

## Message from the President

*True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever cost. – Arthur Ashe*

As an educator, February is one of my favorite months. It's the month of American heroes! The birthdays of at least three American heroes are in February: Susan B. Anthony, Abraham Lincoln, and George Washington. February is also Black History Month, which honors countless American heroes, such as Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Jackie Robinson, Booker T. Washington, Frederick Douglass, Barbara Jordan, and Martin Luther King, Jr.

Heroes are ordinary individuals who do extraordinary things. They are the people who have the courage to do what is right for others even if it comes at a price to themselves. They are the selfless, the compassionate, and the life changers.

EDUCATORS ARE HEROES. At LSC-Tomball we often take extra pains to help our students learn, grow and succeed. Even if your name never appears in a history book, it will always be inscribed in the minds you enrich and the characters you shape. Thank you for being a true hero!

## Student Success & Engagement

### Students Participate in Community College Day

On February 2, 23 LSC-Tomball students braved wind chill temperatures near zero for Community College Day in Austin. The students met with the staff of Senators Robert Nichols and Dan Patrick as well as the staff of Representatives Debbie Riddle, Patricia Harless, and Allen Fletcher to address issues such as the dramatic growth experienced at LSCS.

Student Government Association President Nick Brown of Spring not only voiced his concerns to legislators, he voiced the importance of Community College Day to KXAN-TV, News 36. "Community college students of today will be our future leaders," Brown said.

Over 700 community college students, faculty, trustees, and administrators gathered at the Capitol in support of Community College Day.



*Left to right: Nick Brown of Spring, Jessica Claxton of Spring, Student Government Association Advisor Dr. Victoria Waters, and Numaan Ismail of Houston*

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## Mission

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

## Applause

### Four Professors Win Writing Award

Four LSC-Tomball faculty members received the 2010-11 Published Writing Award. The following winners will be honored at the LSCS Employee Awards Luncheon on Friday, April 1:



**Catherine Olson**  
English



**Jacob Weinberg**  
Biology



**Dr. David Beaulieu**  
Psychology



**Dr. Donna Willingham**  
Developmental Studies

Each year, the Published Writing award is given to LSCS professors who pen or help pen the outstanding content in published books or journals. This year, LSC-Tomball had the most writing award recipients in the college system.

## Student Success & Engagement

### Essay Winner Honored at Chancellor's Breakfast

As the winner of the 18th Annual LSCS Student Essay Challenge for LSC-Tomball, Jonas Rodriguez of Houston received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Lone Star College Foundation on January 26.



*Left to right: Dr. Susan Karr; Lynn LeBouef, chief executive officer of Tomball Regional Medical Center; Jonas Rodriguez; Beatriz Rodriguez, wife of Jonas Rodriguez; and Ginger Fray.*

As a guest of honor at the Chancellor's Breakfast, Rodriguez read his essay to a room full of Foundation supporters. His essay especially touched the heart of Ginger Fray, his former English professor, who helped build his confidence and writing skills during his first semester of school.

Rodriguez, 35, will eventually transfer to LSC-University Park to earn his bachelor's degree from the University of Houston.

He will likely earn a master's degree in Psychology or attend law school.

### Student Organizations Gather at Activities Mart

Dozens of student groups participated in the Activities Mart held January 26 and 27 in the LSC-Tomball Commons. Held each semester, the purpose is to introduce new and returning students to the many extra-curricular activities available to them at LSC-Tomball. There are at least 30 student clubs and organizations for students to join, addressing a wide range of interests.



Students who stopped by each table at the Mart were eligible for a grand prize drawing, and Andrew Dang of Klein was the winner of the iPad.

### Workshop Helps Students with Financial Aid

One hundred people attended the FAFSA Workshop on February 2. Open to the public, the purpose of the FAFSA Workshop was to help college and college-bound students find money for their education.

At the free event, the financial aid experts at LSC-Tomball helped attendees complete the 2011-12 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. Used by all colleges in the United States, the FAFSA form determines eligibility for federal, state, and/or college aid. Individuals who submit their FAFSA application early have a greater chance of receiving assistance. The priority deadline for Fall 2011 is April 1.

