Analysis. I first heard about the proposed changes when I returned to school from spring break. I had to dig through my student email because the spam filter had assumed it was trash, to find the February 28 email describing the Program Analysis. However, the email itself was without a link to the cited study and the minutes from that Board meeting were missing. The sudden implementation of the analysis was striking as well. I'm sure the timing of the surprise spring break announcement was coincidental; but it appears to be sneaky and a less than honest attempt at communicating something so important. I'm not against the purpose of the Program Analysis, but the conversation about the value of the programs needs to be more genuine, more inclusive, and fully transparent. Public comments at board meetings are a good first step, but changes as sweeping as this deserve a larger discussion between the administration, the students, faculty, local business owners, and the public-at-large, with complete and full access to the data behind the Program Analysis. I was glad to hear the Provost Champion transparency earlier tonight. I highly recommend Google Moderator, free software, that will allow everyone concerned to participate in a robust and thorough dialog, one that respects the gravity and consequences of the proposed changes, so that we can properly decide how to fulfill the goals of the Program Analysis. Our purpose here is to help transition LCC into the 21st century. I think it would be a nice gesture to have the process itself be forward looking. Thank you.

Carolyn Johnson (read letter on the behalf of Kaitlyn Coryell): My name is Kaitlyn Coryell, I have been a student at LCC for four years pursuing an associate's degree/transfer in Interior Design. I am writing on behalf of the Interior Design program. It started with the EISD program that my high school offered. I was allowed to take Interior Design classes at LCC while still in high school. This is where I found my passion in life---Interior Design, with the help of a great instructor, Ms. Conner; I gained knowledge and experience in this program as well as college credit all while I was still in high school. This program literally changed my life, changing me as a person and giving me the opportunity that I treasure most in this world, to become qualified in a career that will let me do what I want with my life and to love my job. When it was time to graduate from high school and pursue a degree in Interior Design, I looked at schools all over Michigan, but when it came down to it I realized that LCC and its Interior Design program was my home. It had already and would continue to give me a great foundation in Interior Design. I knew this program would allow me to get an associate degree for an affordable rate, which was important since I wanted to move on to another school after I graduated from LCC. I knew I would get the same if not a better education in LCC's Interior Design program as other more expensive, art schools and in time, this program would allow me to continue to another school to pursue another degree in interior Design. In pursuit of my studies, I have met interior design alumni students from LCC who have commented on their time and experience in the interior design program and on the wise choice I made for choosing the interior design program at LCC who have all had great success since graduating from the program. I owe this program my life, without it I would never have found my true passion. I would never have met and made so many great lifelong friends, I would not be the strong, smart, hardworking woman that I am today and I would never have had the courage and independence to take charge of my life. Simply put I would never have gotten this far in life and my education without the Interior Design program here at LCC. I know that this program has not only changed my life for the better but has also helped many of my friends/co-students who are all at different stages in their life to achieve a goal that would not only better themselves, but better their lives for their families. The great thing about LCC's Interior Design program is that it gives anyone and everyone the chance to make their lives better in a big or small way by simply giving them the chance and that's all anyone really needs including this program. Give Mrs. Conner's passion for this program a chance to make it great again because I know that this program was meant to do so much more and still can for me and for so many others that will come after me. Please consider my opinion when making your final decision. Thank you for listening to my opinion of this program.

Carolyn Johnson (read letter on behalf of Lian Mull): Regretfully, I am writing in response to Lansing Community College's proposal to cut the Fashion Technology program. I would like to take some time to tell you about my story and how the Fashion Technology program at LCC has influenced my life. After receiving my Bachelor's degree from MSU in psychology, I acquired many different jobs in many different fields. With much trial and error and soul searching, I was able to find my

career as a merchandise buyer in the fashion retail industry. In 2008, the recession hit and the store I was working for went bankrupt by 2009. Jobs in 2009 were hard to find in any industry, so I decided to make productive use of my time and enroll in several classes at LCC to enhance my working experience and expose myself to the latest technologies in the fashion industry. LCC provided me with a spectacular learning environment and challenged me to be a better student. LCC's Fashion Technology program inspired me so much that I decided to pursue an Associate's degree in the program, which I would not have contemplated doing before. After 3 semesters of classes, my interest in the industry and academics grew and I decided to apply to CMU to attain a Master's degree in Apparel Product Development and Merchandising Technology. Currently, I am enrolled as a full time graduate student. I would not have been accepted into graduate school without the Fashion Technology Program at LCC. The program gave me the required pre-requisites for acceptance into the Master's program, even though I did not receive my Associate's degree from LCC. I am so thankful for the choices I have made that have led me to where I am. If LCC decides to cut the Fashion Technology program, the decision will be a huge disservice to the members of the community. LCC provides educational enrichment to people who have hopes to make their lives better through the acquisition of knowledge. By cutting this program, LCC will be turning its back on the community and cutting down the community's hopes and dreams. By continuing to offer the Fashion Technology program, LCC will be providing the members of this community a chance to evolve and grow into contributors of tomorrow.

