LSC-Tomball Graduate Honored at Rice University

Rice University’s Phi Beta Kappa chapter honored 2009 LSC-Tomball graduate Alan-Michael Smith for being the top male student of his graduating class at its awards on May 11. As part of his recognition, he gave a speech to the entire Phi Beta Kappa membership and their guests at the university.

Smith graduated from LSC-Tomball with an Associate of Arts degree. He transferred to Rice University and excelled in his coursework, earning a 4.3 out of a possible 4.33 grade point average. On May 12, he graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science.

Phi Beta Kappa celebrates and advocates excellence in the liberal arts and sciences. Its Rice University chapter invites for induction the most outstanding arts and sciences students at America's leading colleges and universities. The society sponsors activities to advance these studies — the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences — in higher education and in society at large.
A Garden Dedicated to our Community

Adding to the beauty of the LSC-Tomball campus is a new community garden located near the college’s southwest entrance next to the existing butterfly garden. The new community-dedicated space is the result of a LSCS Foundation mini-grant awarded to Biology professor Alanna Tynes and English professor Doug Boyd. The garden contains a wide variety of fruits and vegetable plants including cucumbers, squash, peppers, okra, corn, tomatillos, tomatoes, lemons, oranges, and blueberries. It will provide outdoor work space for biology and nutrition classes as well as serve as a focus for food-themed composition classes and service-learning projects. Professor Tynes and Professor Boyd would like to thank LSCS and the LSCS Foundation for their funding of this rich learning environment and LSC-Tomball’s Facilities department for its generous donation of stone, soil, mulch, and sweat.

LSC-Tomball students contribute over 14,000 community service hours

In less than six months, LSC-Tomball students contributed over 14,000 hours of community service to local organizations through the college’s service-learning initiative. The Independent Sector’s Value of Volunteer Time values each volunteer hour in the State of Texas at $21.91. This means, through this academically-based program, LSC-Tomball students contributed over $300,000 worth of service hours to the local community.

Service-learning is a teaching method that combines community service with academic coursework. The goal of service-learning is to engage and further enhance learning outcomes for students through real world experiences. “Service-learning provides an opportunity to apply knowledge gained in the classroom through application in a real-world context. It encourages students to problem solve and to be involved in a creative, hands-on learning process as related to the stated outcomes of a course. All of this together helps ensure long term retention of the knowledge gained through the classroom and supplemental service experience,” said Lee Ann Nutt, LSC-Tomball Vice President - Instruction.

Leading the way this past semester were students in occupational therapy assistant (OTA) courses who each served 640 hours in the community as part of their service-learning experience. For example, OTA students attended Camp Can Do, a weekend camp for adults with multiple sclerosis, and each assisted a camper for the entire weekend. The students were able to apply their classroom learning by working with the campers to assist with activities of daily living as well as leisure activities.

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Discovery College Reaches Record Enrollment

Discovery College is off to an incredible start this year by already surpassing last year’s total enrollment by 18%. Registration will continue throughout the summer and these numbers will continue to grow as more and more parents take advantage of this Continuing Education program for students age 6-17. Popular courses this year include: Girls Night Out, Robotics & Construction Exploration, Adventures in Art, and Oozing, Bubbling Science. Exciting new additions are: Model Rocketry, Police and Fire Academy Career Exploration, Guitar, and Trekking thru the Middle East. Exit surveys completed by parents are also very positive. In fact, even the complaints are compliments in disguise. One parent wrote, “The courses are too short! My kid doesn’t want to come home!”

Faculty Spotlight

John Vancamp

Hurricane Ike tried to keep professor John Vancamp from joining the LSC-Tomball family, but he could not be pushed off course. Scheduled to begin teaching in early September 2008, the associate professor and Vocational Nursing program coordinator had to wait until the college reopened after the storm to begin his new role. He teaches medical surgical nursing, nursing fundamentals, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, as well as nursing leadership. “As faculty, my function is to teach nursing theory and practice to students who have been selected into the Vocational Nursing department. As the program coordinator, I assist the Director by establishing and maintaining good relationships with our clinical partners throughout the community.”

In addition to his teaching duties, Vancamp serves as an advisor to the Student Nurses Association. He also serves on the Vocational Nursing Curriculum Committee, Directors and Coordinators Committee, and Nursing Handbook Committee for the system. “I am passionate about the students,” he said. “Vocational Nursing is for many students the first foray into the world of nursing. It is a very stressful and demanding course, but when the students walk across the stage at pinning I know that we have changed their lives. The student has accomplished

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Robbie Richard Rogers

Robbie Richard Rogers began as the Program Coordinator-Early Intervention in January 2011. In that role, she nurtures independent learning skills by providing them with academic support services such as tutoring and study skill strategies. “What I like most about working at LSC-Tomball is the sense of connectivity with faculty and staff,” she said. “I also enjoy working with my students and seeing them reach the level of success they may not have thought they could in college.” Richard Rogers is the founder and advisor for Strong Women Achieving Total Success (S.W.A.T.S.), a student organization intended to help female students gain self-esteem and confidence, while teaching them the importance of networking and cultural awareness. “I am a mother, I work full-time at Lone Star College, and I attend school full-time. I thought maybe I could be an encouraging inspiration to young women on our campus who also have a lot going on.”

