Lone Star College gains national recognition

Lone Star College System continues to receive national attention for its innovative thinking and learning outcomes.

Gates Foundation grant
Lone Star College System was recently awarded a one-year planning grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to lead a state-wide effort in Texas intended to significantly increase the successful completion rates of community college students.

This $500,000 grant was one of only four awarded nationwide by the foundation after an intensive application process that began last October at the White House Summit on Community Colleges.

Suzanne Walsh, from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, congratulates Lone Star College on receiving a grant from the foundation. Walsh, who is senior program officer, postsecondary success for the foundation, was speaking as part of a kick-off event held in Austin.

For the spring 2011 semester, Lone Star College student enrollment reached nearly 70,000 students. The total student enrollment at 69,245 represents an 11 percent increase over last spring.

Recent numbers from the Texas Association of Community Colleges also indicate that LSC continues to be the fastest-growing college system in Texas. According to the figures, LSC has experienced a growth of more than 19,000 students in the past two years, or a 39 percent increase.

“This type of growth is unprecedented,” said Dr. Richard Carpenter, LSCS chancellor. “It represents the confidence that our community has in Lone Star College to provide a quality education at an affordable price.”
How does the Lone Star College System compare with other community colleges of like size and organizational structure? Here’s how LSCS stacks up in nine critical areas.

**LEGEND**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Abbreviations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alamo Colleges</td>
<td>Alamo CCD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austin Community College</td>
<td>Austin CCD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broward College</td>
<td>BC</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Southern Nevada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cuyahoga Community College District</td>
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<td>Dallas County Community College District</td>
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<td>Houston Community College System</td>
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<td>Lone Star College System</td>
<td>LSCS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mesa Community College</td>
<td>MCC</td>
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<td>Miami Dade College</td>
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<td>Northern Virginia Community College</td>
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<td>Riverside Community College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tarrant County College District</td>
<td>TCCD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valencia Community College</td>
<td>VCC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
LSCS Peer Performance Tracking

### Student Headcount Fall 2010
- **Dallas**: 81,359
- **Lone Star**: 69,339
- **Miami Dade**: 68,831
- **Houston**: 60,303
- **Alamo**: 59,513
- **Tarrant**: 49,108
- **N. Virginia**: 49,016
- **Austin**: 44,100
- **S. Nevada**: 43,686
- **Broward**: 42,873
- **Valencia**: 41,482
- **Riverside**: 39,000
- **Cuyahoga**: 31,683
- **Mesa**: 26,408

Number of students served for credit classes

### Tuition and Fees per Credit Hour Fall 2010
- **N. Virginia**: $123
- **Miami Dade**: $95
- **Broward**: $95
- **Valencia**: $92
- **Cuyahoga**: $85
- **Houston**: $71
- **Alamo**: $70
- **S. Nevada**: $64
- **Austin**: $58
- **Dallas**: $57
- **Lone Star**: $55
- **Tarrant**: $50
- **Mesa**: $45
- **Riverside**: $26

The cost per credit hour is based on FT credit load of 12 hours, including all applicable fees

### Administrative Costs Percentage of Budget FY 2009 - 2010
- **Houston**: 16%
- **Mesa**: 14%
- **Alamo**: 14%
- **Miami Dade**: 13%
- **Austin**: 13%
- **Broward**: 13%
- **Dallas**: 13%
- **Valencia**: 12%
- **Cuyahoga**: 12%
- **S. Nevada**: 12%
- **N. Virginia**: 11%
- **Riverside**: 11%
- **Tarrant**: 11%
- **Lone Star**: 10%

Percentage of the budget expenditures dedicated to Administrative cost

### Full-time Faculty Fall 2009
- **Alamo**: 1,811
- **Miami Dade**: 1,749
- **Houston**: 1,630
- **Lone Star**: 1,406
- **Dallas**: 1,383
- **Tarrant**: 1,077
- **N. Virginia**: 977
- **Austin**: 817
- **S. Nevada**: 778
- **Broward**: 776
- **Cuyahoga**: 739
- **Valencia**: 732
- **Mesa**: 615

Instructors employed as Full-time Faculty.