Eli Gaugush: Hi my name is Eli Gaugush, I'm a student at LCC and I've been swimming and coaching at LCC for four years; currently employed as a lifeguard here at LCC. I am speaking here today to address some misinformation about the cost to repair the LCC pool. They say the pool needs \$5 to \$7 million in repair work. This is false. The pool needs at most, a quarter of a million dollars to get the pool working for the foreseeable future. This brings up the question, what is the reason for closing down the pool if it is not actually for the cost? Is it the cost of the program, no? The aquatics program makes money. What is going to be reused for the pool space? Please tell me if you have a plan for the pool space and tell us how much it would cost to reuse it. It is not an easy space to reuse. A community college's purpose is to serve the community. How does closing a pool in Michigan, the great lakes state, serve that purpose? How does our college justify closing a pool in a state with the 10th highest rate of obesity in the country. How can we take a method of exercise from some people, like my mother who has severe arthritis, when that is the only way they can really exercise? Every day during lap swim, a least a third to a half of the people that I see come in, are people that can only exercise in the water. How can we take that away from them and expect to continue to serve the community's needs. Now if this is to repurpose the pool, I have a single question for you; how well is that \$700,000 hanger working out for us with the program we are going to cut. Members of the Board you have a choice, you can go along with the presented vision for the college's

future or you can do your job and serve the community like you were put into office to do. Thank you.

Kristine Ledbury: Hi my name is Kristine Ledbury, I'm a student here at LCC since January of 09. I returned to school after 31 years and it has completely changed my life. The impact it has had on my three children and me. My girls are also finishing university. One important lesson I have learned is that education should be more than sitting before a book and assimilating material. Education should stress the importance of the body and mind connection. I beg you please save our pool. Being in the various aquatics programs and having access to the LCC's pool daily has made a huge difference in the quality of my life. The impact of losing the ability to use this pool would be immeasurable. If you visited our hydro-fit or our water walking class, you'd understand. Not everyone can tolerate the rigors of weight training. I can assure you that I can only do those same exercises in the water. There are so many of us with physical issues who attend LCC, who use the pool on a regular basis. Being physical isn't frivolous or disposable. You, as administrators, are well aware of the studies of the connection in learning. Studies have shown that in 2010 Michigan had the honor of going from being the 9th fattest State in the nation to becoming the 10th. How can we expect the statistics to improve if we take away the tools that we need to do so. Maintaining our beautiful pool cannot possibly cost more than what it would cost to turn that space into anything else besides a pool. I spent a lot of time in Toronto, Canada and they have 60 pools for public use. We have three and now we are about to lose one of them. So please consider this before you make this decision. Thank you.

Patrick O'Meara: Good evening and thank you for having me here today, my name is Patrick O'Meara and I am a registered landscape architect here locally and also a part-time instructor for the landscape architecture program for 34 years. I've been with the program since its inception. Initially this unique program focused on providing support personnel for Landscape Architect, Architectural, and Civil engineering design firms. It naturally overflowed into providing valued personnel to plant nurseries, landscape construction and maintenance firms and now into the retail outlets. Because of the diversity of the industry, we produce individuals with a variety of skills. Some have gone on to create businesses locally, as well as statewide. Some are in the field, some work out of the field, which isn't necessarily all-bad. There is a learning curve here when you are starting a business, so you may not end up with what you started but you have learned some things along the way and developed some tools, which might take you off in other direction. Nothing's wrong with that. In the field student profiles, 50% of the students want to own their own business. The Program provides 'grass roots' opportunities for new jobs and businesses. Others have continued their education to become Landscape Architects; acquiring their registration in the design profession. Still others have, utilizing their skills and knowledge, and have been employed in existing landscape design, construction and maintenance firms. Thereby upgrading the industry's quality and diversity. We make a difference. Our students are taught by professionals working daily in the field, assuring a close reality between

classroom and the workplace. Many of our students work in the Green Industry while they finish their education; in some cases, the employer helps with the cost of schooling. Because of the high standards set by the faculty the Program is not an easy one, it requires a lot from each student. Graduates often say that what they learned was instrumental in their being successful in their job. Currently, the Green Industry has become high profile; our program, I believe, has so much value to offer this industry, as well as our economy. It seems so misdirected to eliminate our Land. Architecture and Horticulture Programs at the advent of the much heralded and long overdue Green Revolution. Also, LCC is a community college, not a four-year or private sector institution. We must not lose our identity and value to our community by not providing the 'everyday' vocations that are so much of our growth, stability and prosperity. Finally, I believe that it is not the lack of a pertinent educational message, but the lack of a capable messenger that finds us here today pondering the future of Landscape Architecture at Lansing Community College.

Ryan Stevenson: Hi I'm Ryan Stevenson and I'm a student at LCC working toward an automotive technology degree. In addition, I am a small business owner, consultant to health care and an entrepreneur that wants to open an auto repair facility. I want to do this because in the current economic times I have noticed the trend of people repairing their automotives verses buying new. Automotive repair technicians are in higher demand than ever in my opinion. As someone with two vocational certificates, I can say a vocational certificate is not the same as a degree. So the thought of eliminating the degree as an option and going toward an academy style program is quite concerning. LCC offers one of very few degree programs in the areas and I would really hate to see Lansing Community College make the community leave the community in order to get their education. The last thing I would like to say it that Michigan is known for automobiles. It would be really sad to see that trend go away, especially from a college that's focused on this community. Have a great day.

Paul Homeniuk: Good evening I'm Paul Homeniuk and I spoke at the last meeting. I just want to briefly say that I was asked by my colleagues in the hospitality program to help coordinate our efforts to address the stated reasons and concerns for chopping the meat and potatoes out of the hospitality program. We've done that. About noon on Friday, we transmitted a document to the Provost for review addressing the issues involved; including among those things documentation on salaries in the industries. Contrary to what some people have said, we have never trained our students to chop vegetables and make soup. We have trained them for jobs in the industry that the data show has a salary for \$54,000 a year. We provided documentation on that research. We sited all our data. We also addressed the future curriculum and adapted it to the growth in the industry, which still employs one in ten people in this country in the hospitality industry. We've also addressed the significant cost of a new facility. We found that we were able to pin the college down and they said \$5 to \$7 million dollars. Again, we have documented item by item how an expanded facility can be created for just under \$900,000. That is certainly a significant number and a significant difference

than what was stated for the reason for it not continuing; that part of the program. I hope that the administration and this Board will give our documentation a full review. I think you will find that we are an asset to the college and to the industry. Thank you.

