

Student Success & Engagement

Students & Staff Flock to *Inkling* Release Party

Students and staff flocked to N-103 on April 27 for the annual *Inkling* Release Party & Booking Signing. At this highly-anticipated event that marked the 21st issue of the *Inkling*, close to 200 people had their magazines autographed by the student authors, artists, and photographers.



(L to R) Inkling student editors Andrea Henrici of Spring, Robyn Arcia of Plantersville & Mariah Medus of Houston.

Special guests included LSCS Senior Vice Chancellor Rand Key, and Board of Trustee members Linda Good and Thomas Forestier. The publication, which features the original poetry, short fiction, photographs, and artwork of LSC-Tomball students, is produced from start to finish by an all-volunteer student staff, led by advisors Dr. Rebecca Tate and Amy Hirsch.

Students Honored at Excellence Awards Dinner

On April 28, the Office of Student Life hosted the 2011 Student Excellence Awards dinner. The annual event honors exceptional LSC-Tomball students in the areas of academics, service, leadership and/or talent. The 67 students who received awards were:

Amber Acord
Elizabeth Acosta
Hannah Andis
Robyn Arcia
Jose Barraza
Jereme Bertus
Erin Best
Jody Blacklock
Seth Blacklock
Nick Brown
Marcos Candanedo
Jinkyung Cho
Felipe Collazo
Josephine Coreas
Krista Corkill
Blake Cummins
Vinh Do
Maria Doan
Jennifer Ellison
Mary Faler

Leah Friddell
Jennifer Gibson
Sara Grayum
Alec Gregoire
Shayna Halterman
Timothy Haverkorn
Victoria Haynes
Andrea Henrici
Udo Hintze
Angela Johnson
Kayla Johnson
Kim O'Brien Jones
Zach Kiley
Carla Kinard
Daniel Kinard
Gerardo Lopez
Amy Lundblad
James McAuley
Robin McKnight
Mariah Medus

Daniel Miller
Duy Ngo
Gregory Overturff
Alexandra Parkin
Christina Peaden
Mark Poscablo
Courtney Rector
Maryam Reihani
Jonas Rodriguez
Nicole Romano
Kayla Rucker
Norma Salinas
Michelle See

Trishon Singleton
Jon Snider
Erin Snyder
Tamara Speaker
Anne Springer
Paige Stafford
Caitlyn Steinbacher
Biddy Swiney
Tahlia Uranga
Kellie Vasek
Morgan Wallace
Amber Wayman
Rose Weldon
Leslie Werner



(L to R) Trishon Singleton of Tomball & Deborah Coleman, Scott Coleman Award founder.

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Mission

Lone Star College System provides comprehensive educational opportunities and programs to enrich lives.

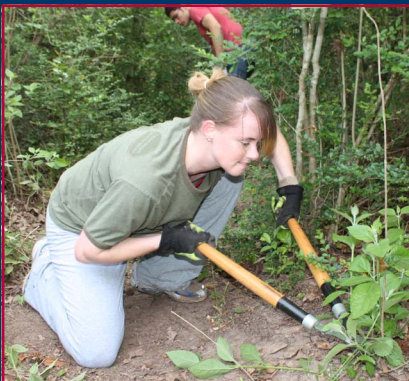
Lady Timberwolves Win Championship

The Lady Timberwolves won the Volleyball Conference Championship for the third time in five years when they defeated the University of Houston-Downtown Gators on April 3.



Students Clean & Enhance Nature Trail

Alpha Rho Mu and the Eco Club teamed up once again for the semi-annual Wetlands Trail Clean-Up on April 1. In addition to the normal task of picking up debris, the students planted about 100 new trees and also began to cut a new nature trail. Eco Club plans to host another project day on May 6 to finish cutting the new trail and cleaning the main trail.