### Transfer Rate Fall 2009
- **Miami Dade**: 87%
- **Houston**: 66%
- **Lone Star**: 65%
- **Alamo**: 65%
- **Dallas**: 62%
- **Broward**: 60%
- **Valencia**: 46%
- **S. Nevada**: 47%
- **N. Virginia**: 44%
- **Tarrant**: 44%
- **Austin**: 43%
- **Cuyahoga**: 35%
- **Mesa**: 27%

Students served whose ethnicity fell under the US Census Bureau’s Classification of Minority. Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity (Black, Hispanic, Asian, American Indian/Alaskan Native)

### Student Faculty Ratio Fall 2009
- **Valencia**: 36.1
- **Miami Dade**: 35.1
- **Broward**: 33.1
- **Riverside**: 32:1
- **S. Nevada**: 29.1
- **Dallas**: 28:1
- **N. Virginia**: 26:1
- **Tarrant**: 25:1
- **Austin**: 24:1
- **Mesa**: 22:1
- **Cuyahoga**: 21:1
- **Lone Star**: 21:1
- **Houston**: 18:1
- **Alamo**: 18:1

Student Faculty Ratio is Student FTE divided by the Faculty FTE. FTE is the number of full-time added to one-third the number of part-time.

### Full-time Persistence Fall 2009
- **Alamo**: 75%
- **Miami Dade**: 72%
- **N. Virginia**: 70%
- **Lone Star**: 69%
- **Dallas**: 67%
- **Houston**: 63%
- **Mesa**: 63%
- **Tarrant**: 60%
- **Broward**: 60%
- **Cuyahoga**: 58%
- **Austin**: 57%
- **Valencia**: 53%
- **S. Nevada**: 49%
- **NA**: 4%

### Part-time Persistence Fall 2009
- **Valencia**: 56%
- **Broward**: 56%
- **Miami Dade**: 53%
- **Lone Star**: 52%
- **Houston**: 50%
- **N. Virginia**: 48%
- **Alamo**: 47%
- **Austin**: 46%
- **Cuyahoga**: 45%
- **Tarrant**: 40%
- **Mesa**: 39%
- **Riverside**: 37%
- **S. Nevada**: 37%
- **NA**: 29%

Students enrolled Fall term who re-enrolled the following Fall Term.

Data Source:
1. Individual College Websites
2. IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) Peer Analysis System/most recent data available
Continued from page 1

The objective of the national initiative, called Completion by Design, is to help students finish postsecondary education more quickly and with greater rates of success.

LSCS is the managing partner of a Texas alliance for the program that includes Alamo Colleges, Dallas County Community College District, El Paso Community College and South Texas College. This group represents more than 235,000 students, one third of all community college students in Texas.

“The work from this grant has the capacity to forever change the educational landscape of community colleges in Texas,” said Dr. Richard Carpenter, chancellor of LSCS.

“Currently, community colleges around the state are not in sync with their approach to student success and completion. Imagine what we can do as we all invest in the same program.”

After the implementation plan submitted by the Texas group in April 2012 is approved by the foundation, additional funding would be awarded to implement and execute the plan.

Winning this highly-competitive grant process is an example of the LSCS commitment to quality, student success and results-focused educational initiatives. To learn more about the Texas Completion by Design initiative, see TexasCompletion.com

U.S. Dept. of Education summit

In March, LSCS, which is known nationwide for providing educational excellence for its students, was selected by the U.S. Department of Education to host a national summit at LSC-University Park on community college completion.

The summit was an outgrowth of a community college summit held last year at the White House with Jill Biden. “Lone Star College is honored to have been chosen to host one of only four regional summits and to contribute to the ongoing national dialogue of college completion,” said Dr. Carpenter, LSCS chancellor.

The summit, with 150 participants from an 11-state region, included representatives from community colleges, business and industry, philanthropy, labor, state and local government, and students who explored successful strategies that work to help students succeed. The dialogue also included strategies for helping students transfer from community college to four-year universities.