Kevin Johnson: Madam Chairwoman, members of the Board, President Knight, good evening to you. My name is Kevin Johnson and I am Chief Flight Instructor in the Aviation Flight Program here at LCC. I'd like to address the program realignment proposal, which includes a recommendation to eliminate the Aviation Flight program. The administration says they want this college to help provide our students high tech, high skill, high wage, and high demand careers. Frankly, if high tech, high skill, high wage and high demand don't apply to pilots, I don't know who you would apply those terms to. The high tech and high skill are obvious. This job requires incredible technical complexity and competence. As far as high wages are concerned, the average salary of a commercial pilot in Michigan is over \$80,000 per year. In addressing high demand, you may note that the program analysis is that it states that only 30 or so jobs per year will be available in Michigan for pilots through 2018. The college's analysis runs contrary to data supplied by the Michigan Bureau of Labor Statistics, the US Department of Labor, the Federal Aviation Administration, and industry studies undertaken by companies such as Boeing. The demand for pilots within the next five, ten, and twenty year periods is expected to be extremely high nationally, and within Michigan itself. Within the state, we are the only Associates Degree program for professional pilots. We are the least expensive for professional pilots, we come well under the national average and we continue to have the best safety record in the State of Michigan. The relevance of the program, therefore, is not in doubt. That leaves the program's high operating cost as the only relevant factor in this decision. In this case, I would like to draw your attention to the LCC Alternate Flight Program proposal, which is a three-year plan to modernize the program, and most importantly, to make it operate in the black. A final draft of this plan was presented to the Board in September 2009. Since that time, action taken by the administration to implement this plan has been piecemeal and uncoordinated at best. Worse, there has been no feedback from the administration at any level on the process. I had a chance to speak briefly with the Provost on Friday, and it was the first direct feedback from an administrator I have had in eighteen months. The faculty has been left feeling that the college just does not want its aviation programs, and is simply unwilling to do the work necessary to make them successful. Board members I would urge you to consider slowing this process down. There is no reason to be in a headlong rush to make decisions with such consequences. Please look very carefully at the decision you are being asked to make, because the motivation, reliability, and relevance of this program analysis, as it concerns this program, are not to be taken at face value. Thank you.

Bill Belonge: Good evening, I'll begin by saying that I do not envy any of you with your job; you have a tough job. Many people want many things and I don't know how you are going to make these decisions. I stand before you as a businessperson here in

Lansing. I went to school here back in the early 80's. I opened up my own place in 1988. The only reason that it became a delight for me was because of the training I got here at this school. Obviously not a public speaker, but in my business I am very strong. I am strong because LCC gave me that strength. It's the automotive program. Look at the state of the art facility that was built for the automotive program. The reason that was built I think, was because you were producing so many students that were going out into the community, making a living for themselves, and providing for their families. So I stand before you in hopes that you will consider keeping that automotive program. Thanks

Bill Copland: I'm Bill Copland. I've coached swimming here for the last 13 years and on and off here for over 30 years. This is the city of Lansing's best pool. The pool is really in pretty good shape and certainly does not need anywhere near the \$4 to 7 million stated in the study or the press release. Michigan has more coastline than all but one other state. It also has thousands of lakes. With Lansing residents being so near to so much water, it only makes sense to keep this pool open for more people to use to learn to swim and sharpen their skills. It is filling classes of all sorts term after term. I have watched Rich Mull and others with learn-to-swim students, Karla with her infants and toddlers and your own program's learn-to-swim teach hundreds of people how to swim and be safe in our state. There is also the population that cannot do high impact exercise for which the pool is important. We see them in the water aerobics class term after term. The pool is also filled on a daily basis with fitness lap swimmers, family swimmers and competitive swimmers. This is a valuable resource for our college and our community. It doesn't make sense to close this pool. It works, it's important and you're not going to save any money by closing it. Please don't.

Nicholas Maar: Good evening, members of the Board and the community. My name is Nicholas Maar and I'm a 2004 graduate of the automotive technology program with an Associate's Degree. I'd like to talk about a couple of the aspects related to the automotive technology program. The first is the idea or suggestion that the program is low tech. As many of the members of the community have stated and given examples, it's clearly not low tech. The truck sitting in the parking lot is another prime example of it not being low tech. A lot of the members of the community have also demonstrated that there are a wide variety of positions from introductory technical positions to a positions like mine. I work at General Motors as an engineering technician at the global headquarters for Powertrain Engineering in Pontiac, Michigan. I do development and validation testing on a variety of GM powertrains. The technological advance of these is a variety of hybrid powertrains that GM is producing now and bringing to market. The significant amount of these hybrids and the technology that's required to work on them, I wouldn't be able to have the position that I have, if I didn't receive the training from LCC. It prepared me for the type of position that I currently have and I'm very proud of my position. I am confused and don't understand the President's statement about eliminating the entry-level positions in automotive technology. That is kind of like saying you can teach me to be a doctor without taking an anatomy class. I don't really

understand that. Growing up we find out and learn that we have to walk before we run. The automotive technology program is the same way. Without learning these basic courses, we can't go on to the more advanced courses and hybrid classes. Please allow the automotive technology program to continue in its entirety and let the students determine if they are successful or not. Thank you

