



Message from the President

Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.

— Mahatma Gandhi

The power of education is truly remarkable! Education can break cycles of poverty, inhibit and stop social injustice, and unite people from across the globe. It is no wonder that Lone Star College-Tomball dedicated its second peace pole during International Educational Week (November 15-19).

As Thanksgiving approaches, I would like to emphasize how fortunate we are to work in an educational environment where lives are changed each day.

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Student Success & Engagement

Phi Theta Kappa Inducts 106 New Members

The Lone Star College-Tomball chapter of Phi Theta Kappa inducted 106 new members on October 26 in the Beckendorf Conference Center. This is the largest class at LSC-Tomball to be inducted into the international honor society. Phi Theta Kappa strives to recognize the academic achievements of two-year college students and promote scholarship opportunities. Students who are invited to join must have and maintain a 3.5 grade-point-average.

Before taking their oath, the inductees in attendance lit the ceremonial candles, symbolizing the light of knowledge. They were also given a white rose, symbolizing purity. English professor Bo Rollins, Phi Theta Kappa advisor, addressed the assembly and praised the students' individual achievements. He also encouraged each of them to remain devoted to their college, community, and academic disciplines.

Baseball Team Wins Conference Title

The men's baseball team at Lone Star College-Tomball won the conference title on October 25 when it defeated LSC-Kingwood by a score of 2-1. Coached by Mark Mitchell, the Timberwolves ended the season with a 6-2 record. The 20-member team plans to protect its title in the upcoming spring season.



Mission

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

LSC-T Dedicates New Peace Pole

Lone Star College-Tomball kicked off International Education Week on November 15 with a Peace Pole dedication on the southwest lawn near the college labyrinth. Criminal Justice professor Richard Becker opened the dedication ceremony as the campus crier, ringing his bell and announcing the news in the Commons.

Becker and Vice President of Instruction Dr. Cher Brock then led a procession of attendees out of the Commons to the Peace Pole, where two lines of international flag bearers awaited them. Dr. Brock read an International Education Week statement to dedicate the new Peace Pole. "May Peace Prevail On Earth" was inscribed on the four-sided pole, with each side written in a different language.

This is the second Peace Pole for LSC-Tomball. The college dedicated its first Peace Pole in November 2009.



Recent Events

Local Educators Attend Open Door Breakfast

The Recruitment, Outreach, and Diversity Initiatives department at Lone Star College-Tomball hosted the "Open Door" Breakfast for area high school educators on October 26 in the Beckendorf Conference Center.



More than 50 counselors and principals enjoyed a hot breakfast while learning about the academic and workforce programs LSC-Tomball can offer high school students. Priscilla Kelly, LSCS board member and Klein Oak High School counselor, was the keynote speaker at this event. The "Open Door" Breakfast will be held again next fall. (Pictured: President Dr. Susan Karr with counselor Ronnette Rideaux and LSCS Board Member Priscilla Kelly.)

LSCS Vice Chancellor Holds Budget Forum

LSCS Vice Chancellor of Administration & Finance Cynthia Gilliam addressed Tomball campus employees on November 2 and 3 about the \$29 million budget shortfall LSCS is experiencing this academic year. Gilliam sought and encouraged suggestions/feedback from employees to help solve the financial challenges for the 2011-12 and 2012-13 budgets.

By addressing the issue, LSCS is taking a proactive approach so students, faculty and staff experience as little "pain" as possible during this financial challenge. According to Gilliam, LSCS enrollment has increased dramatically, but funding has not.

Gilliam spoke of the eight-step plan the LSCS board approved to help solve the budget deficit:

- Step 1: Impose a hiring "chill"
- Step 2: Review & reduce spending
- Step 3: Use fund balance
- Step 4: Delay cost-of-living adjustment, base it on reaching enrollment goals
- Step 5: Increase class size
- Step 6: Increase student fees by \$5 per credit hour
- Step 7: Increase grant funds
- Step 8: Revert the tax rate to the 2007 level



Employees asked many questions and offered numerous ideas, such as charging a nominal fee for transcripts, discontinue printing of the credit schedules and catalogs, and implementing organizational changes across the system. Anyone who would like to offer a suggestion may e-mail it to budgetideas@LoneStar.edu.

Recent Events

Veterans Day Celebration a Touching Event

Lone Star College-Tomball hosted its second annual Veterans Day Celebration on November 9 in the Commons. Faculty, staff, students, and veterans from the local community attended this touching event.