Being selected by the U.S. Department of Education to host this summit is another example of Lone Star College’s growing reputation for its commitment to quality and to student success.

LSC opens new Community Building

Lone Star College Community Building and Conference Center, located within the Lone Star College System office campus at 5000 Research Forest Dr. in The Woodlands, celebrated its grand opening this spring with a ribbon-cutting ceremony by the South Montgomery County Woodlands Chamber of Commerce.

The event included chamber members, college officials and others from area communities. The facility is available to rent for day and evening community events.

The center provides modern and professional conference and meeting facilities totaling 26,000 square feet, with seating for up to 450 guests in the Star of Texas Ballroom. The state-of-the-art technical support includes automated a/v systems, confidence monitors, blu-ray/dvd players, wireless Internet service throughout the facility, and “touchdown” tables with laptop power and data connections.

In addition to these basic amenities, additional services include free parking, catering and banquet services, and the convenience of being located only three miles from Interstate-45.

For more information about scheduling the conference center contact John.W.Golden@LoneStar.edu
Lone Star College a major contributor to economy

Lone Star College is a major contributor to the local, regional and state economies and is a sound economic investment.

A study conducted in late 2010 by Economic Modeling Specialists Inc., a leading provider of economic data, reveals that LSC adds more than $1 billion each year to the economic development in its service area. This includes college operations expenditures, student spending in the area and a student productivity effect, which represents the higher earnings obtained by students and increased output by the businesses where they work.

The additional income in the LSC service area due to college operations is $131.3 million and out-of-district students spend roughly $16.1 million annually in the service area. And, the increased skills of past and present LSC students, along with increased output of businesses where they work, translate into a cumulative estimated economic impact of $946.8 million each year.

These three – college operations, student spending and student productivity effect – represent more than $1 billion in economic impact.

LSC also has a positive impact on the tax base. Higher earnings of LSC students and increases in state income and business productivity associated with those higher earnings expand the tax base in Texas by about $464.4 million each year.

In addition, because an educated workforce has been proven to produce improved lifestyle behavior, along with fewer welfare and unemployment claims, the student population of LSC will generate $14.2 million a year in social savings to the Texas public.

The report also revealed that LSC leverages taxpayer’s investment. In fiscal year 2008-2009, state and local governments allocated approximately $76.8 million in support of LSC and for every $1 appropriated, taxpayers saw a cumulative return of $2.30 in the form of higher tax revenues and avoided social costs.

The study also revealed that LSC students realize a 16.5 percent rate of return for their investments of time and money. For every dollar a student invests in a Lone Star College education, that student will receive a cumulative $6.10 in higher future income over his/her working career.

In addition, a worker in the LSC service area who has obtained an associate degree earns an average of $15,700 more per year than a person with only a high school diploma. That same worker will achieve an average midpoint income of $60,200, which is 35 percent more than a person with only a high school diploma.

And over the course of a working lifetime, associate degree graduates in the LSC service area will earn $628,000 more than someone with only a high school diploma.

The 2010 EMSI study entitled “Economic Contribution of Lone Star College System” details the role that the college system plays in promoting economic development, enhancing the careers of students, and improving the quality of life in its service area.

The report also revealed that by 2019 – less than 10 years – there will be about 1.2 million new and replacement jobs in the LSC service area. Of those, about 30 percent or 400,000, will require an education level equal to an associate degree or greater. Another 6 percent of jobs will require some kind of post-secondary certificate or vocational award.

For more information on the EMSI study go to LoneStar.edu/economic-impact.htm
Academy for Lifelong Learning offers long list of fun, informative courses

Active seniors in north Houston are taking advantage of courses offered through the Lone Star College Academy for Lifelong Learning at each college.

ALL is a membership community whose members attend classes that are meant to be fun and informative. The classes are geared toward the 50-plus retired or semi-retired residents who are interested in remaining “plugged in” to the academic, learning environment.

Participants are able to explore a wide variety of special interest, professional growth and development, and personal enrichment courses offered through LSCS.