Kim Reed: Good evening to the Board, I am not an LCC student anymore. My son is a LCC student now. I put in my 31 years at GM and I am retired. I understand that the automotive industry is changing and I have seen a lot of that in 31 years. What I am concerned about is when he came home and was so upset that the program was having some issues. He has been here since 2009. We have money invested in the program and I'm sorry but cars are his passion. He wants to get more than one degree. He wants to take collision, he wants the technical and he wants to go on to do the business. Not all people in automotive want to just be a technician somewhere. They want to be like Ed Carpenter, they want to be like Ryan, they want their own business, and they want to be able to take a car and turn it into what is standing out there in the parking lot. You can't do that if you eliminate the entry level. I'm concerned that everyone thinks that we got the Volts and the Hybrids coming out. I'm sorry I'm a retiree and I'm going to make my vehicle last as long as it can. The kid that goes to this school is the person that is fixing it right now. LCC is the only program in Michigan that offers such a high degree of automotive technology. That is why he chose to go here, that is why he wanted to make the LCC his future. Please allow that with the automotive program. Thank you.

Jeremy Nofzinger: Good evening and thank you for giving us a chance to speak tonight. I'm currently an automotive technician, and automotive student. I will complete the automotive certificate of completion this spring with my final class. I am also an army veteran. In 1997 I graduated from Grand Ledge High school and checked out the LCC program, Ohio Auto Diesel and Colorado Auto and Diesel programs. At that time, none of the programs fit my lifestyle. I went to the military and served five years. After the military, I decided to just grab a job. Everybody said you're a veteran; you'll get a job anywhere. So I hopped around from technical, to technical and never really found anything and decided to come back to automotive field. I checked out Ferris State's program, LCC's program and Bakers program. I was not looking for a bachelors program; I was looking for a certificate of completion. I currently hold 7 state certifications, 3 ASE certifications, over 34 certification and several GM certifications. In the Ford world, I would be considered a senior tech. I worked for a Ford company and GM company. Both companies didn't really meet my needs so I went back to the independent world. I like the independent world. I have more of a one-on-one focus with my customers. My customer is to me my bread and butter. If I don't take care of my customer, they are not coming back. In 3 years at LCC, I went from no certification to 7 certifications. I went from an entry-level position to a shop floor man position. Although we all don't graduate, we all have some many connections and so many places to fall back on. In the last year, I've worked on several thousand different

models of vehicles that are ever changing by the hour. They need updates daily. I started out in the business making about \$22,000 a year. My first year in the Army I made \$13,000. To say that you won't make money in this field is just not correct. I appreciate the time tonight and giving us another look. Thank you

Elizabeth Kuiper: Hi, I think it's great to see people dress up from work. My name is Elizabeth Kuiper and I am here to support the Interior Design Program. I started in 1998 at LCC and transferred over to Kendall in Grand Rapids. Where I see myself in the future is at LCC, hopefully running the program or at least instructing here. Therefore, that is why I am still trying to achieve my Bachelor's Degree. I never finished up at Kendall and now I'm back at LCC and I have another year to achieve my bachelors. I am the top interior design student and I received all 4.0 pts. I went to Kitchen and Bath Industry Show last spring in Chicago. I work very hard in this field. It has been nine years. I work in kitchens and baths, retail and all different types of spatial planning. I feel like I shouldn't have done those things without a degree because I learned so much from going to school and the NKBA (National Kitchen and Bath Association). It feels like LCC fills the gap. A 4-year degree is extremely expense, like at Kendall where you are paying about \$1,400 for a class. Not every client wants to spend a whole lot of money on a design and this is a great way for anyone that wants to be an entrepreneur, to be in the field and then go out on their own. Today I charge \$50 per hour for design fees. So I do make a decent living. I support three children on my own, I drive a nice vehicle, I've got a great house and I'm not even graduated yet. I know that the possibilities are endless. I started out by making \$12 an hour and then I topped out at \$14 an hour. So I know that the finances are out there. I am from Shiawassee County and they just closed down a program from Flint and Owosso, so we have all of the interior design students that are looking for a place to go. I said that LCC has a great program. I know a lot of student that want to come here. Thank you.

Amy Frankmann: My name is Amy Frankmann, I am the Executive Director for the Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association. I am here today on behalf of my entire Board of Directors and Michigan's green industry. We are deeply concerned with the proposal to eliminate your Horticulture and Landscape Programs. Michigan's nursery, perennial plant production, Christmas tree, sod producers, landscaping and lawn care industries contribute \$1.2 billion to Michigan's economy. Nursery and perennial plant producers generate about \$291 million in annual sales and distribute their products into 35 states, Mexico and Canada, making us the second largest agriculture commodity group in Michigan and the fifth largest nursery industry in the nation. Our landscape contractors and designers generate \$655 million in annual sales, and our lawn service companies and sod growers have expenses that contribute \$272 million to Michigan's economy. For over 40 years, Lansing Community College (LCC) has been a valuable resource that has produced highly trained, skilled and degreed employees for careers in Michigan's green industry. In fact, throughout the tenure of the Horticulture and Landscape Programs, LCC has produced over 10,000 students. Despite the economic downturn, we continue to see growth in all segments of the green industry, but in a

different way than before. This continued growth is attributed to the focus on efficiencies in all aspects of the business and technology for application. The need for highly trained and skilled professionals is a critical component to our growth, and has intensified the importance of providing careers - not jobs - careers for our workforce. We're seeing an increase in the number of trained individuals being hired and in salaries being paid. You have graduated over \$10,000 student in Landscape Horticulture. Your programs for Horticulture and Landscape Architecture have a proven record of fitting this need for our industry. While we understand that you are under economic pressures, we urge you not to stray from your elite history and vision - for your students, our great green industry, and for Michigan's recovery - and to retain your Horticulture and Landscape Programs.

