Lauren Galley – Empowering Others, Empowering Herself

“Lone Star College-Tomball student” describes Lauren Galley, but so does teen mentor, author, TV host and founder and president of Girls Above Society, a group she launched at age 17, dedicated to creating an anchor of empowerment for teenage girls. One could say she easily epitomizes what it means to go above and beyond.

Lauren began attending LSC-Tomball as a sixteen-year-old dual-credit student in Fall 2011 and by her second semester had joined the Student Activities Board and the Psychology Club (of which she is currently serving as vice-president). She considered her integration onto campus an easy one because she preferred the college experience to that of high school. “People want to be here,” she said of her fellow college students. “That fact greatly facilitates a healthy classroom environment.”

Her efforts on campus serve as a grounded balance to her other endeavors. Lauren hosts the “The Lauren Galley Show” and has been featured on Fox News and in Teen Vogue. She speaks to schools and organizations sharing a dose of “Girl Power” to tween and teen girls throughout the U.S. and her first book “Steps to Success: An Empowerment Guide” gives young girls easy to follow steps that will increase confidence and leadership skills to be the best a girl can be. Lauren said her planner is her best friend and that staying organized is key to her ability to manage all she has going on.

Lauren hopes to transfer to the University of Texas at Austin and obtain both a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in psychology. She believes that leaving LSC-Tomball will be a bittersweet experience. “I love it here,” she said. “The community college experience serves as the perfect transition for high school students before the whole world is thrown at them.” She encourages all future college-goers to get involved. “It’s difficult to make friends when you are only going to class. There is bound to be something going on that you are interested in. Seize those opportunities and you may very well make lifelong friendships. I know I did.”
Students Excel at Model United Nations

This year students and advisors from all the colleges within the Lone Star College System attended the National Model United Nations Conference held in early April at the United Nations in New York City. A joint delegation of 17 students from LSC-Kingwood, Montgomery and Tomball—(represented by Alan Abbott, Kaylin Arnold, Mark Kinyanjui, Mikayla Clark and Shannon McCreadie)—participated and represented Uruguay. The delegation was awarded the Distinguished Delegation Award. In committees, members were also awarded two position paper awards.

National Model United Nations (NMUN) is an academic simulation where students role-play as diplomats representing a country in simulated committee sessions of the United Nations. NMUN is the oldest, largest and most competitive of the many international Model United Nations conferences.

With more than 5000 students from more than 40 countries participating over the course of two conference sessions, the LSC Kingwood, LSC-Montgomery and LSC-Tomball award is the product of an intensive 4 months of preparation by the students and advisors. “The continued success of our delegations at NMUN is a tribute to our students who not only buy into the system the advisors have created, but work long, long hours preparing to engage students from the European Union, China, Japan, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. Several of the delegations our students competed against were comprised entirely of PhD students,” said David Birch, one of the LSC-Tomball Model UN faculty advisors.

Student Graduates as Honors Scholar

Congratulations to Andrew Robinson who will graduate on May 10 as an Honors Scholar Graduate (9 credit hours in honors plus at least 25 hours of community service). To be an Honors Scholar, students must complete a more rigorous curriculum, maintain a 3.25 GPA in their honors courses and perform community service hours.

LSC-Tomball Student Named Phi Theta Kappa Distinguished Officer

Chelsea Vincent, a member of the Alpha Rho Mu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Lone Star College-Tomball, has been named among 30 Phi Theta Kappa members internationally honored with the 2014 Distinguished Chapter Officer...
Award, presented by the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Distinguished chapter officers were nominated by their chapters through the Hallmark Awards application process, and chosen based on a student’s demonstration of leadership, promotion of Honors in Action, other engagement in the Society, and enthusiasm for the Hallmarks of the Society (Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Fellowship). They were selected by a panel of judges from over 450 nominees worldwide.

Recipients received commemorative medallions and were honored during the Hallmark Awards Gala held during NerdNation 2014, Phi Theta Kappa’s annual convention in Orlando, Florida, April 24-26.

Student Scholars Present Their Honors Research

Honors presentations are delivered each semester by students interested in going above and beyond the normal academic call of duty. Presenters either took an honors course or completed a specialized honors project for a non-honors course. On April 25, the spring 2014 honors candidates delivered presentations on a wide variety of subjects to an audience of college employees, fellow students, family and friends. Subjects ranged from Mark Twain to climate change to bipolar mood disorder. The following students presented projects:

- Michael Adams
- Zachary Allen
- Ami Amega (2 presentations)
- Ann Barber
- Elijah Bautista
- Blake Barnett
- Angela Boyrie
- Paige Carker
- Lauren Clark
- Christine Coxon
- Armando Cruz
- Alexander Cupial
- Forrest de los Santos
- Rhiannon Donaldson
- Alexander Joseph Dodd
- Morgan Estes
- Megan Gallego
- Laura Guerrero
- Christina Ann Hays
- Matt Hickerson (2 presentations)
- Connor Hickerson
- Garrett Hughes
- Jacklyn Huynh
- Justin Jackson
- Jessica Jenkins
- Katelynn Jones
- Michael Knight
- Shelby-Kate Kosters (2 presentations)
- Connor Lyons
- Sam McNeil
- Madeleine McQuilling
- Sarah Piercy
- Mona Qazait
- Rafael Reyes
- Jovanni Ruiz
- Jacob Saldana
- Elizabeth Stavinoha
- Randi Tamez
- Gabrielle Tillman
- Jorge Torres
- Ernesto Vasquez