ALL courses are short-term, non-credit, cost effective and last anywhere from a few hours to several weeks. These courses, lectures, seminars or discussions are taught by professionals from the community who are experienced in their chosen field or individuals who simply have skills or hobbies they want to share with others.

Course selections include: arts and crafts, gardening skills, photography techniques, financial planning, health care issues, finance, health and wellness, technology, test prep, genealogy. Tai Chi, hiking adventures, community service projects, business, literacy discussion groups, seminars and workshops, an insider’s view of Texas history, field trips and more.

“It’s a way of keeping active and keeping the mind stimulated,” said Donna Smith Burns, program coordinator for LSC-Montgomery Continuing Education.

In the classroom, the thirst for knowledge is evident, Smith Burns said.

“I was in a medical class recently with a doctor from Memorial Herman and about 10 students from all over the Houston area,” she said. “They were just firing question after question at him, things they’d never been able to ask a doctor.”

The classes offer a host of other benefits too, Smith Burns said, including important social opportunities for participants.

“There are great friendships to be made,” she said. “It can be the start of a whole new social network.”

A small annual membership fee that varies at each college allows members to take academy courses free of charge or at a minimal rate. The annual membership lasts from Sept. 1 to August 31.

Each college has separately-run programs and curriculum.

To find out more about the ALL program visit the Continuing Education office at any college or go to LoneStar.edu/continuing-ed

**TAX AMOUNT FROZEN FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, DISABLED**

Disabled residents and those over 65 years of age residing in the Lone Star College System continue to be eligible for the district’s $75,000 property tax exemption and tax freeze.

The freeze keeps LSCS taxes at the current dollar amount for these citizens even if the property value increased.

If the exemption isn’t already in place, any resident who filed an over-65 or disabled exemption with their county appraisal district will automatically receive the LSC exemption and tax freeze.
New Facilities to Open on LSCS Campuses

Construction projects and expansion throughout Lone Star College System – that were outlined as part of the 2008 bond referendum approved by voters – are winding down. Most of the projects will open in time for the fall semester, which begins August 29. The projects are listed by college below.

**LSC-CYFAIR**

Health Science Building. The 54,000-square-foot Health Science Building houses 15 classrooms, seven science labs, four computer labs and faculty office space. A grand opening for this building will be held later in the fall.

Student Services Building. The 139,000-square-foot Student Services/Academic Instruction Building houses 44 classrooms, 10 computer labs, a lecture hall, faculty and administrative offices, and the new student services area. This building will also officially open later in the fall.

**LSC-KINGWOOD**

Student Conference Center. Grand opening for the 63,500-square-foot Student Conference Center at LSC-Kingwood will be held on Sept. 29. The center encompasses programs and activities that include the welcome center, advising, admission and registration, financial aid, business services and student affairs.

Parking. An additional 500 parking spaces were added on the northeast side of campus and 600 spaces were added to the southwest corner of campus.

LSC Foundation Gala Raises over $370,000

The Lone Star College Foundation’s mission is to change lives through student scholarships and quality educational programs achieved by excellence in relationship building, fundraising, and investment management.

Through an annual golf tournament, annual StarGala and generous donations by individuals, corporations, businesses and other organizations, the Foundation is able to grant numerous scholarships annually to students attending LSCS colleges and centers.

This year the Lone Star College Foundation’s StarGala 2011 event raised more than $370,000 to help fund student scholarships, faculty projects and system academic programs.

The gala, with a “Midnight in Morocco” theme, was attended by more than 650 guests, and the funds were raised from underwriters, sponsors, table sales, individual ticket and raffle sales, “Support a Student” scholarships, the silent bid board, and live auctions.

Established as a 501(c)(3) Type I nonprofit corporation, the LSC Foundation secures and manages unrestricted and restricted assets to continually support and enrich the academic and scholarship programs of LSCS.

Since its creation in 1991, the Foundation has expanded its initial investment of $20,000 into an extensive portfolio of almost $13,000,000.