Matt O'Donnell: Thank you, my name is Matt O'Donnell, I own O'Donnell's On-the-Spot Repair. I would like to address Mr. Knight's comments about the academy as an alternative to the automotive program. I've had quite a bit of experience with candidates that come out of academies. Over the years I have been in business since 1988 and probably hired 50 to 60 technicians. The technicians out of the academy have not met the criteria that I have needed, even on an entry level. I know that LCC produces some good technicians because I have hired several of them. I think the guys with the degree do perform better than the guys without a degree, but there are some guys out there who don't require a degree to make good money and contribute to society and raise their families. Having said that I'm wondering if the Board has asked the local industry how we feel about the program and what we can do to change it. I understand your problem. It's economics, but there are alternatives. There are different things that can be done, but I haven't been asked and I don't know if any of my colleagues have been asked. What do we think? I'm available to help you guys out with an alternative that might be a hybrid to where you are going and where you are now. So, I'm available for that. When I was in high school, I got to take small engine class, when I went to Pathway Career center I got machine shop, welding, automotive, and small engine class. I made a career out of it and became a millionaire that way; through hard work. I'm a graduate of the school of hard knocks and its basics, basics, basics. That is what we need. We need it in the industry. We need guys that understand the basics. I lend myself to you guys if you are interested, give me a call. I'll be happy to try and help you out and I thank you for your time.

Kenneth Howell: Good evening and thank you, my name is Kenneth Howell. I'm a long time student here at LCC and frequent user of your swimming pool. It is the best maintained pool that I know of in the Lansing Area and it is something I really value. It was here at this pool that I finally learned to swim. I have some underlining health issues that I have been able to mitigate by the way of the aerobics benefits of swimming. I think the pool is valuable and one that is a part of personal enrichment for the entire community. Where exercise is declining and obesity is increasing, I cannot conceive how LCC can contemplate abandoning the pool and its aquatics program. Rather than complaining about it being underutilized, I think that you should try to

increase the usage of the pool and enhance the aquatics program. I appreciate the idea of \$5 million being spent to rehabilitate the pool, but the truth is that those costs are not necessary. In the engineering study, I saw components that were really cosmetic. I agree with the other estimates that you have heard. Probably only the necessary repairs may amount to only a quarter of a million dollars. The costs for the alternative of demolishing the pool or repurposing it don't seem to have been considered. I'm a skeptic and I believe those to be quite considerable. I leave you by saying that LCC as a dedicated community member, working for the betterment of all should dedicate itself to maintaining the pool and keeping its aquatics program. Thank you.

Cindy Storie: I'm Cindy Storie speaking on the behalf of the Faculty Association. We wanted to address the Board tonight to let them know as was shared early by Provost Shanblatt that MAHE has requested an extension of one week to respond. As you know we did get a notice under Article 25 of our contract, which is layoff and recall, we are taking that very seriously. Given the time frame that it came out, a week before spring break, we requested that extension because we felt that we had lost a work week with the faculty. We do appreciate the April 4 extension. We will submit our response by that time. We are working diligently with our faculty to appropriately bring some good data and information forward so that each of the program recommendations, both elimination of the nine programs that have been recommended, as well as those with modifications. We believe it has to be comprehensive across the board in order to review as Trustees to have the best information moving forward to make a decision. Some things that I think you should also be aware of is that the functionality of this has been made a little bit more difficult. While we have made request for data and information and we have been getting that starting Friday. One of the common statements that I have heard from faculty throughout each of these programs it that they felt blindsided. They did not feel that they have been getting communications, transparency and information. If this had been going on for 14 months or longer, they believe that they should have been informed and more inclusive in the process. So I find that disturbing and I think that should be noted. As we bring information forward to the Board in the report, we think it is important that we be given an opportunity to directly bring that forward to you and we have asked to be put on the agenda for the next Board meeting. Thank you.

Russell Pline: Good evening, my name is Russell Pline, I'm a graduate of Lansing Community College. I have a Bachelor of Science from the University of Michigan. I have a Master's Degree from Michigan State University. I'm currently the Michigan State University College of Engineering Outreach Coordinator. I have taught at Notre Dame University. I've been to the White House to receive the Presidential award for Commitment to Excellence in mathematics and science education in 1997 to meet the President. I am a professional educator. We have heard repeatedly tonight that a person in the automotive program can get a job without a degree; however, without the ASE certification they cannot have a career. Number one, being a professional

educator I know that students have the ability to see a lot of different fields throughout this college. They have introductory programs. Without those introductory programs, how will students find their passion to follow that through a career? Moreover, if we don't offer programs that interest students, your graduation rates will drop further. Secondly, tonight we heard from automotive experts who told us that a degree is not as important as the basics, the knowledge foundation and then moving through ASE certification and having a good career in the automotive technology program. Why not form a consortium with the LCC Board, Administration and local experts who are in the field. Let them look and decide whether or not this proposal is viable or even a good idea. Third, the West Campus facility is a state-of-the-art facility build with tax payer dollars. Are the taxpayers going to step up to revamp that facility again without the information they need to make a good informed decision. Fourth, I would like to remind you of the mission statement of what Lansing Community College is. It states that Lansing Community College exists so that the people it serves have learning and enrichment opportunities. If we do not offer introductory classes, why would non-degree seeking students, who taxes support this college, choose to vote to financial support the college in the future. We are the community at Lansing Community College and you serve us. Thank you.