## Recent Events

### LSC-UP Celebrates First Anniversary



LSC-University Park celebrated its one-year anniversary on January 25. Penny Westerfeld, interim chief executive officer, and Dr. Robert Jones, dean, greeted all students, faculty, and staff in Luby's cafeteria. All guests enjoyed cake and refreshments and had a chance to win several door prizes.

### Emergency Preparedness a Top Priority at LSC-T

Dr. Denise Walker, chief emergency management officer for LSCS (pictured), spoke to President Dr. Susan Karr and members of her leadership cabinet on February 10 about emergency preparedness planning and the new initiatives of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM).



Though LSCS already has a comprehensive emergency management program in place, Walker explained that it is just as important for the campuses to put the plan into action through drills and exercises so people truly know what to do and what to expect when an emergency arises. In the spring or early summer, OEM will visit LSC-Tomball to provide emergency preparedness training and assist with any safety or security audits.

To better communicate with students and employees, OEM launched LoneStar *Alert* as well as a new web page in February. LoneStar *Alert* is a mass communication system that will send emergency messages to students and employees via their LoneStar.edu e-mail accounts. The new web page, LoneStar.edu/OEM, contains more information links for all types of emergency situations, including Campus Health, Severe Weather & Flooding, and Evacuation.

### Conference Day Helps Prepare Employees

"Be Prepared" was the theme for the annual Conference Day on February 17. At the conference, LSC-Tomball employees attended two staff development sessions. At least 13 topics were offered per session, including "Emergency Preparedness," "First-Year Experience: Update on QEP for Accreditation," "Twitter for Educators," and "Grant Writing 101."



Dr. Gerardo E. de los Santos, president and chief executive officer of the League for Innovation in the Community College, provided the keynote address: "Key Trends in Community Colleges."

## New Faces

### Malissa Attebery



Malissa Attebery is the new online instructional designer at LSC-Tomball. In her role, Attebery will provide assistance in ANGEL Learning to faculty who teach online and hybrid classes. Attebery joined the LSC-Tomball team on February 1, but has worked for LSCS since July 2009.

Attebery received her bachelor's degree in Biology from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville in 2001. She returned to her alma mater and earned her master's degree in Instructional Technology Education in 2008.

### Linda Lebile



Linda Lebile, a doctoral student at the University of Texas at Austin, will spend the spring semester at LSC-Tomball as an intern for Dr. Cher Brock, interim vice president of instruction. Lebile's concentration is on community college administration, and her dissertation will focus on committed leadership and the Achieving the Dream initiative.

Lebile holds a bachelor's degree in Business Education from Norfolk State University in Virginia and a master's degree in Counseling from Prairie View A&M University.

## Upcoming Events

- “Bus Stop”: February 24-26, 7:30 p.m., Black Box Theater
- Spring Break: March 14-18
- Open House: March 31, 5-8 p.m., Commons

## Extra! Extra!



Freezing temperatures the morning of February 2 caused the fountain located in the LSC-Tomball labyrinth to ice over, resembling a crystal chandelier.

## Star of the Month



Though he is just starting his second semester at LSC-Tomball, **Nick Brown** of Spring is now president of the Student Government Association and an intern at the Houston office of State Senator Dan Patrick (District 7). Brown, 18, also participates in the demanding Honors Program and still manages to keep a part-time job.

Brown will transfer to Baylor University in Waco or Rice University in Houston next year to receive his bachelor's degree in Political Science. He will then attend law school to reach his career goal of becoming an attorney.

**What has your college experience been like?** *While attending Lone Star,*

*I am able to maintain a job, participate in the Honors Program, attend my home church, exercise my leadership abilities in various clubs and organizations, while also focusing on my academics. By participating in the Honors Program, I was given the opportunity of applying as one of Senator Dan Patrick's interns. The faculty at LSC is very warm and easily approachable, making it simple for any student to succeed.*

**What advice do you have for college-bound students?** *Although some people believe that community colleges limit a student's future goals, Lone Star enriches a student's academic life through the system's many campuses, flexibility, Honors Program, and Student Life organizations. Explore all academic opportunities in the area and remember that Lone Star truly is the wisest choice for transferring students.*



30555 Tomball Pkwy.  
Tomball, TX 77355  
Phone (281) 351-3300  
LoneStar.edu/Tomball

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