Currently, the Foundation manages almost 400 endowed scholarship accounts and 50 planned endowments.

In partnership with the Lone Star College System, the Foundation annually funds programs which provide creative and unique educational opportunities.

The Foundation seeks commitments from individuals, companies, organizations and corporations, throughout the region.

For more information on the Foundation or how you can contribute visit LoneStarCollegeFoundation.org.
Lone Star College partners with Johnson Controls on project that saves $65 million in operating costs

The Lone Star College System Office of Technology Services has been working on going green for several years and is now considered an industry leader in environmentally-friendly money-saving initiatives.

Shah S. Ardalan, vice chancellor and CIO of LSCS, and his team have worked diligently to “green” their IT department.

Recent enhancements and modernization of LSCS data centers will lead to an annual savings of $428,978 over three years.

The IT team has also implemented advanced desktop power management of the system’s 12,000 computers. The computers are programmed to turn off at night to conserve energy, remotely power up if system upgrades are necessary, then power back down. This initiative will save LSCS $725,000 over the next three years and will reduce the computer carbon footprint by 50 percent.

Another cost-saving initiative implemented by LSCS is the “virtualization” of its system data servers as opposed to purchasing traditional server hardware, yielding more than $600,000 in savings over the next three years. LSCS is now more than 93 percent virtualized.

OTS has also implemented an automated asset management system, saving college system money and administrative expense.

In the past, IT managers relied on manual tracking of the college’s assets – computers, printers and other equipment – which was problematic. With an automated barcode management system in place, it is much easier to update and track the assets – saving time and money.

OTS has also been working to improve information security at LSCS by defining and implementing a new Information Security Management System (ISMS). The model is based on ISO standards and meets industry best practices through the use of a formal and documented process. This implementation has improved and streamlined information security for Lone Star College.

Lone Star College used its own debt capacity and AAA bond rating to finance the $33 million project. Johnson Controls’ role was to implement the improvements and guaranteed energy savings. Major facility improvement measures include:

- Direct digital control of heating, ventilation, air conditioning and lighting, automated by the building management systems, saving $557,000 per year.
- Replacement of 40,000 lighting fixtures with high-efficiency fixtures, saving $1.2 million per year.

Results and benefits

The $65 million in total guaranteed energy savings over the 20-year life of the contract included efficiency improvements that are designed to save:
- 27 percent in electricity.
- 12 percent in natural gas.
- 28 percent in water resources.

Beyond saving money, the improvements will provide more comfortable environments for students and staff with consistent temperatures and better lighting.

The performance contract also helped Lone Star College expand the capacity of its May 2008 bond program for new construction and renovations. Numerous projects that were originally part of the bond program were shifted to the performance contract allowing their related costs to be offset by the expected energy and operational savings and thus creating more capital dollars for construction projects.

Did you know?

As the third largest provider of computer training in the greater Houston area, Lone Star College can help you get your htmls and Excels in order.
Helping local businesses
LONE STAR COLLEGE SBDC OFFERS FREE BUSINESS GUIDE

The Lone Star College System Small Business Development Center recently published a free business startup and resource guide available for area business owners, or those thinking about starting a business.


The guide includes a checklist for starting a business, a definition of various legal entities, tax and insurance considerations, finance options, important factors to take into account when writing a business plan and other topics that are important to consider prior to opening the doors of a new venture.

“The guide is an easy-to-read reference tool that includes material every small business owner needs to consider when starting or running a business,” said Sal Mira, LSCS SBDC director.

The guide was published in partnership with six North Harris County chambers of commerce, including Acres Homes Chamber for Business and Economic Development, Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce, Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce, Houston Intercontinental Chamber of Commerce, Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce and the Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce. A guide is available at each of these chamber offices.

For more information, check the local chamber office for the “Business Startup and Resource Guide” or visit LoneStar.edu/sbdc.

New facilities open
Continued from page 7

Music Instructional Building. The new Music Instructional Building, a 24,000-square-foot facility dedicated to the Music Department, will also be celebrated with a grand opening on Sept. 29. The building also houses the Cultural Center for the Musical Arts.