Excellence on Display at Night of Rising Stars

Lone Star College-Tomball’s Office of Student Life presented its 2014 Student Excellence Awards April 30 in the Performing Arts Center. This year, the annual event honored the achievements of students in the areas of academics, leadership, and talent. The following students were recognized:

Excellence in Leadership or Academics:
- Rebecca Adams
- Elizabeth Bailey
- Angelique Barbour
- Blake Barnett
- Krista Bassani
- Brooke Bettis
- Jan Brinkley
- Addrean Cardar
- Shane Davis
- Rhiannon Donaldson
- Shanna Dudley
- Amber Foster
- Clifford Frankel
- Lauren Galley
- Julia Germany
STARS Awarded Grand Prize in ONE.org Campus Challenge

Lone Star College-Tomball's student organization Students Together Achieving Radiant Success (STARS) has been announced as a grand prize winner in advocacy organization ONE.org's Campus Challenge Season 7. Along with the other grand prize winners, which included student groups from University of Iowa and University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, LSC-Tomball will be invited to send a representative to Washington, D.C., to serve on ONE's Student Advisory Board and help shape ONE's vision for the following school year. ONE's international mission is to encourage people everywhere to take action toward ending extreme poverty. In the ONE Campus Challenge, college groups earn points by writing letters, tweeting, conducting in-person awareness meetings, and organizing petition deliveries, all in the name of raising awareness of the plight of those living in poverty. “This is an incredible opportunity for any of our students interested in humanitarian issues to participate in actual change at both the local and the national level,” said Sharon Alewine, STARS staff advisor.

Leadership Lone Star College

After an intensive nine-month program focused on developing leadership skills as well as enhancing an appreciation for giving back to the community, Leadership Lone Star recognized five LSC-Tomball students on April 11. Pictured left to right: Shannon Marino, student life program manager; Brooke Bettis; Shawn Berger; Cloie Barcelona; Ann Johnson, vice president of student success; Rhiannon Donaldson; and Elizabeth Vazquez.

Trevor’s Choice Awards Celebrate with Boots and Bling

The Beckendorf Conference Center became a Texas-style dance hall for a few hours on the evening of April 10 as members and advisors of student clubs attended the Office of Student Life’s Trevor’s Choice Awards, honoring registered student organizations and students actively engaged in Lone Star College-Tomball co-curricular activities.

The night began with a musical video montage of photographs taken at various club events throughout the year and vice president of student success Ann Johnson provided the welcome.

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Transformations

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Trevor’s Choice Awards:
- Student Organization Advisor of the Year – David Beaulieu, Psychology Club
- Outstanding Program Award – Deutschklub
- Community Service Award – Student Occupational Therapy Association
- Anne Donlon/Katie Walker Spirit Award – Student Occupational Therapy Association
- Leadership Award – Connor Smith, Deutschklub
- Emerging Student Organization Award – P.I.L.L.S. (Pharmacy Information Learning and Leadership Society)
- Unsung Hero Award – Shanna Dudley, Inkling Creative Writing Club
- Student Organization Officer of the Year Award – W. Shun Foote, TRiO Trailbazer Gaveliers
- Outstanding Student Organization – Deutschklub, Brenda Bauske – Advisor

Accolades

Three LSC-Tomball Faculty Members Garner LSCS Writing Awards

Three Lone Star College-Tomball faculty members were awarded 2014 LSCS Writing Awards for their outstanding contributions to published scholarly discourse over the last year. Occupational Therapy Assistant Program (OTA) Director Dr. Terra Ruppert and OTA Field Work Coordinator Stephanie Johnston were recognized for their article “Collaborative Intervention Planning: An OT-OTA Learning Experience” which appeared in the March 2013 issue of the American Occupational Therapy Association Education Special Interest Section Quarterly. The article describes the methods used by occupational therapy faculty at two separate institutions to familiarize students with their future roles in the patient intervention process. The article was written following eight years of collaborative work between the faculty and students in LSC-Tomball’s OTA program and The University of Texas Medical Branch Occupational Therapy Program.

Student Success Lead Faculty Dr. Jackie Thomas received an award for his article “Examining Relevant Influences on the Persistence of African-American College Students at a Diverse Urban University” which was

Recent Events

Pulitzer Prize-Nominated Poet Visits Campus for Reading

Aliki Barnstone, two-time Pulitzer-nominated poet and essayist, read her poems and discussed her work before an audience of students, employees, and community members on April 3. She read poems about everything from her hairdresser to the Holocaust, and talked about how paintings (from artists like Marc Chagall) and music all interweave in her poetry. After her reading, she answered audience questions, urging everyone to read poetry not to analyze it but to occupy the space the poem creates (much as one does in looking at a painting).

