

Student Success & Engagement

Record Number of Graduates at LSC-Tomball

A record 622 students graduated from LSC-Tomball during the 2010-11 academic year. On May 14, 175 of these graduates proudly walked the stage at the 2011 Commencement Ceremony held at Woodlands Church-Fellowship Campus. Student Government Association President Nick Brown of Spring led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce President Bruce Hillegeist delivered the keynote address. President Dr. Susan Karr then announced a scholarship in honor of Hillegeist.

The highlight of the academic year, the commencement ceremony was attended by over 2,500 friends, family members and guests. Among the distinguished guests were LSCS Board of Trustees Thomas Forestier, J.D., Dr. David Holsey, and David Vogt. Other LSCS dignitaries included Dr. Rand Key, senior vice chancellor/COO, Shah Ardalan, vice chancellor of technology services and CEO of LSC-University Park, and Brian Nelson, J.D., general counsel.



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GED Graduation Celebrates Student Achievements

Sixty-two students participated in the second annual General Educational Development (GED) Graduation Ceremony on May 26 in the Beckendorf Conference Center. Mike Spengler of Spring, a Marine veteran of the Vietnam War, delivered the inspiring keynote address to his fellow graduates, reminding them that the key to success is to “adapt and overcome.” Spengler also fulfilled the promise he made to his mother at age 17 to graduate from high school.

The graduation service was in honor of the 444 students who passed the GED exam between May 1, 2010, and April 30, 2011. At the ceremony, the following graduates received a \$500 scholarship to continue their education within the Lone Star College System: Thule Kinnison, Shannon Stamper, Kent Stillwell, and Christina Swepston.



Speaker Mike Spengler of Spring

More than 400 people attended this inspiring event, including LSCS Board of Trustee Priscilla Kelly, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Student Services Dr. Donetta Goodall, and Associate Vice Chancellor of Workforce Development and Lone Star Corporate College Linda Head.

Mission

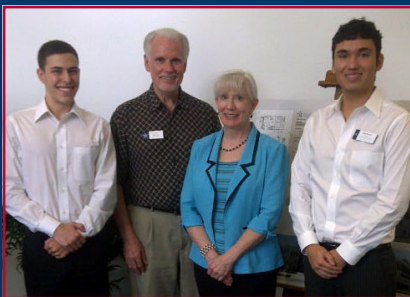
Lone Star College System provides comprehensive educational opportunities and programs to enrich lives.

SGA Cites Accomplishments

The spring semester was a busy time for the Student Government Association (SGA). On May 23, SGA Outgoing President Nick Brown of Spring and Incoming President Collin Parr of Spring met with Dr. Susan Karr, president, and John Fishero, J.D., vice president of administrative services, to report the accomplishments of the organization.

SGA sponsored and/or participated in the following events in Spring 2011:

- Texas Community College Day (January)
- Sweetheart Study Session (February)
- “Choose 2 Live” Campaign Against Reckless Driving (March)
- Leadership Conference (March)
- Open Forum Partnership with the Debate Club (April)
- Car Wash (April)
- “Get Your Health On” Final Week Brown Bags (May)
- “Fund Our Future” Legislative Letter Writing Initiative (January to present)



(L to R) Collin Parr of Spring, John Fishero, J.D., Dr. Susan Karr & Nick Brown of Spring

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Students Deliver Honors Presentations

The Spring 2011 Honors candidates presented their research projects on May 6 to their project sponsors as well as interested faculty and staff. Grouped by their faculty sponsors, the following students delivered presentations:

- Sponsored by Professor Betsy Anderson:
Zach Allen of Spring
- Sponsored by Professor Kim Carter:
Tammy Bircline of Spring
Tanner Boriack of Hockley
Shayna Halterman of Tomball
Dan Miller of Magnolia
Kristen Newsom of Tomball
Duy Ngo of Houston
Christine Peaden of Houston
Caitlyn Steinbacher of Spring
- Sponsored by Professor Dr. Margaret Jelinek Lewis:
Cory Burditt of Houston
Stephen Heck of Spring
- Sponsored by Professors Cliff Fox and Elena Serda:
Parker Kemp of Spring
- Sponsored by Professor Dr. Mohan Chari:
Jon Snider of Magnolia
- Sponsored by Professor Dr. Stephen Prewitt:
Tamara Speaker of Magnolia



(L to R) Dr. Stephen Prewitt & Tamara Speaker of Magnolia

Students Receive Pins at Nursing Ceremony

Fifty nursing students received their pins on Florence Nightingale’s birthday, May 12, in the Beckendorf Conference Center. Amy Jurena of Cypress, the class speaker, delivered a humorous, uplifting reflection of the class journey, and Nancy Curnel of Magnolia, Student Nurses Association president, recognized the nursing faculty.

