Hello LSC-Tomball!

Since beginning my position on August 3rd, I have had the chance to observe the many wonderful things that are happening at Lone Star College-Tomball. The facilities and grounds are beautiful, the people are warm and helpful, and the faculty and staff have outstanding credentials. I love it here! I look forward to meeting everyone and getting to know my LSC-Tomball family. I have named this newsletter Transformations in recognition of the fact that we are transforming the lives of students each day here at LSC-Tomball.

Student Success and Engagement at LSC-Tomball

Examples of student success surround us on a daily basis at LSC-Tomball. Read just two stories of such wonderful achievement:

Five of seven members of the Shenk family choose to begin their college career at Lone Star College-Tomball. They’ve excelled as they’ve moved on to four-year universities, three already graduating with nearly perfect 4.0 grade point averages. What makes them so special? They were all homeschooled.

"If Lone Star Tomball weren't so close, we probably wouldn't have even gone to college," says Stephanie Shenk. "But it was so affordable and convenient that it seemed foolish not to go."

"We are grateful to LSC-Tomball for providing us the excellent foundation they did for us to move on to achieve success at the colleges we moved on to. We never would have been able to walk into a four-year university were it not for the success we had at LSC-Tomball."

Lone Star College-Tomball Vet Tech alum David Sessum is the first student from the program to be awarded with the highest state honor given by the Texas Veterinary Medical Association.

The TVMA awarded Sessum - a 2000 LSC-Tomball Vet Tech two-year program graduate and registered rehabilitation veterinary technician - with the Registered Veterinary Technician of the Year Award for 2009.

"I still don't believe I got it," says Sessum, who currently works as a registered rehabilitation vet tech at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. "It's a great honor and very humbling."

The Student Success Center employs a highly dedicated group of professionals who will participate in the following initiatives this year to help our students achieve their goals and realize their dreams:

- Disability Services overview for Faculty In-service - This informative seminar Tuesday, August 18, 2009, provided faculty with strategies for working with students with disabilities, the
law, and scenarios faculty may address in the classroom.

- **Job Fair 2010** - This annual event, scheduled for Tuesday, March 2, 2010, allows area employers to convene to find talented student and community employees for part-time and full-time opportunities.
- **Power Trips** - Area high school/middle/elementary students are invited to campus that they may become familiar with our facilities and with the possibilities we offer.
- **Veteran’s Day Celebration** - Wednesday, November 11, 2009. This program is planned to honor our courageous veterans.
- **Hispanic Outreach** - Efforts are continually being made to market to under-represented groups and provide an inclusive atmosphere for all students.
- **PASS** - Program available to students with academic challenges, counseling them on strategies for success.
- **Brown Bag Student Success Seminars** are offered throughout the semester on topics such as test taking, how to study, self talk, choosing a major and various other topics presented by our faculty members.
- **Black Male Summit and Hispanic Male Summit** - After their success last year, planning for upcoming special interest summits is underway.

The Student Government Association (SGA) plays an integral part in student engagement on campus. I plan to meet with the SGA officers and advisors on a regular basis each semester to assist them in accomplishing their goals. The **SGA officers and advisors** for this academic year are:

- **Lauren Caldwell** LSC-Tomball SGA President
- **Elizabeth Acosta** LSC-Tomball SGA VP Student Outreach
- **Amanda Fisher** LSC-Tomball SGA VP Internal Communications
- **Anna Bakharyeva** LSC-Tomball SGA VP Financial Operations
- **Sandra Cardenas** LSC-Tomball SGA Events Coordinator
- **Francisco Cardenas** LSC-Tomball SGA Recording Secretary
- **Joseph Wennecke** LSC-Tomball SGA Parliamentarian
- **Calin Burley** LSC-Tomball SGA Historian

**Advisors:**
Beth Brown
David Birch
Shannon Marino

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**Enrollment Increases**

It’s hard to believe, but we have almost 10,000 students enrolled at LSC-Tomball this fall! I know that enrollment increases present challenges and I appreciate the hard work that all of you have put into ensuring that we meet the needs of our students.

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**2009-2011 Strategic Plan**

Our strategic plan supports the ten overall System goals and is designed as a roadmap for the things we intend to accomplish in the next two years. Updates for the strategies we have set in our strategic plan will be a regular feature on the agenda of the President’s Council and in divisional meetings across the campus.
New Faculty and Staff

Being new myself, I know how important starting off with a warm welcome can be. Help me welcome to our LSC-Tomball family the following new faculty and staff members.