Cliff Fox Delivers COTE Faculty Lecture

On April 9, in the last installment of the 2013-2014 COTE (Center for Organizational and Teaching Excellence)-sponsored faculty lecture series, history professor Clifton Fox energetically delivered “Gavrilo’s Bullets,” a discussion of the possible causes of WWI in this, the centenary year of the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie in Sarajevo by Serbian revolutionaries. Though the assassination is often taught and accepted as the instigation for The Great War, Cliff suggested that such an explanation was rather simple and that there may, in fact, be other, more complicated causes of “the war to end all wars” such as issues of diplomatic happenstance, cultural alliance, and strategic defense. The COTE faculty lecture series will continue in the fall.

Math Department Hosts Bowl for High School Students

On April 5, the Lone Star College-Tomball Beckendorf Conference Center was filled with students from seven local high schools for LSC-Tomball’s annual Math Bowl. The championship match between Klein Oak and Cy-Creek came

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TEDx Tomball Held in the PAC

On April 1, engaging thinkers, visionaries and doers gathered in the Performing Arts Center for the first TEDx Tomball event. Seven community thinkers and leaders in their fields presented on wide-ranging topics which all related to the theme of the event, “Adaptation to Change.” The speakers were Michael S. DeVoley, professor of psychology, LSC-Montgomery; Dr. Jackie Thomas, associate professor and lead faculty, College Success Course, LSC-Tomball; Felicity Short; Dr. Lee Ann Nutt, vice president of instruction, LSC–Tomball; Lauren Galley, teen mentor, author and president of Girls Above Society; Richard Hauck, chief of Police - Tomball, Texas; and Josh Prueher, founder and chief executive officer of Earl Energy. TED is an annual event where the world's leading thinkers are invited to share what they are most passionate about. TEDx is a program, independent from TED, of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience.

Reception Recognizes Efforts of Retiree

Colleagues gathered on April 25 in the Beckendorf Conference Center to celebrate the career of retiring math professor Pat Falbo. Guests enjoyed desserts while LSC-Tomball president Dr. Susan Karr along with faculty and staff members spoke about Pat’s dedication as a professor and her commitment to the well-being of all students. Representatives from the library welcomed guests to visit Pat where she now regularly volunteers.

College Hosts Annual Open House

On April 3, Lone Star College-Tomball welcomed 300 guests to its annual spring Open House. Attendees were invited to speak with LSC-Tomball departments, divisions, programs, services and clubs representatives at more than 36 tables while enjoying snacks and beverages, and collecting information and literature. Campus tours were available and door prizes were given away throughout the evening.

Spotlights

Diane Montagna

Clinical coordinator for the Surgical Technology program Diane Montagna just cannot get enough of Lone Star College-Tomball. Diane worked in the perioperative setting for over 20 years before first joining the team as the inaugural director of the college’s Surgical Technology program. She left that position for
Morgan Tuck

Morgan Tuck joined the TRiO staff as a program coordinator/advisor in June 2013. She has embraced the mission of TRiO which is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of those who participate in the TRiO program and assist them in a successful transition from one level of higher education to another. She is practically a one-stop-shop for those in her cohort. "My daily responsibilities include academic advising, transfer planning, counseling, and formulating workshops and cultural activities for the 140 students in our program," she said. Morgan appreciates “the spirit of teamwork the LSC-Tomball family seems to share. I think we really epitomize our motto, ‘One Wolf, One Pack.’” In her free time, Morgan enjoys reading, serving as a youth counselor at her church and spending time with her new husband.

Community Partnerships

Staff Fellows Assist at County Senior Citizen Day

The Lone Star College-Tomball Staff Fellows attended the annual Montgomery County Senior Citizen Day at the Lone Star Convention and Expo Center in Conroe on April 8. There were approximately 1000 seniors in attendance to whom the Staff Fellows helped pass out drinks, silverware, meals, cookies and bingo cards. They also assisted seniors with their questions and concerns throughout the day and cleaned up after lunch. The event included a band, dancing, bingo and the crowning of a king and queen. Staff Fellows coordinator Deena Donaho said that the group hopes to participate in this rewarding event every year.

April Chamber Meeting

The Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce (GTACC) held its First Friday Lunch in the Beckendorf Conference Center on April 4. Tomball police officer Peter Manickas was recognized as Public Safety Officer of the Month and Vicki Fong of Salem Lutheran School, pictured right, was recognized as Teacher of the Month.
Upcoming Events

Commencement
May 10, 10:30 am
Fellowship of The Woodlands

May Mini-Mester Begins
May 12

G.E.D Graduation Ceremony
May 22
Performing Arts Center

Memorial Day Holiday
May 24-26

Summer Term Begins
June 2

To see the most current events, visit LoneStar.edu/Calendars