In February, a citizens committee, representing area business, education, government and civic sectors, recommended to the Lone Star College System Board of Trustees that the college system consider building new learning facilities and infrastructure sufficient to accommodate the system’s historical growth.

Board members voted unanimously to approve a $497.7 million bond referendum that will include improved campus security and safety throughout LSCS, new workforce training facilities, along with three new centers to serve some of the fastest-growing communities in the college system.

Since the last bond referendum in 2008, LSCS has added 30,000 students, a 58 percent increase. Projections from 2007 had estimated that LSCS student enrollment would reach 60,230 by 2015; LSCS had more than 77,000 students in fall 2012.

The bond referendum to go before voters expands capacity to meet the unprecedented student population growth at LSCS and includes financing for learning facilities at each campus—projects that were prioritized and outlined by the group of citizen leaders as part of their recommendation to the board.

In addition, LSCS is seeking approval from voters to add 996,000 square feet of instructional and support building space, along with related infrastructure, to its colleges and centers.

No tax rate increase

During this process, the board was adamant about receiving a plan that would accommodate the historic student enrollment growth without requiring an increase in the LSCS tax rate for local taxpayers.

““This was our most important stipulation as we considered...”

Tax exemptions in place

The Lone Star College System Board of Trustees voted unanimously last year to continue tax exemption allowances and tax freezes for disabled residents and residents age 65 and older.

That means all residents who live in the LSCS taxing jurisdiction and who are homeowners continue to be eligible for a $5,000 homestead exemption.

Disabled residents and those over 65 years of age residing in the LSCS service area are also eligible for the system’s $75,000 property tax exemption and tax freeze, where the actual dollar amount owed is frozen as of the date the taxpayer qualifies for the exemption—even if the property value increases.

Any resident who already had an over-65 or disabled exemption on file with their county appraisal district will automatically receive the 2012 exemption and tax freeze.
A Letter from the Chancellor

Dear Friends,

Forty years ago, Lone Star College System had its beginnings when a group of community leaders responded to a need for higher education opportunities in north Harris and Montgomery counties.

What started in 1973 as a single college with 613 students has grown to an enrollment of 78,000 credit students at six colleges, two university centers and five centers. Five years ago, the North Harris Montgomery Community College District became Lone Star College System and we’ve not looked back since.

As the largest institution of higher education in the greater Houston region, LSCS helps tens of thousands achieve their goals and improve their quality of life through education. That, in turn, enhances the economic vitality of our entire service area – LSCS provides an economic impact each year of more than $1 billion in the form of increased earning power for students and more productivity for area businesses. A college education is a sound investment for both the student and the community, now and in the future.

Over the past five years that I have served as chancellor LSCS has experienced tremendous growth, adding nearly 30,000 total students since 2007. Fortunately, this great college is governed by a visionary Board of Trustees, whose members had the foresight to present a bond referendum for voter approval in 2008. The referendum was approved by an overwhelming majority of voters and it financed additional facilities throughout LSCS.

Growth continues and by the time these newest facilities were completed in 2011 as a result of the 2008 bond construction package, our colleges were full and space for our students was nearing maximum capacity.

In 2012 we embarked on conversations with more than 80 of our community members to help us study the facility needs of LSCS. In February, that group of community leaders made facilities recommendations to the LSCS Board of Trustees and board members voted to place a $497.7 million bond referendum before voters in the May 11 election.

In this newsletter, you’ll be able to see the recommendations that were made to our board to help LSCS accommodate the historic growth we’ve experienced.

We’re grateful for the time and input from these community representatives to help lead us in the right direction in order to continue serving our students and making a difference in our communities.

These are exciting and challenging times for Lone Star College System. I thank you for your past dedication and look forward to your continued support.

With deepest gratitude,

Dr. Richard Carpenter, Chancellor
Mother convinces daughter to pursue nursing degree

After 20 years in accounting, Angela Rouse had capped out on salary — unless she went back to school for an accounting degree. Meanwhile, her oldest daughter had dropped out of high school just half a semester before graduating.