Richard Rogers is currently working on her Ph.D. in Educational

Continued on Page 4
Students Planning to Attend Lone Star College
Awarded Scholarships

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LSC-Tomball Targets Hunger

Continuing LSC-Tomball’s record of service to the community, the college participated in the LSCS Leadership Academy’s “CANnection” food drive during the month of June benefitting Target Hunger. Target Hunger is an organization working to alleviate hunger and its root causes in Houston’s inner city. Members of the Academy, including LSC-Tomball Police Captain Amos York, then took all collected food more than they ever thought they could. At that point, they are both ready for their boards and are ready to fulfill the promise to the community of safe, effective, competent nurses for our future."

New Faces

Charles Gary Cooper
Technician V
Stage Productions

Community Partnerships

Students Planning to Attend Lone Star College
Awarded Scholarships

The Tomball Scholarship Foundation awarded 12 scholarships to seniors planning to attend a campus within the Lone Star College System. Tomball Scholarship Foundation President John Neubauer presented scholarships to (first row, from left) Natasha Rutter, Marzia Mahbuba, Sandra Wikel, (second row) Paula Nguyen, Elizabeth Beard, Jessica Dowell, Staci Easley, Mason Moore, (back row) Alexandra Garza, Eduardo Mendez, Eleazar Morales and Nicholas Perales.

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Staff Spotlight

Continued from Page 3

Management-Higher Education and hopes to graduate in December 2013. When not at work or school, she spends time with her family. “I also love to SHOP, SHOP, SHOP!” she added.

Police Spotlight

Kent Tompkins

James Kent Tompkins started working for the LSC-Tomball campus police over 2 1/2 years ago. Prior to coming to Tomball, he worked for over 6 1/2 years for the Prairie View A&M campus police. Officer Tompkins works the evening shift on campus during the week. He appreciates the camaraderie among all the community members, students, faculty, and staff. “It’s more like a family here. I like that everyone knows everyone else and the college doesn’t have a corporate atmosphere,” he said. “You don’t feel like you are a number here. Everyone has a say.” When not on duty, Tompkins enjoys spending time with his family and fishing.

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Discussing Potential Partnerships with Indonesia

On June 5, LSC-Tomball personnel met with representatives of the Putera Sampoerna Foundation, an organization dedicated to advancing democracy in Indonesia through educational and economic opportunities. Sampoerna Foundation representatives recognized the Lone Star College System as an American leader in higher education and wanted to better understand how the System creates programs to meet community needs and ensure academic integrity. Dr. Lee Ann Nutt, Vice President of Instruction; Dr. Lisa Morales, Assistant Dean of Instruction; Kathy Sanchez, Dean of Education, English, and Mathematics; and Nithy Sevanthinathan, LSCS Executive Director of International Programs, discussed the college’s approach to instructional programming including a multi-faceted internal curriculum approval process, core curriculum requirements, and academic degree pathways.

Working with Local Community Leaders

The Governmental Entities Committee held their quarterly meeting this month at LSC-Tomball. The committee is composed of community leaders who meet to discuss ways to work together to support the City of Tomball.

Clockwise from left: Brian Petrilla, Northwest EMS Chief; George Shackelford, City Manager - Tomball; Kelly Violette, Tomball Economic Development Corporation; Dr. Karr; John Neubauer, Superintendent – Tomball ISD; Bruce Hillegeist, President - Tomball Chamber of Commerce.

Transformations

Continued from Page 4

lected non-perishable food items to Target Hunger on June 28 where they assisted customers with a grocery cart as they shopped at the food pantry. Academy members also collated Senior Food Boxes and packed produce items to provide for local community needs.

Star of the Month

Continued from Page 2

was one of two winners of the Scott Coleman Heart Award in spring 2012. Invigorated by her classes, she is learning from each of them much more than just facts and figures. “I have not only found great enjoyment in exploring the knowledge and experiences that each class provides,” she said, “but I have been able to learn more about myself than I ever thought possible.”

Speaker credits the TRiO Student Services program for guiding her successfully along her college journey. TRiO is a set of federally-funded college opportunity programs that motivate and support qualified students in their pursuit of a college degree. “I have had the guidance needed when signing up for classes, the encouragement needed when I wanted to throw those classes out a window, and the feeling of community among other TRiO students. These types of programs are invaluable to our community as a whole.”

After earning an associate degree at LSC-Tomball, Speaker plans to transfer to the University of Houston-Downtown to complete a bachelor’s degree in secondary education. She hopes to eventually teach high school level math. When asked what advice she would give college-bound students, Speaker said, “Don’t ever give up. Be thankful that you are able to attend college.” This Star, who knows a thing or two about adversity, hopes that her experience can serve as an example to others. “I want to show people that they are strong enough and good enough to reach for greater things than the world had previously handed them.”
Upcoming Events

• Independence Day Holiday
  July 4

• Summer Session II
  begins June 12

• Summer Musical:
  *Fiddler on the Roof*
  Performing Arts Center
  July 12-15

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