The following students received awards for their achievements in nursing:

- Eleonora Clifton of Houston: Spirit of Nursing
- Krista Corkill of Cypress: Clinical Excellence; Student Excellence
- Nancy Curnel of Magnolia: Texas Organization of Associate Degree Nursing Programs scholarship recipient
- Mark Dalion of Spring: Heart of Nursing
- Colette Singletary of Tomball: Academic Excellence
- Paige Stafford of Houston: Student Excellence



(L to R) Leslie Grunden, MSN, pins Mark Dalion of Spring

Applause

Governor Appoints OTA Professor to State Board

Stephanie Johnston of Magnolia, professor and fieldwork coordinator for the Occupational Therapy Assistant program, was re-appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to serve a six-year term on the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners (TBOTE). The board ensures public health, safety and welfare by licensing and regulating individuals who provide occupational therapy services. Johnston is currently the presiding officer of TBOTE.



In addition to TBOTE, Johnston is a member of the Texas Occupational Therapy Association, the American Occupational Therapy Association and the World Federation of Occupational Therapists. She is also the sponsor of the LSC-Tomball Student Occupational Therapy Association.

An LSC-Tomball professor since January 1999, Johnston holds bachelor's and master's degrees in occupational therapy from Texas Woman's University in Denton.

Music Professor Chosen to Be AP Reader



Dr. Cheryl Bates of Houston, professor and director of the Music program, will be among a select group of educators from across the country to read and score the Advanced Placement (AP) Music exams in Music Theory June 12-18 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Through the AP program, high school students can take rigorous, college-level courses and receive college credit upon earning a score of 3 or higher on the exams. Dr. Bates was chosen as an AP Reader for her exceptional credentials and experience as both a high school and college-level music instructor. She has taught music since 1986.

Dr. Bates joined the LSC-Tomball faculty in August 2000. She is also the faculty advisor for the Music Club. Bates holds a bachelor's in music theory from the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Okla., a master's degree in music education from the University of Houston (UH) and a doctorate in musical arts from UH.

Advisory Council Funds Technology Initiatives

The LSC-Tomball Technology Advisory Council recently awarded funding to the following faculty and staff for their instructional technology initiatives:

- Dr. Cheryl Bates: *Integrating iPad Technology into the Music Curriculum*
- Steffani Frideres: *Integrating iPad Technology into the Art Curriculum*
- Cheryl Wells: *iPads, Nooks, Kindles & Sony eReaders for the Library*
- Dr. Frank Willingham: *A Simulator for Anatomy & Physiology Courses*
- Alpana Sarangapani: *iPads, Nooks, Kindles & Sony eReaders for the Library*

GED Coordinator Earns Master of Divinity

GED Coordinator Marilyn Smith of Tomball graduated with a Master of Divinity from Houston Graduate School of Theology on May 14. She also earned her certification in spiritual formation. A volunteer chaplain for the Harris County Jail System, Smith would eventually like to work as a church pastor or establish a ministry that mentors young women.



Smith has worked at LSC-Tomball since 1998, first as an adjunct professor and then as a GED examiner.

In addition to being the GED coordinator, she is the chief GED examiner for LSC-Tomball and LSC-North Harris.

Houston Business Journal Honors CFO



Cynthia Gilliam, LSCS vice chancellor of administration & finance and CFO, was named CFO of the Year in the

Large Non-Profit category by the *Houston Business Journal*. She was one of 10 corporate financial stewards honored at the 2011 Best CFO of the Year Awards held May 20 at the Wortham Center in Houston.

Upcoming Events

- Summer I Begins: June 6
- Summer II Begins: July 14
- *Little Shop of Horrors*: July 14-17, Black Box Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Extra! Extra!

This summer, LSC-Tomball will implement a new work schedule. Starting Monday, June 6, employees will work 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Normal business hours will resume on Monday, August 15.

Employees will essentially work nine-hour days with a 30-minute lunch and be off on Fridays. A sick/vacation/personal day taken in the summer will be charged as nine hours instead of eight.

Star of the Month



It is not easy juggling college and family, but **Leslie Nott** of Conroe is managing exceptionally well. A full-time student in the Surgical Technology program, Nott is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and president of the Surg Tech Club. This super-mom of three will graduate from the Surg Tech program in December 2011.

Nott always knew she wanted to work in the operating room. She grew up watching the television show “M*A*S*H” with her father, and now she is making that dream a reality.

What has your college experience been like? *I have really enjoyed it so far. I have had great instructors, online and in*

class. Being on campus this year, I am enjoying the opportunity to interact with other students.

Why is it important for you to receive a college education? *I have to have my certification to be able to work as a surgical tech, but it is also the satisfaction of pushing through and finishing the program. I want to be able to say that I did it despite all the other things going on in my life.*

What advice do you have for college-bound students? *Learn to manage your time NOW. Learn to get your work done without someone reminding you all the time. Class loads in college are generally pretty large – and pretty busy! There is ALWAYS something due, so learning how to break down your assignments and prioritize things is a must!*



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