Student Success & Engagement

Honor Society Shines at Regional Convention

Alpha Rho Mu, the Phi Theta Kappa chapter at LSC-Tomball, was named a Top Texas chapter for the 11th year in a row at the Phi Theta Kappa Texas Regional Convention March 3-5. In addition to this honor, the chapter took home the Five-Star award and the Honors in Action project award.

Three members of Alpha Rho Mu were inducted into the Texas Hall of Honor: Daniel Kinard of Tomball, Fernando Rodriguez of Tomball, and Biddy Swiney of Magnolia. Kinard and Swiney were also both named to the All-Texas Academic Team. Hannah Andis of Spring will serve as the 2011-12 vice president for District IV.

Scholarship Reception Honors Donors & Students

LSC-Tomball honored its 2010-11 scholarship recipients as well as the individuals, organizations, and businesses that donated the scholarships on March 30 at the Beckendorf Conference Center. Held each year, the event is an opportunity for donors to meet the students they have helped and for students to thank the donors in person. At least 100 students participated in the event.



(L to R) Elmer & Dorothy Beckendorf, Nelson Lee of Tomball, & Dr. Susan Karr.

Honor Society Inducts 53 New Members

Alpha Rho Mu inducted 53 new members on March 29 at the Beckendorf Conference Center. Alpha Rho Mu is the LSC-Tomball Phi Theta Kappa chapter, an international honor society that recognizes the academic achievement of two-year college students and promotes scholarship opportunities. Biddy Swiney of Magnolia, chapter president, delivered the keynote address, "Leaving a Legacy."



Surgical Technology Students Make Honor Society

Three Surgical Technology graduates were recently inducted into the Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) National Honor Society. Inductees Milea Jones of Spring, Linnea Malone of Spring, and Amanda Voigt of The Woodlands, who graduated in December 2010 were nominated by program director Diane Montagna. They each received a special pin from AST and letters of recommendation.

Student Success & Engagement

Students Receive Distinguished Delegation Award

Three students from LSC-Tomball received the Distinguished Delegation award at the 2011 National Model United Nations (UN) Conference held April 17-21 in New York City. Jennifer Gibson of Hockley, Jereme Bertus of Tomball, and Jose Barraza of Houston, along with team members from LSC-Montgomery and LSC-Kingwood, represented the delegation from Nicaragua. This is the second year LSCS students take home this prestigious award. Political science professor David Birch served as an advisor.



(L to R) David Birch, political science professor, Jennifer Gibson of Hockley, Jose Barraza of Houston & Jereme Bertus of Tomball.

Student Named Academic Team Gold Scholar

Daniel Kinard of Tomball was recently named a 2011 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Gold Scholar. His selection was based on scores earned in the All-USA Community College Academic Team competition, which is administered by the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.



Kinard will receive a \$1,500 stipend, a special medallion, and his name also appeared in the April 11 issue of USA TODAY. Kinard will transfer to the University of Texas at Arlington in the fall and major in Communications. He plans to work in Christian ministry specializing in foreign aid.

Applause

New Endowment Provides Nursing Scholarships

Marion D. Hanson of Stagecoach donated \$75,000 to the Lone Star College Foundation in December to fund an endowment at LSC-Tomball. The endowment will allow the college to award an annual \$5,000 scholarship to a prospective nursing student with a commitment to a career in nursing. The amount is enough to cover the tuition, fees, books and expenses for an associate degree in nursing (ADN).



(L to R) Darcy Mingoia, Foundation executive director, Marion Hanson of Stagecoach & Dr. Susan Karr.

Hanson always wanted to become a nurse but could not afford the \$100 for tuition and fees and did not have a housing option in the nearby Massachusetts town where a college was located. Now she wants to afford someone the opportunity she did not have.

Trevor's Choice Awards a Big Hit

The Office of Student Life hosted the 8th Annual Trevor's Choice Awards for the student organizations of LSC-Tomball on April 12. Over 300 students and advisors attended the event and looked especially glamorous in their "Roarin' 20s" attire.