Sharon Dimmer: I thank you for your willingness to hear everyone. My name is Sharon Dimmer and I work in the Physical Fitness and Wellness Department. My background is that I have a Bachelor's and Master's in Nursing and PhD in clinical psychology. I am here because my real love is teaching dance. I've taught dance at LCC for 30 years. Before that, I taught for Fred Astaire getting all of my basics in. My concern here is that the courses that I teach, the partnership classes, are going to non-credit classes. I think this will affect the enrollment for my classes. I wonder why this class has been singled out, when there is the dance department, which is not a degree program any more. There is dance exercise, there is volleyball.....you know.....what is the meaning here? What is the message I should get? I think what it is it that somehow the perception is that it is a fluff class or something. Which it is not. I get some dance teachers from the community that come in and want to learn some partnerships and they say, even in addition to the regular student, this is difficult. What is difficult about partnership dancing is that you have two bodies that are coming together that are suppose to dance as one and it isn't that easy. When I watch LCC's dance department performances, they're great until they do something with a partnership and the man holds his hand up and the lady goes out. There isn't any kind of interactions. In fact, many years ago I wrote a course called partnership skills for dance majors. I get students from all walks of life and all ages; from high school all the way up to senior citizens who want to have some fun in their life. My goal is not in terms of career, it is fun, exercise, relaxation. So what partnership dancing does with people is that it gets them moving and they have to think about a lot of things. If they have never danced before, it is very hard. It is keeping track of the music and the beat, it's keeping track of what your partner is doing, it's keeping track of what your feet should be doing, and what your upper body should be doing. It is actually very complex. I hope that you

will reconsider taking the concept of taking the credit away. I think it might affect my enrollment. Thank you for listening.

Robert Ford: Good evening I'm Bob Ford. I'm also on the faculty advisory committee for the Landscape Architectural Technicians program for the past 20 years and taught here as a part-time instructor for 20 years. So I have some perspective. I've been here since 1978 off and on. This is where success begins for many people. They may not make the highest wage in the very beginning, but they do over time. I'd like take four examples and just run through them quickly. Jeff Deering graduated in 1983, he worked for the private sector for a landscape design company. He then became an Ann Arbor park planner and today he is a Washtenaw County park planner. He has three boys, one in college and he spent his whole career here in Michigan. Jeff said "I think I was better prepared for the workforce than any other because I was taught by practitioners." It was a great building block. I was one of two people in the State of Michigan that became a landscape architect with only a two year degree and practical experience; no other formal education. There have only been two in the history in the State of Michigan. Another person in 1986 was a designer for parks and recreation. He was an intern for my company and did site designs on the side. He went into the design build area and worked for contractors and then he worked for various LA offices, and he became an owner in his own design firm for the past 14 years. He has one boy and one girl and spent his entire life here in Michigan. He said, "I found out about the LAT program in a brochure from Southfield High. My grades were not good enough to get into MSU so I moved away from home to go to a community college. Best decision I ever made." Another 1983 graduate was a designer. He left Michigan for one year, went to Colorado, and was a graduate. He had a couple of good jobs there. He went on to MSU in 1986 and got a degree in landscape architecture and U of M in 1991; a Masters Degree. He was in consulting his entire career. Two twin girls, one starting in a college here in Michigan and he said, "Landscape Engineering is the future." The EPA regulations are going to require sustainable sites next year. They are going to require zero water discharge. Who's going to manage these sites and who's going to help to design them and who's going to implement them if it isn't the technician? Over the years that they have been in business, they have together contributed over \$6.5 million dollars to this economy in Michigan. Their taxes help support community colleges like LCC. Thank you.

Russell Earls: Hello, my name is Russell Earls and I'm a student here at LCC. I'm here speaking on behalf of the proposed pool cut. I'm very happy to say that last time since I was here speaking, I've been keeping my eyes on a couple of you guys and I seen that you guys have actually been doing your research and been looking into things. I am very proud to have you as a Board representing us. I do wish there was some new numbers out there, because from the numbers that I've heard, they are less than the \$5 to \$7 million that was in the Lansing State Journal. That is kind of disturbing because the people that I have tried talking to, to support the pool, already have their opinion stating that \$5 to \$7 million dollars is too much. I understand that we are in a

time where everybody has to cut back. You guys have to make a 15% cut from the budget from what I am aware of and that is a huge thing. I have a saying that I just thought of while I was sitting here, "everyone should feel the pinch, but no one should feel the cut." Although this is tough economic times, I feel that if we all work more efficiently, that we can make this happen and not sacrifice our identity as a community college. I really see other ways to do it. You could start charging a dollar a day to use the pool, instead of a dollar a day on the weekends. You will help generate revenue that way and I think people will be reasonable with that. Let the students and tax payers decide and be our representative. I see up there "uphold the public's trust". I am so proud of you guys and I feel like you guys are doing your job of upholding the public trust. I don't know how these numbers got. When gas went up I didn't stop eating or cut college out, I just had to be more efficient. This city is filled with beautiful amazing people. We are a beautiful community college. We are the capitol of Michigan. We are role models to this whole state. We are bringing this state up and back. Let's all chip in and makes this happen. Thank you.

