

November 2009

Hello LSC-Tomball!



Dr. Karr and canine contestant at the Vet-Tech K-9 Fun Run.

It's hard to believe it is November already! Before we know it, the semester will be over and Christmas holidays will be here. This has been an incredibly busy semester, and I appreciate the hard work that has gone into managing our enrollment growth and balancing multiple initiatives. As Thanksgiving approaches, I would like to let everyone know that I am so thankful to be at LSC-Tomball. I feel at home here, and I am so proud of our talented faculty, staff, and students!

Student Success and Engagement

Phi Theta Kappa Fall Induction Ceremony

The officers and members of Alpha Rho Mu, LSC-Tomball's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, hosted their Fall Induction Ceremony, Tuesday, October 27, in the Beckendorf Conference Center. The chapter was pleased to induct over 75 new members, as well as present their documentary entitled *The Iranian Counter-Revolution and the Paradox of Affluence*.



Dr. Karr and Professor Bo Rollins at the Phi Theta Kappa induction ceremony.

Art Students Win at Local Show

Art Professor Earl Staley reports the following achievement:

The following LSC-Tomball College painting students were winners at this year's Tomball Art League Fall Show: Muril Wilson, Debbie Tritico, Christopher Almond, and Mandy Hamilton.



Mandy Hamilton, 1st Place

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Inkling Reading

The following was submitted by Dr. Becky Tate:



LSC-Tomball student, Angel Ponce, a former gang member, reads "Why?" at the 2009 *Inkling* Reading. "Why?" is a piece that demonstrates his rejection of his former gang mentality.

The *Inkling* 2009 Reading occurred on October 21, 2009. Emceed by the advisors, Dr. Rebecca Tate and Amy Hirsch, this catered event, attended by over 150 students, staff, and faculty, featured a selection of 11 representative pieces from the 2009 *Inkling*, the college's creative arts magazine, which features student poetry, short fiction, and art.

The front of the room was decorated with poster-sized copies of the student art and photography published in the 2009 *Inkling*. The reading itself included a variety of topics, including humor, dark and twisted thoughts, social and racial commentary, musings on mortality, and thoughts about love.

Some of the student authors read their own works, including Angel Ponce, a former gang member, who read this poem, "Why," a piece that demonstrates his rejection of his former gang mentality. Durell Forte, a student worker at the college, performed his piece, "The Big Picture," a poem that wittily comments on the misuse of the "race card." Therese Crews, a student active in the LSC-Tomball theatre program, read her dark piece, "Little Black Box" which stated where she might place the next young man who breaks her heart. Other pieces were performed by faculty guest readers, including Professors Doug Boyd, Greg Oaks, Katie Olson, Bo Rollins, and Sherri White, who were dynamic performers, at times hilarious, frightening, or thoughtful-as the pieces demanded.

The *Inkling* 2009 Reading was a wonderful event that celebrated the creativity of the students published in the magazine, the performers who participated, and the dedication of the *Inkling* student staff as well as faculty and staff advisors.

Student Club Sports Spotlight

The men's and women's club basketball teams are each having great seasons this year. The men's team is currently 6 -2 (5-1 in Conference and 0-1 out of Conference). They will be the second seed in the Conference tournament on Friday, November 6, and will play TSU.

Women's basketball finished 4-3 and are the third seed in the Conference tournament. Women's Volleyball is 7-0 conference and 4-2 out of conference. They will be the first seed in the Conference tournament and will play Rice on November 7th at LSC-North Harris.

Baseball is the second seed in their tournament with a record of 4-1-1 and will play LSC-Montgomery on November 7th.



The men's next home game will be against Eastfield College on November 7th at 10:00 a.m.



The LSC-Tomball women will advance to the playoffs.

Accolades

Applebee's restaurant selected Dr. Mary Pat Trenkle as the teacher of the month for October 2009. Dr. Trenkle was selected from many entries by customers, and her picture is displayed prominently in the restaurant's lobby.

Dr. Trenkle is a professor of foreign languages - French and Spanish - at LSC-Tomball.

Applebee's continues this new program by openly accepting nominations for outstanding teachers.



New Faces

Pam Shafer



Our very own Pam Shafer has been selected to be the next Co-Director of the LSC-Tomball College and Community Library. Pam has served as a Reference Librarian here at LSC-Tomball since November 2005. Prior to coming to LSC-Tomball, she served as an Adjunct Reference Librarian for four years at the then Montgomery College.

Pam brings enthusiasm to her new assignment and we look forward to working with her to chart a bright future for the library!

Dr. Cher Brock



Dr. Cher Brock, Vice President for Teaching and Learning at Lone Star College-North Harris, will be serving LSC-Tomball as interim VP for Instruction. She says her name tag should say something about being "on loan."