The 2010-11 Trevor's Choice Award winners included:

- Collaborative Programming Event: SALSA & Student Activities Board for Dia de Los Muertos event
- Community Service Award: Phi Theta Kappa for volunteering monthly at Boys and Girls Country of Houston
- Emerging Student Organization Award: Deutsch Klub (German Club)
- Spirit Award: Men's Basketball
- Advisor of the Year Award: Amy Hirsch for the *Inkling*
- Student Leadership Award: Mariah Medus for the *Inkling*
- Outstanding Student Organization Award: Drama Club



Staff Fellows Cohort Announced

LSC-Tomball has announced its inaugural cohort of Staff Fellows, a leadership initiative for professional and support staff. The eight staff members will learn about six different principles of leadership based on the book *You Don't Need a Title to Be a Leader*. This year's participants are Ana Abshire, June Becker, B.J. Cunningham, Dr. Irene Gutierrez-Briggs, Gail Jolley, Beth King, Janet Moore, and Bobby Silva.



(L to R) Ana Abshire, Janet Moore, Dr. Irene Gutierrez-Briggs, Gail Jolley, Beth King, June Becker, Bobby Silva, & B.J. Cunningham.

New Faces

Samreen Siddiqui

Samreen Siddiqui is the new director of Financial Aid. She comes from Houston Community College System, where she worked for 10 years. She earned her bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Houston-Downtown in 2010.



Applause

Political Science Professor President of TCCTA



Dr. Annie Johnson Benifield, professor of political science since August 1998, assumed the presidency of the Texas Community College Teachers Association (TCCTA) on April 1. TCCTA is a statewide organization representing over 6,000 members from community and technical colleges.

For the past 10 years, Benifield has served as the TCCTA campus representative, keeping the LSC-Tomball community informed of statewide issues. At the state level, she has served as treasurer, secretary, vice-president, and president-elect of TCCTA.

Phi Theta Kappa Honors English Professor



Dr. Bo Rollins was named the Most Distinguished Advisor in the Texas Region at the Phi Theta Kappa Texas Regional Conference March 3-5. The English professor and interim dean of the Education, English & Mathematics division has worked at LSC-Tomball since August 2002. For eight of those nine years, Rollins has served as the advisor for Alpha Rho Mu, the Phi Theta Kappa honor society chapter at LSC-Tomball.

Program Coordinator Earns Doctorate Degree



Dr. Irene Gutierrez-Briggs, Recruitment, Outreach, and Diversity Initiatives program coordinator, recently earned her doctorate in Strategic Leadership with an emphasis on Coaching from Regent University in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Dr. Gutierrez-Briggs' dissertation project was titled "Hispanic Women & the Concrete Ceiling: Leadership Initiatives to Chisel through the Ceiling." Her personal goal is to utilize this degree and help Hispanic women achieve greater success.

English Professor Helps Give Birds a Home



The west hall lawn is home to a new Purple Martin birdhouse thanks to the efforts of English professor Doug Boyd. Boyd, with the assistance of biology professor Brandon Lowery, submitted a \$2,500 grant proposal to the LSCS Foundation and received funding for the project. The Eco Club and members of Lowery's Biology class erected the Purple Martin birdhouse on March 10. Boyd, a Texas Master Naturalist, has taught English at LSC-Tomball since it opened in August 1988.

Recent Events

LSC-Tomball Hosts First Career Day

Sponsored by the Recruitment, Outreach, and Diversity Initiatives department, over 300 area high school students attended LSC-Tomball's first Career Day on March 25. At this half-day event, the teenagers listened to presentations from faculty and staff members and learned about 25 fields of study available at LSC-Tomball. Five high schools participated in the event: Klein Oak, Klein Forest, Magnolia, Magnolia West, and Waller.