James Cramer: Hi I'm James Cramer and I am here on behalf of the automotive program here at LCC. I know you have heard a lot about this program in particular tonight. I really just have to say that a year ago they came to us; everybody did. All of the instructors came to us and said we have an idea on how to restructure the program. We are thinking about adding some of the classes that only meet once a week and bringing them in for 8-weeks, meeting twice a week like you would every other class. We had a chance and the opportunity to vote upon whether we wanted this to happen. It ended up that it happened this way. No one ever heard anything about what was happening with anything that had to do with the automotive program before it turned up in the Lansing State Journal. I think everybody in the automotive program coming here tonight shows that there is a true passion behind all automotive whether it be body automotive, high performance, alternative fuels, or alternative energy toward automotive. There's just too large of a passion to lose anything like that. I know this is how I feel, and probably a couple of other students as well. Thank you for letting me speak tonight.

Steve Groff: I'd like to thank you guys for letting me speak tonight. It is great that we get to give our opinions. My name is Steve Groff and I am in the high performance program. I know at the last Board meeting we had, there was a big issue about people completing the program; people getting their degree. Myself, I've worked in the automotive industry for about five years. During those five years, there was a lot of hiring and turnovers. Not once did I ever hear employers ask do you have a degree. What I heard was, what are you certified in? These certifications are stepping-stones and they make students like me and other people money. It supports the families. There is a huge demand. We all know what happened to GM but we were a major car producing state. Not all states are a major car producing state, but they all have an automotive industry and they all need automotive techs. The fact that we are still producing vehicles makes us need these automotive positions that much more. I have

an automotive passion. These passions start young. They come in our kids as teenagers. What are they going to do when they get to the point of taking a vocational class and it is not offered anywhere? Doing this allowed our kids to at least be a little bit closer to earning an Associate's Degree while living at home and not having to spend money on rent. It is going to make them more employable that much quicker. We all understand where technology is going. It is huge. Rarely are you going to get an automotive technician that knows everything and does very well in it. We have specialty shops. You can make a career out of just suspensions or front alignments. If you know how to do suspension work, you might not need to know how to do air-conditioning work. For many people this is an opportunity for people that have got their roots sunk and can't uproot and go to another state or go to another county. It is a great opportunity for them to do what they want to do. Some of us have families and other obligations that we have to meet here and we just can't go. Thank you.

James Salinas: Good evening, my name is James Salinas and I am a graduate of this program. First, we have an absolute fabulous facility at the West Campus. We are all talking about the negative. But if we got together and talked about the positive, we would have a whole lot more to talk about. If we do a little bit of marketing, I think we could get a lot of people that would want to invest in this. What's better in the newspaper? LCC downsizes automotive or someone invests \$100,000 into the body program. I personally want to say that to restructure the program more for the academics in a year I don't think will work. The reason why I don't think it would work is if you are not NATECH certified, no one is going to want to go to your program. NATECH works directly with ASA and ASE. They have requirements that a student has to maintain for that college to get that certification. Without that certification, there is no program. Secondly going in the field, you are going to have a lot of guys that have a certificate that are going to get a job and find out they don't have what it takes to hack it. I graduated in 2000, I started out in the Arts program and got in there and it was a culture shock. A lot of the students were better than me and I realized that I was not quite a creative as them. I'm not really a car guy, but I worked on cars fulltime and I was good at it. Just for some reason I thought, let me try this. With no hands on experience, I got to where I am today and I consider myself pretty accomplished. Without the program the way it is, I would never be here. Thank for your time.

Shermane Fouche: Hi my name is Shermane Fouche and I teach in the Fashion Technology Department at LCC. I was welcomed into the automotive department to have my car fixed because my mother and I didn't have a lot of money this last year to be able to take care of things. I've never been so welcomed and so well taken care of. I have a wonderful car that runs beautifully because of the tech department at LCC. All I did was pay for the parts. It's just super, thank you. I do want to say something about fashion technology. I came because I love to teach. If I didn't have a place to come and share what I love and give to other people, what I spend my life doing I don't think I would be fulfilled. The only place that I can do that is a community

college. In a university, you have to have a master's degree or a PhD. At a community college, you get to share of yourself and of your experiences. That is what people come to learn, your life, your love and your experience. That is what I have shared and that is what I hope to continue to share. I really appreciate you giving me some time to say that.

Daniel Hoag: I just want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. My name is Daniel Hoag, I'm a certified master technician. I hold 10 state certifications now and a student at LCC for the Automotive Technology Program. I just can't thank the program enough. When I started at LCC I had one certification; which was just engines. The experiences that I have gotten, the knowledge I have gained from all of the instructors and the friends and the networking I have gotten provided me the job that I have today. I go Monday thru Friday 7:30 – 5:30 pm., to my job, leave directly from that job to go to LCC to take the classes and finish my degree in automotive technology. Some of those days, I had to leave work early in order to make those classes. The program that you have here is absolutely amazing. The facility is great and state of the art. When I first started pursuing a degree in automotive technology, I went to GRCC and they have an excellent program, but I was just amazed at your facility and the faculty that are running the program. They know their stuff inside and out and have a lot of practical experience that they can share with us. It is an excellent program and a program that you need to keep. Thank you.