The program included the Presentation of Colors by the Tomball High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps followed by the Presentation of the Wreath and Moment of Silence by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2427.

After the ceremony, attendees enjoyed cake and punch in N-103 and saw an exhibit of military medals, including the rare Congressional Medal of Honor and the Purple Heart. Country artist Cindy Nash performed an original song entitled “I Remember You.”

Applause

Two Professors Named Teacher of the Month

Two Lone Star College-Tomball professors were named Teacher of the Month for November by the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce on November 5. Dr. Bill Simcik (left) and V.C. Patel were presented their awards at the First Friday Luncheon in the Beckendorf Conference Center.



Dr. Simcik, Biology professor and president of the Faculty Senate, is a highly engaging teacher and an educational leader who is highly involved with both faculty and students. Patel, a Mathematics professor, is known for his patience and dedication. He will

explain a lesson as many times as necessary to make sure a student understands the material and can solve the problem.

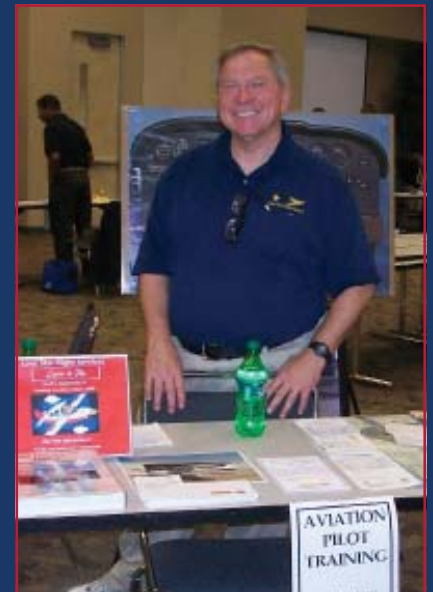
LSC-T Family Bids Farewell to Karen Gaede

Karen Gaede, the Human Resources manager at Lone Star College-Tomball, retired on October 31. She worked in Human Resources for 34 years, with her last 10 at LSC-Tomball. A reception was held in her honor on October 28 at which employees from all departments and divisions came to wish her well. Gaede was known for her exceptional professionalism, knowledge, and customer service.

Hobbies into Home Business Expo a Hit

More than 120 people attended Lone Star College-Tomball’s first “Turning Hobbies into Home Businesses” Expo on October 30 in the Beckendorf Conference Center. Sponsored by the LSC-Tomball Workforce Development Office, this free entrepreneurial event taught people how to turn their spare-time passion into a viable source of income.

At the event, guests were able to consult with experts from all types of home-based businesses, such as cake decorating, commercial sewing, dog-obedience training, digital photography, taxidermy, and auto accessorizing. Event-goers also attended short sessions designed to help them become more business savvy and develop comprehensive business plans to help fund and/or market their business.



Upcoming Events

- **“Dreamscapes” Art Exhibit:** through December 10, Art Gallery
- **Thanksgiving Holiday:** November 25 & 26
- **Student Vocal Recital:** November 30 at 1 p.m., E-252
- **Student Jazz Ensemble:** December 2 at 7:30 p.m., E-252
- **Holiday Fest:** December 3 at 6 p.m., Campus-wide
- **Holiday Concert:** December 8 at 7 p.m., E-252

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

Meet the Executive Council

Dr. Katherine Persson



Dr. Katherine Persson has served as president of Lone Star College-Kingwood since August 2008. Prior to becoming president of LSC-Kingwood, she was president of Portland Community College-Rock Creek in Portland, Oregon.

Most of Dr. Persson’s career has been with Lone Star College System, when she began teaching part-time at North Harris College in 1977. She became a full-time faculty member at Kingwood College in 1984. As a faculty member, Dr. Persson helped develop the first associate in applied science (AAS) degree in Biotechnology in Texas. She also served as the Biology department coordinator, associate dean of Science, Health Care, and Applied Technology, and vice president of Educational Programs and Student Development.

Dr. Persson holds a doctoral degree in Educational Administration from the University of Texas at Austin, a master’s degree in Biology from Texas Woman’s University-Texas Medical Center in Houston and a bachelor’s degree in Biology from Texas State University in San Marcos.

Each month, Lone Star College-Tomball will profile a different member of the Lone Star College System’s Executive Council.



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