She started her career at North Harris as, first, an adjunct and, later, a full-time English teacher. Later, she served as the first director of instructional programs at the LSC-Carver Center, as associate dean for instructional programs at LSC-North Harris, and dean for business and the social and behavioral sciences before becoming vice president.

She earned her BA and MA from Wichita State University in Kansas and her doctorate from the University of Houston. She collaborated on a textbook for freshman English, wrote several articles for the Honors Scholar, a publication for honors students in the community college, and has taught classes for the Educational Leadership and Cultural Studies graduate program at UH.

Cher considers herself first, last, and foremost a student. As the child of a military family, she spent part of her youth moving around the United States, Japan, and Okinawa, learning about cultures and fitting in to new environments. She has been teaching for most of her life but feels as if she learns something every day.

Office of Technology Services

Ben Leung provides the following OTS update:

The project of mediating classrooms at LSC-Tomball is complete! Projectors, screens and media carts (computer, VCR/DVD, and document camera) are now available into 98 classrooms.

The new system will save us power, using sensors that will turn off the lights and the projector in any unoccupied room. OTS Media Services is in the process of training instructors.

Any questions about the functionality of this technology should be forwarded to the OTS director at LSC-Tomball (Benjamin.leung@lonestar.edu).

Recent Events

- [Disability Awareness Day](#)

The Student Success Center hosted Disabilities Awareness Day on Wednesday, October 14. Members of the community joined college employees to learn about methods and resources available for assisting those with disabilities. Attendees were treated to poetry, speakers, vendor booths and a screening of the movie, *The Soloist*.

- [Meet the Chancellor](#)

LSCS Chancellor Dr. Richard Carpenter visited campus November 2nd to conduct a Chancellor's Forum. Open to all employees, the Chancellor's Forum was held in the Beckendorf Conference Center and saw over 100 LSC-Tomball faculty, staff and administrators take advantage of the opportunity to interact with Dr. Carpenter.



Dr. Stephen Washington discusses Veterans Affairs at Disabilities Awareness Day.

Meet the Executive Council

Each month we will spotlight a different member of the Lone Star College System's Executive Council. This month we feature Shah S. Ardalan, the Vice Chancellor for Technology Services and Chief Information Officer:



Shah S. Ardalan is the Vice Chancellor for Technology Services and Chief Information Officer at Lone Star College System. With over 20 years experience in a variety of technological fields within higher education, he has served as Chief Information Officer (CIO), Special Assistant to the President, and Vice President of Information Technology in university and community college settings.

He has also served as: Instructor, Research Associate, Senior Systems Analyst, Director of Business Development, and Information Resource Manager. Mr. Ardalan holds a B.S. in Physics from University of North Carolina at Greensboro, NC; and an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC. He holds several certificates from other institutions including the University of Lausanne (Switzerland) and Harvard University.

Shah's experience and expertise include leadership in technology services via shared visioning, strategic planning, effective management, sound implementation, and continuous improvement methodologies. Mr. Ardalan has received numerous awards and been published and featured more than 40 times in national and international media.

Upcoming Events

Veterans Day Celebration

On Wednesday, November 11, the college will host a Veterans Day Celebration from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. Activities will include a performance by the LSC-Tomball choir and a presentation of the colors will be conducted by the U.S. Army Color Guard. A wreath will be laid to honor the memory of fallen veterans and military vehicles will be on display from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Community members are invited to attend this event.

Community Conversations

We have set November 12th as the date for our Community Conversations event. As part of our participation in Achieving the Dream, Community Conversations is designed to bring together a cross-section of community representatives to discuss ways we can enhance student success. This event will take place in the Beckendorf Conference Center from 7:30 - 9 a.m.

Fall Choir Concert

Dr. Cheryl Bates and the LSC-Tomball Choir will present the annual Fall Choir Concert on Wednesday, November 18, at 7:30 p.m., in E 252. The concert will feature spirituals, classics, and pop. Please come enjoy the music!

Theatre Production: ***Take A Number, Darling***

The LSC-Tomball Theatre Program will present *Take A Number, Darling*, by Jack Sharkey on November 19-21, in the Black Box Theatre. Tickets are \$8 for students, Senior Citizens, and LSC-Employees; and \$10 for the general public. For reservations or information, please call 281.357.3654 or email Sherri White at sherri.r.white@lonestar.edu.

Winter Wonderland

LSC-Tomball will hold its annual Winter Wonderland celebration for the community on December 1. The event features activities for children, entertainment, pictures with Santa and playgrounds of snow. Pictures with Santa will begin at 5:30 p.m. and proceeds from the \$5 charge benefit the scholarship fund. All other activities are free and begin at 6 p.m. More information is available at <http://lonestar.edu/winter-wonderland>.