“Told me to go back to school so bad that I did some research into which career path would take the least amount of schooling but give her the most options and at the same time paid the most,” Rouse said. “Came up with nursing.”

Rouse is right. Registered nurses work in doctor’s offices, hospitals, nursing care facilities, schools and people’s homes. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the annual median wage of registered nurses in May 2010 was $64,690. And the demand for registered nurses is expected to grow 26 percent from 2010 to 2020.

All that’s required to get started is an associate degree. And since Lone Star College System offers associate of applied science degrees in nursing at five campuses, getting started is close to home.

Rouse was able to convince her daughter Trishta, but sweetened the pot by stepping up to the plate herself.

“I told her I would go to college with her so she wouldn’t feel alienated,” Rouse said. “So she’s the reason I went back to school. And now we’re both nurses.”

Both women went to LSC-Montgomery for their prerequisites. Trishta completed her associate nursing degree at LSC-North Harris in 2007. Rouse, with the full support of her husband Christopher, graduated from LSC-Kingwood in 2006.

Trishta, now 28, is an intensive care charge nurse at St. Luke’s Hospital at the Vintage in northwest Houston. Rouse is currently an occupational health nurse at the Huntsman Corp. in The Woodlands, where she oversees the medical needs of 300 employees.

“I had a job in place before I even took my boards,” said Rouse, whose first job was to help patients who were transitioning from hospital to home.

Rouse, bit by the bedside bug, went further and earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Angelo State University in 2012.

“The associate’s degree at Kingwood got me off the ground,” Rouse said. “Tell all my friends now, don’t waste your money sending your kids to a four-year college. Always start at a community college.”

That’s what Rouse ended up doing for all five of her kids. In addition to Trishta, daughters Carissa and Aimee got their start at Lone Star College. Carissa, now 25, graduated from nursing at LSC-Kingwood in 2009 and now works at the Humble Kingwood Endoscopy Center. Aimee, now 24, took all of her accounting basics at LSC-Montgomery before transferring to Sam Houston State University and will graduate this fall.

Angela Rouse got her associate degree from LSC-Kingwood and is now an occupational health nurse for the Huntsman Corp.

LSC expands capacity to help train nurses

Since Lone Star College System and community colleges like it train 60% of all nurses in Texas, LSCS has recently dedicated two health profession buildings to help train future nurses for this critical and expanding need.

The first is the LSC-Tomball Health Science Building located across from the Tomball Regional Medical Center. The 60,000-square-foot facility serves and elevates the medical instruction in various areas such as surgical technology, occupational therapy, nursing and pharmacy technology.

The three-story facility houses numerous classrooms, a library, occupational training spaces including a two-story residential training space, hospital and patient simulation lab, pharmacy technology lab, operating room, clean room, sterile room, soil room, nursing suite, and Certified Nursing Assistant lab.

The second is the Lone Star College-Health Professions Building, a 87,000-square-foot state-of-the-art teaching facility designed specifically for the instruction of health profession programs. Strategically located next to the Houston Northwest Medical Center, the Health Professions Building, part of LSC-North Harris, offers the Virtual Hospital, which features 20 patient simulators and includes intensive care, pediatric and birthing specialty rooms.

The Health Professions Building also features a 180-seat lecture hall, dedicated labs and multi-purpose instructional spaces.

Lone Star College System offers an associate degree in nursing, along with RN to BSN programs through partner universities. To find out more about all of the classes LSCS has to offer visit LoneStar.edu/nursing-dept.
SMART INVESTMENT FOR FUTURE GROWTH

2013 Bond, continued from page 1:

PROPOSED BOND PROJECTS, BY CAMPUS

LSC-CyFair
- New instructional building – 100,000 sf
- New instructional building – 50,000 sf
- Increase parking – 1,000 spaces
- County required traffic improvements
- LSC-Fairbanks Center – 200 parking spaces

LSC-Kingwood
- New healthcare instructional building – 50,000 sf
- Student services expansion – 5,000 sf
- New instructional building – 20,000 sf
- Increase parking – 450 spaces