Emily Galassini: Hi I'm Emily Galassini, a student at LCC and I am here to talk about the pool. I am a newcomer to the LCC pool. I am not a newcomer to swimming, but it is by far the nicest pool I have encountered since coming to Lansing. There are days when it can be absolutely horrible, but you go swimming and when you are done you feel a hundred times better. Who doesn't need that now? Who in this room isn't totally stressed out half of the time? Swimming solves that, it is proven medically that swimming eases stress and swimming is good for your heart. There are a lot of health facts that you can Google if you want more. Basically, I just can't imagine that pool being gone from this school. I'm new to it. There is a community I don't really know that well yet, but it is plain to see that as soon as you meet a few people the pool is something special. There is a structure in the community that is built on it and it is great to find that because you really don't see that very much in cities in Michigan anymore. Another thing that struck me was we started out this meeting by honoring a man that saved somebody's life with his swimming skills. So I hope you all take that into consideration and know that it is a very special wonderful place. Thanks for listening.

Tom Hernly: Good evening, my name is Tom Hernly and I appreciate the opportunity to speak. I wanted to state that one of the most important things is that the students go to the automotive program and come out with their certificate. The Michigan state certification and ASE is something that they have to have to do work on the automobiles. That is what the classes bring, the basics to build up. We can't just start

at a hybrid program like what was mentioned. The students have to have the basics in order to know how to do the stuff to even get into the hybrid program. I know it was said it is minimum wage when they start, but most of the wages are \$10 an hour. I know mechanics making \$50 to \$70 and some that are even making \$100 an hour. So it is not just an entry level wage. I don't know where that all came from. Shaheen Chevrolet has 11 technicians from this program. Spartan Toyota has 6 technicians from this program. Bud Kouts has technicians from the program. I worked 42 years as a service director at a local dealership, so I know most of the service managers throughout the city. It is just a sad state of affairs to think that we are going to lose our program; as much of a state-of-the-art program that it is. I can't imagine all the money that is in it and the taxpayers that spent all the money to build that special facility out there. It is just amazing to think that we would be abandoning something like that just to move on. I know there is 486 students so there has got to be a way to make this a viable program. Again thank you for letting me speak.

John Rossi: Good evening, my name is John Rossi and I'm a part-time instructor here at Lansing Community College. I teach at the aviation center out at the airport. I had my class tonight from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. I just want to say that I have taught here at Lansing Community College part-time since 1981. Since 1984, I've been at the aviation center. I teach at the ground school out there and have my pilot's certificate. The demand for pilots is at an all-time high. Industry wide those are the predictions that they are making. I went to a seminar back in January and some of those folks were saying there might be airplanes that won't be able to leave the ground because there won't be enough people to fly them. I know that aviation is a very expensive proposition. I even heard Donald Trump mention a few times he has lost investments in aviation because of the cost and the risk. But whenever Donald Trump wants to fly somewhere he is in an airplane. I know that LCC is not the only school with an aviation program that is thinking about closing it. If those schools close, then it just makes a wider gap. Capital City Airport is a great learning place because you have an airport that is not super huge as Detroit Metro or Chicago, but still has an operating control tower that keep things very safe for our students. It is a great learning environment. High on my list for my students is that I want all of my students to be successful when they leave my class and the program. That is what I strive for. Those students are under my wings and I feel like the aviation program is under your wings and I would think that you want that to be successful also.

Alex Beardsley: My name is Alex Beardsley and I've been going to LCC since fall of 2006. When I first decided what I wanted to do, I was in high school. I wanted to be a mechanic; I wanted to be a technician. My first year in high school, my high school decided to cancel their automotive program. I was unable to get a start in the program. When I became a junior in high school, I was not available to go to the career center because they didn't have enough opening spots. So I missed out on four years of education that I could have gain because it was cancelled. I came to LCC because I was told that it has the best automotive program in the State. I've been here

and I agree with that statement. In the past five years, I've received three jobs. All three of them I got over people that had the academy degree, because I going to school at Lansing Community College. Currently, I'm employed at an undercar store that does steering, suspension and brakes. I'm the assistant manager and we do almost \$1 million a year doing the basics. That is what you are trying to cut out saying that we don't need it. Well I beg to differ. Honestly, a million dollars in a year from one store just doing the basics; that says something. I appreciate the time tonight and I really hope you guys take that into consideration before you decide to cancel that program. Thank you.

Paul Beck: My name is Paul Beck, I started here when my student ID number was four digits. I've taught here for 20 years and I retired a little over two year ago. I taught in the automotive program. I have a dual degree. One of them is from Lansing Community College. I think the Board is missing a large point that everybody has to have a degree to be employable. You really missed the point because over the years I have had so many students that couldn't pass an SAT test, but took a few classes and became painters or body-men in a body shop and have been able to support themselves and a family. The student that was just up here is making a living, maybe by having not a complete degree, but being able to do frontend alignment and brakes; a portion of what the program is about. If the students take those classes and can pass an ASE certification test, they are pretty much employable. They do not have to have a full college degree to be employable. That is what the community college is here for; to make people employable. Thank you.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Action Items – Consent Agenda

The following items were presented under the consent agenda:

1. FY 2011 Budget Reconciliation
2. 2011 – 2012 Sabbatical Leave Requests
3. Finance
 - a. No - Bid
 - (1) Consumers Energy Choice Rate Class Program in the amount of \$150,829.33. It is recommended that LCC enter into a contract with Constellation New Energy for a one-year period.
 - b. Change Order Transmittals
 - (1) S/Y Chase Consulting, LLC.
 - (2) Capital Area Michigan Works!

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Woods and supported by Trustee Smith to approve the consent agenda items.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Hollister, Meyer, Proctor, Rasmusson, Smith, Woods, Canja

Nays: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

Adjournment

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Smith and supported by Trustee Hollister that the meeting adjourn.

Ayes: Hollister, Meyer, Proctor, Rasmusson, Smith, Woods, Canja

Nays: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.