- Ben Leung - Technology Services-Campus
- Sharon Jones - Director of Continuing Education
- Suzanne Weatherly - DS English
- Mari Carmen Marin - English
- Juli Case - English
- Devika Lalsinghani - Mathematics
- Amber Mestayer - Mathematics
- Eileen Eckert - Vocational Nursing
- Diana Broome - Pharmacy Technology
- Christine Bradford - Geology
- Glenn Dennis - ADN Nursing
- Rae Jukkola - Academic Advisor
- Perry Burns - Academic Advisor
- Amy Griffin - Academic Advisor, Willow Chase
- Shane Harris - ELC Coordinator, LAC & Library Services, Willow Chase
- Josslynn Victorian-Phelps - Police Officer
- Larry Bitter - Police Officer
- Abe Clay - CE Program Manager
- LaToya McCarter - Specialist, Continuing Education
- Clay McGovern - Manager, Professional Development
- Blaine Keener - Manager, User Services

Technology Upgrades

In an effort to provide upgrades for faculty, staff, and labs, the Office of Technology Services (OTS) has recently purchased 343 desktop computers, 138 laptops and 10 printers. If you are scheduled for an upgrade, please contact OTS to make an appointment for service. In order to provide technology to support teaching, OTS and Media Services are in the process of upgrading 36 classrooms. These classroom upgrades include a built-in projector and screen, as well as a media cart. The media cart contains a document camera, a computer and a DVD/VCR player device. This project is expected to be finished by September 15, 2009. OTS is also planning to upgrade the servers and switches this year. This upgrade will increase the amount of storage available on the network drives.

LSC-Willow Chase Move

The Willow Chase Center will move to LSC-University Park in December. Additionally, universities at LSC-University Park offering degrees in a number of programs will be Sam Houston State University, Texas Southern University, University of Houston, the University of Houston-Downtown and Prairie View A&M University. Renovation is currently underway at the facility to accommodate students by January. Other planned activities for the $42.15-million, 45-acre site will include an instructional satellite campus, a Corporate College conference and training facility, and System administration and support space.


Construction Update

Planned for completion in 2011, we have three construction projects that will allow us to expand our services to students and to the community.

Performing Arts Building

This 30,000 square foot facility features an instructional theater with the versatility for various types of performances, plays, theatrical productions, musicals, recitals and lectures. This facility includes a fully rigged stage, an orchestra pit and an audience chamber with 425 seats. Additional support space includes dressing rooms, a green room, costume shop and storage, and scene shop and storage.

Health Science Building

This 60,000 square foot building includes three lab components. The nursing lab is comprised of a hospital ward, a medication area, an isolation room, a classroom and demonstration area, and a large storage area. The simulation lab consists of a hospital room, a separate control room, and an observation room. The surgical technology lab features an operating room, pre-op room, instrument processing rooms, and a classroom.

Vet-Tech Expansion

Consisting of 20,000 square feet, this facility provides an X-ray room, two teaching labs, five classrooms, a 120 seat auditorium, 12 dog runs and housing for cats, birds, reptiles, and other small mammals.
Upcoming Events

Academy for Lifelong Learning Open House

The Academy for Lifelong Learning (ALL) will host its open house from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2009 at the Beckendorf Conference Center. The Academy of Lifelong Learning (ALL) is an organization for active, older adults (50+) offering classes and social activities for continued intellectual and personal growth. For more information, please contact Donna Daughdrill at 281-401-1839 or Donna.S.Daughdrill@lonestar.edu.

Community Resource Day

On Saturday, September 19th, LSC Tomball, along with the Chambers, city, and school district of Tomball, Magnolia, and Waller, will host a Community Resource Day in the Beckendorf Conference Center at 10:00 a.m. Designed to help low-income and minority groups find the resources they need to be successful, this event will feature community agencies from the areas of health services, social services, public services, education, fine arts, and financial management and assistance.

Meet the Chancellor

Dr. Richard Carpenter will be on campus November 2nd to conduct a Chancellor’s Forum. Open to all employees, the Chancellor’s Forum will be held in the Beckendorf Conference Center at 1:30 p.m. I would like to encourage as many people as possible to take advantage of this opportunity to interact with Dr. Carpenter.

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. (Time TBA)