LSC-Montgomery
- New student services building – 60,000 sf
- New university center – 54,000 sf
- Increase parking – 420 spaces
- Widen and improve entry drives

LSC-North Harris
- New instructional building – 70,000 sf
- New workforce training building – 50,000 sf
- New instructional building – 50,000 sf
- Increase parking – 930 spaces
- New loop road and Richey Road entry drive
- LSC-Victory Center expansion – 25,000 sf
- Future East Aldine Center – 85,000 sf +650 parking

LSC-Tomball
- New student services/instructional building – 60,000 sf
- Increase parking – 300 spaces
- New campus entry drive
- Build-out Health Science Building – 20,000 sf
- Future Creekside Center – 85,000 sf +650 parking
- Future Magnolia Center – 85,000 sf +650 parking

LSC-University Park
- New instructional science building – 50,000 sf
- New instructional arts building – 45,000 sf
- Increase parking – 170 spaces

System-wide support
- Campus safety and security improvements
- Technology infrastructure upgrades and expansion
- Program management and land acquisitions
- Cost and growth contingencies
- New educational support building – 46,000 sf
- Increase parking – 210 spaces

3 Trustee Positions
up for vote in May 11 election

POSITION 1
David Holsey*; Elizabeth “Liz” Jensen

POSITION 2
Janie Branham; Kyle A. Scott; Tom Forestier*

POSITION 8
Bill Morris; Randy Bates*; Ron Trowbridge
*denotes incumbent

for our students” said Dr. Carpenter.
LSCS is able to absorb construction debt because of its strong financial foundation through superior budget management and accelerated pay down of previous debt. The college system also maintains administrative operating expenses below 12 percent, which is among the lowest of any college in the nation.
In addition, LSCS has benefited from eight credit rating increases in the last 10 years and maintains AAA status from Standard and Poor’s Ratings, which allows the college to save millions of dollars in interest expense.
The LSCS tax rate is the same as it was 15 years ago and the college’s past two bond referendums did not cause an increase in the tax rate.
The election will be held on Saturday, May 11 with early voting set for April 29 – May 7. More information, including early voting and election day polling places, may also be found at LoneStar.edu/Bond2013.

asking the public to approve a bond referendum,” said Randy Bates, LSCS board chairman.
Details, including maps of proposed facility construction, may be found at LoneStar.edu/Bond2013.
Dr. Richard Carpenter, LSCS chancellor, referring to the bond referendum, noted that bond funds can only be used for construction and not for operating expenses, which requires the college system to work smarter and more efficiently.
“Our budget is focused on providing a top-notch education...
Members of the Lone Star College System Board of Trustees responded to a committee of citizen leaders in February when they voted unanimously to put a $497.7 million bond referendum in front of area voters for approval on May 11 to meet unprecedented student population growth.

How will a bond referendum affect me?
No tax rate increase for taxpayers. LSCS Board members were adamant that all plans being considered to accommodate LSCS’s historical growth could be implemented without burdening the LSCS taxpayers—which translates into no tax rate increase.
Tax freeze for homeowners 65 years of age or older remains in effect. The LSCS Board of Trustees implemented a tax freeze in 2006 for residents 65 years of age or older and disabled residents residing in the LSCS service area. That tax freeze continues today.

Am I eligible to vote in this bond election?
All registered voters living in the following Independent School Districts within the Lone Star College System service area are eligible to vote: Aldine, Conroe, Cy-Fair, Humble, Klein, Magnolia, New Caney, Spring, Splendora, Tomball and Willis.

Where do I vote?
Early voting will be from April 29-May 7 and those locations are listed at LoneStar.edu/Bond2013. Locations for Election Day, May 11, are also available at LoneStar.edu/Bond2013.