Open House Opens Doors to Community



More than 300 visitors attended the annual Open House on March 31. Open House is an opportunity for interested students as well as their families to get an up-close look at LSC-Tomball. Guests were able to take campus tours and attend financial aid sessions. Academic departments, student clubs, and student service offices all had booths and personnel available to provide information and answer questions.

Chancellor Holds Employee Open Forum

LSCS Chancellor Dr. Richard Carpenter held an employee open forum at LSC-Tomball on April 4 to address current issues in the state legislature and college system. Carpenter gave an account of the most recent state bills and budget cuts. In spite of anticipated budget cuts, Carpenter clearly stated that the LSCS Board of Trustees has two priorities: 1) to protect the academic reputation and integrity of LSCS; and 2) to protect existing jobs at LSCS. In addition, the Chancellor also spoke of the anticipated separation of LSC-Tomball and LSC-University Park, which should begin to operate autonomously beginning January 2012.

LSC-Tomball Hosts International Visitors

On March 11, visitors from the Cecati 125 technical school in Monterrey, Mexico, toured the LSC-Tomball campus. The individuals were guests of Jorge Alvarado, bilingual director for Waller Independent School District. Alvarado coordinated the party's trip to the United States and Dr. Irene Gutierrez-Briggs, program coordinator at LSC-Tomball, arranged the site visit.



(L to R) Jordan Nickell and Jessica Briggs from Spring High School; Danniel Arceo Soria, Dinorah Soria, Gabriel Valenzuela, and Graciela Ayala from Cecati 125; and Dr. Irene Gutierrez-Briggs.

New Faces

Ericka Degracia & Arlana Walters



Ericka Degracia (left) and Arlana Walters are the new TRiO Student Support Services advisors. In these new roles, they will ensure that students with academic or financial barriers receive the career, instructional, and financial aid support they need to graduate and to transfer to a four-year college. Walters will also serve students with physical and/or developmental barriers.

Degracia was an advisor for the Upward Bound program at LSC-North Harris. She received her bachelor's degree in Psychology from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville in 2007.

Walters was a financial aid advisor at LSC-Carver Center. An alumna of LSC-North Harris, Walters earned her bachelor's degree in Social Sciences at the University of Houston-Downtown in 1995. She went on to obtain a master's degree in Behavioral Sciences at the University of Houston-Clear Lake in 2000 and Counseling at Prairie View A&M University in 2010.

Upcoming Events

- **Commencement Ceremony:**
May 14, 10 a.m., Woodlands Church-Fellowship Campus
- **GED Graduation Ceremony:**
May 26, 5:30 p.m., Beckendorf Conference Center

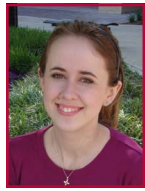
Extra! Extra!

A bird's eye view of LSC-Tomball shows how the campus is growing.



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LoneStar.edu/Tomball

Star of the Month



Emily Posch of Houston thought she would earn a degree in education. However, after some trial and error, she discovered her true passion...theatre. Posch recently won the Superior Award in Acting as well as Costume Design for her role in *Bus Stop* at the 2010-11 State Play Festival. A regular performer in LSC-Tomball theatre productions, Posch is a member of the Drama Club and Delta Psi Omega.

Posch, 21, will earn her bachelor's degree in theatre at the University of Houston or Lamar University in Beaumont. She will then pursue a master's degree in costume design. Posch aspires to become a costume designer, ideally for a theatre company.

What has your college experience been like? *Since I didn't have to study in high school to make As and Bs, when I got to college I realized that I needed to learn how to study. That was an adjustment, but once I got used to the workload it was fine.*

Becoming involved in theatre helped me really start to enjoy myself, and it made college so much more fun! I've also been able to take such diverse courses that I'm very confident I'm where I'm supposed to be as far as my major.

What advice do you have for college-bound students? *Don't be afraid to change your mind. You may go into college knowing exactly what you want to do, but if you keep an open mind and take different courses that you enjoy, you may surprise yourself – I know I did.*

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