LSC-Atascocita Center. A grand opening was held in June for the new 60,000-square-foot center, located at 15903 West Lake Houston Parkway. It is open for fall and it houses science labs, classrooms, meeting spaces and administrative offices. The center will also offer a wide variety of services for the community.

LSC-NORTH HARRIS

Student Services Building. The new Student Services building, at 61,000 square feet, is a two-story facility consisting of offices and student support office, student activities office and more.

Expansions/renovations. The expansion of the Fine Arts Building included 16,779 square feet of additional space. Other expansions and renovations: Applied Technology Building expansion, 14,353 square feet; Academic Building renovation, 97,000 square feet; Winship Building renovation, 11,000 square feet; Health Professions Building renovation, 48,000 square feet; and LSC-Greenspoint Center renovation, façade upgrade and parking.

For more information call 972.273.3255 or go to LoneStar.edu/corporatecollege
100 percent of LSC students pass national, state board exams

Future nurses, radiologic technologists, occupational therapists, pharmacy technologists, veterinarian technicians, firefighters, police officers and dental hygienists at Lone Star College System are making waves with their test scores – 100 percent of them passing – on national and state board exams.

Many degree and credential programs offered at Lone Star Colleges require students to pass licensure exams following graduation to receive certification from state boards and to gain employment. LSCS students have consistently scored high on qualifying exams.

But in many programs at Lone Star College, every student that takes a qualifying exam passes it, for a 100-percent pass rate, enabling these students to go on and find successful careers in hospitals, doctor’s offices, veterinary clinics, pharmacies, dental offices, police departments and more throughout the state of Texas.

For example, at LSC-Kingwood, 100 percent of the dental hygiene students passed their National Board Dental Hygiene Exam and the Western Region Clinical Board Exams – for the fifth consecutive year.

At LSC-North Harris, 100 percent of recent graduates of the law enforcement academy passed their state qualifying tests. Same goes for nursing students at LSC-Tomball – 100 percent passed the state licensing exams again this last year. At LSC-CyFair, 100 percent of the nursing students passed the National Council Licensure Examination – one of only six colleges in Texas to do so.

“The success in achieving a 100-percent pass rate on a program is a testament to the rigor of our program and the quality of instruction delivered by dedicated and committed faculty,” said Dr. Donetta Goodall, vice chancellor of academic affairs and student success at LSCS. “We are proud to say we have this success at all five colleges and in several programs.”

Jonathon Holland, a recent graduate of the LSC-Kingwood dental hygienist program, cites the high level of professionalism among the instructors.

“The fact that LSC-Kingwood consistently has a 100-percent pass rate with each class and continues to improve the average score overall, truly demonstrates the dedication of the instructors and directors to maintain an unsurpassed standard of excellence,” Holland said. “I can proudly say I am glad to be a graduate from such a great program and would recommend anyone looking to begin a great career at a great place to apply to the program.”

Another example of the 100-percent pass rates can be seen in the results of the radiologic technology program at LSC-Montgomery. Since the program began in 2003, six of the seven graduating classes have seen a 100-percent pass rate of state exams on the first pass, setting a cumulative first-attempt pass rate average at 99.3 percent.

“Our graduates go on to do amazing and wonderful things with their careers and futures,” said Melanie Hail, associate professor of radiologic technology at LSC-Montgomery. “Many are already working in the field at area hospitals or clinics … others are continuing their education with a bachelor’s degree.”

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, there is a huge demand in the healthcare industry – including employment of registered nurses – and the industry is expected to grow much faster than the average through 2018.
Lone Star College System was named one of the “Best Colleges to Work For” by The Chronicle of Higher Education, which is considered one of the nation’s most important sources of news about colleges and universities. Out of 310 colleges and universities surveyed nationally in the annual report, only 111 achieved “Great College to Work For” recognition for specific best practices and policies.

Lone Star College was recognized for its teaching environments and facilities, workspaces and security. The survey results are based on an institutional audit from each institution, and a survey administered to faculty, administrators, and professional support staff.