Lone Star College System is focused on student success
Student success. Those aren’t just buzz words at Lone Star College System but are the very core of its mission.
To better align the many ongoing student success and completion programs throughout the Lone Star College System, the Office of Completion was created in 2012. This office is tasked with providing strategic and tactical oversight for all completion-related functions across LSCS and with leading the development of a comprehensive student success and completion agenda.
Under the direction of the Office of Completion and working hand in hand with the Office of Student Success and the Office of Academic Affairs, the Lone Star College completion plan was finalized and approved by the college’s Executive Council.
The plan brings together: Texas Completes, Achieving the Dream, Best Start and My Degree Counts, among other programs.

Texas Completes
Lone Star College System is the managing partner of the Texas Completes effort—a unique opportunity to bring together a network of colleges to help turn the tide on the “achievement gap.”
The group, which includes Alamo Community College District, Dallas County Community College District, El Paso Community College, and South Texas College, educates nearly 300,000 students, a third of the state’s community college students. The work of this group has identified three priority change areas that the group will work together to implement:
• revising curriculum to swiftly get students into programs of study, streamline time to degree, and facilitate transfer to four-year institutions;
• creating a comprehensive student advising and management system that ensures students a strong start and consistent feedback along each step of their way through college; and
• restructuring developmental education to reduce time spent in pre-collegiate coursework.
For the past year, the Texas Completes cadre members have been working hard to build student success frameworks, analyze data, and organize colleges around student success and completion. The group will provide the state of Texas with an example of how the Texas Completes model could be implemented around the nation to help more students stay on track with a clear path to both associate and bachelor’s degrees.

Achieving the Dream
Lone Star College System was one of 14 institutions designated as a 2012 Leader College in the national student completion movement by Achieving the Dream (AID), a national nonprofit leading the nation’s most comprehensive non-governmental reform network for community college student success and completion.
Each of the 14 colleges approaches student success differently, but with the guidance of the model and AID coaches, these colleges have implemented programs and policies that build long-term, institution-wide commitment to student success. Examples include: college readiness programs, mandatory new student orientation, student success courses, developmental course redesign, curriculum redesign, and intensive and individualized advising.
The AID model ties in closely with the Texas Completes effort as well.
LSC celebrates 40 years of helping students

With fanfare at its five colleges five years ago, Lone Star College System became the new name for the North Harris Montgomery Community College District, which also had its beginning 40 years ago, in 1973.

The college, founded as North Harris County College, opened its doors for classes in the fall of 1973 with 613 students. The classes were initially held at Aldine High School until a permanent facility could be built.

Fast forward 40 years and Lone Star College System has grown to six colleges, multiple centers and two University Centers with 78,000 credit students and a total of more than 90,000 students.

LSCS is now the largest institution of higher education in the Houston area and the fastest-growing community college system in the nation.

“Lone Star College System owes much gratitude to those in our community who realized the need for top-quality higher education in north Harris and Montgomery counties, and worked to make it a reality,” said Dr. Richard Carpenter, LSCS chancellor. “Over the years, LSCS has helped thousands of young people achieve their goals for an education and entry into the skilled workforce.”

The name change for the college system came after months of deliberation and a polling process that included input from more than 5,000 participants from the community. The board of trustees voted unanimously to change the name to Lone Star College System, which was the overwhelmingly favorite choice among those who participated.

In a recently-conducted market research study, community awareness of Lone Star College System was extremely high with nearly 80 percent of residents in the Houston region having top of mind awareness of LSCS. The study also revealed that almost all the residents polled – 96 percent – said that they felt LSCS was valuable to their community.

Investing in LSCS is a good investment – taxpayers see a return of $2.30 for every dollar invested in LSCS. The investment is strengthened through sound fiscal management by LSCS, one of the few colleges in the country that is able to maintain an AAA bond rating from Standard and Poor’s. The college system also adds $1.1 billion to the regional economy each year through increased earnings for students and improved workforce productivity for area employers.

“Lone Star College System has open doors for those wanting to better themselves through education, whether it’s an associate degree, classes for transferring to a four-year university or obtaining workforce credentials,” said Dr. Carpenter.

“Today, just as we were 40 years ago, Lone Star College System remains committed to student success and credential completion, our number one mission,” Dr. Carpenter said.
Lone Star College System is the number one choice for students in the greater Houston area – more than 78,000 credit students and a total of 90,000 students choose LSCS for their educational needs.