LONE STAR COLLEGE SYSTEM RANKS NO. 1 IN LARGEST COLLEGE LIST

For the third consecutive year, Lone Star College System was again ranked as Number 1 in the list of Largest Houston-Area Colleges and Universities published annually by the Houston Business Journal.

The ranking, which was published in the March 18-24, 2011 edition of HBJ, was based on credit student enrollment for fall 2010 when LSCS had 69,339 attend its colleges. This fall 2010 enrollment number does not include additional students who attended LSCS for non-credit, continuing education courses.

Second on the HBJ list was the University of Houston with a student enrollment of 38,752.

New facilities open
Continued from page 9

**LSC-Victory Center.** The new LSC-Victory Center is an 85,000-square-foot facility that will be a center for workforce and academic preparation, economic and community development, and a focal point for citizenship training for area residents. It will be open in time for fall classes and a grand opening celebration will be held Sept. 15.

**LSC-MONTGOMERY**

**Parking garage.** The new five-story parking garage opened in January. It has nearly 1,000 parking spaces that provided welcome parking relief.

**Music Hall.** The 20,000-square-foot music hall has an 175-seat recital performance hall, band and choir halls, multiple practice and rehearsal rooms, and more. It opened earlier this year.

**LSC-TOMBALL**

**Performing and Fine Arts Center.** This 30,000-square-foot multi-purpose, two-level building was designed as an instructional facility for training in theater and theatrical production. It includes a 425-seat theater and stage with accoutrements. A grand opening will be held Sept. 8.

**Veterinary Technology Building.** The 20,000-square-foot Veterinary Technology Building addition will complement the existing Large Animal Facility on the west side of campus. The two-story facility includes a 124-seat teaching lecture hall. Grand opening will be Sept. 8.

**LSC-Tomball Health Science Building**

**LSC-Conroe Center.** The new state-of-the-art LSC-Conroe Center, located on FM 3083 North, celebrated its grand opening in January. The 83,000-square-foot campus includes an academic building, a separate advanced technology building, a bookstore, library, multipurpose room, and testing center.

**LSC-Montgomery Music Hall**

**General Academic Center.** The Academic Center, with 75,000 square feet, has 18 classrooms and two general language labs, faculty offices, a 100-seat tiered lecture hall, and a coffee bar and student lounge area. It also opened in the spring.

**Health Science Center.** The Health Science Center was expanded to include 30 classrooms and specialized labs, and a 70-seat tiered teaching theatre/lecture hall. The new space also opened this spring.

**LSC-Tomball Health Science Building**

**LSC-Tomball Health Science Building**

**LSC-Tomball Health Science Building**
LONE STAR COLLEGE CREATES FOUR-YEAR PARTNERSHIPS

Lone Star College System has created outstanding partnerships with four-year institutions around the Houston area, state of Texas and the country. These relationships provide additional opportunities for students to earn their advanced degrees with partner institutions at either Lone Star College-University Center at Montgomery or Lone Star College-University Center at University Park.

The partnerships, sometimes referred to as articulation agreements, allow LSCS students to seamlessly transfer credits into a variety of bachelor’s and master’s degree programs from Texas Southern University, University of Houston, University of Houston-Downtown, Texas A&M University, Sam Houston State University and University of Maryland University College.

When Under Secretary of Education Dr. Martha Kanter visited LSC-University Center at University Park this spring during the Community College summit she praised the campus for its innovation. “The idea is to have a pipeline. One center for area students,” said Kanter. “It provides a seamless opportunity with a variety of choices for individual students.”

LSCS has always been a student-centered culture that emphasizes personal attention and commitment to the quality of education that the student is receiving.

LSCS stands ready to continue meeting the challenges and opportunities ahead. The focus of the system remains the same – to provide quality educational opportunities for the successful development of knowledge, skills and attitudes in a rapidly-changing world.

Did you know?
About 80 percent of all firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians in the area are prepared with training at Lone Star College or a similar two-year school.