By 2018, 63 percent of all jobs will require post-secondary degrees or training and students are turning to community colleges like LSCS more and more to help them get a jump start into the workforce. Recent statistics show that 78 percent of all those in Texas who complete a bachelor’s degree once attended a community college like LSCS.

There has never been a better time for a student to start on his/her education at LSCS, which provides credit and certificate programs to train students for a lasting career, not just a job. Career opportunities are offered in high-demand fields like healthcare, energy and manufacturing, business and professional, and more.

Studies reveal that associate degree holders earn, on average, $15,700 more per year than a person with only a high school diploma. And attending LSCS is affordable – students are able to take a full course load for only $704 a semester, which is about 1/5 the tuition of most four-year universities and a good investment.

LSCS is also a good investment for local taxpayers – for every dollar invested in LSCS, taxpayers see a $2.30 return on investment.

In addition, LSCS is a major contributor to the economy in the Houston region by adding $1.1 billion annually through increased earnings for students and improved workforce productivity for employers.

These same companies are choosing LSCS to help train its workers – Lone Star Corporate College offers relevant, customized training solutions to create a highly-skilled workforce, especially in the energy and manufacturing sectors.

With six campuses, five centers, two university centers, Lone Star Corporate College and LSC Online, LSCS is affordable, convenient and accessible, and is meeting the needs of students and the community alike, and setting students on the path to financial success.

**Average Earnings in Texas**

- Bachelor’s degree: $70,000
- Associate degree: $60,000
- High School: $50,000
- No diploma: $40,000
- Jobs in Texas: $30,000
- Jobs in Texas: $20,000
- Jobs in Texas: $10,000
- Jobs in Texas: $0

**FALL 1990**

- 15,817 credit students
- Dr. John E. Pickelman becomes second Chancellor of NHMCCD.

**DECEMBER 1992**

- Montgomery College Conroe Center opens.
- The district’s name is changed to North Harris Montgomery Community College District (NHMCCD) to reflect expansion into Montgomery County and the campuses of NHMCCD are renamed as North Harris, Kingwood and Tomball Colleges.

**1981–1982**

- W.W. Thorne retires as NHCC’s first president and Dr. Joe Airola becomes second president of NHCC.

**1981–1982**

- New Caney and Tomball ISDs join college district.

**1982**

- January 1984: Dr. Joe Airola becomes first Chancellor of North Harris County College District.

**1983**

- Voters approve $57.6 million in bonds.

**1984**

- NHCC Tomball Campus (Tomball College) opens and Dr. Roy Lazenby becomes first president.

**1988**

- NHCC East Campus (Kingwood College) opens and Lester Burks is named first president.

**1990**

- Conroe ISD votes to join college district.

**1991**

- Dr. John E. Pickelman becomes second Chancellor of NHMCCD.
LSC Foundation supports students, academic programs

Each year, the Lone Star College Foundation’s Chancellor’s Breakfast highlights donors who helped award more than $1 million in student scholarships and support of academic programs.

Also, each year the breakfast attendees are inspired as student scholarship winners read their essays and tell their stories. Each winner, one from each college, receives a $1,000 scholarship. This year at the 20th annual breakfast, a 2008 graduate of LSCS also returned to tell the group how much her education has changed her life.

The 2013 six student essay winners were: Thao Tran, LSC-CyFair; Ashley Trunbow, LSC-Kingwood; Sharon Johnson, LSC-Montgomery; Princess Villalta, LSC-North Harris; Alexandra Smith, LSC-Tomball; and Felix Ruiz, LSC-University Park.

Below are some excerpts from the winners, who wrote about how Lone Star College has influenced their lives.

Thao Tran, LSC-CyFair
“Lone Star College has opened my eyes to a New World. It has shaped me to become a better person, a leader in the making… I am truly thankful for all the great experiences and all the wonderful people I have been lucky enough to encounter at Lone Star College.”

Ashley Trunbow, LSC-Kingwood
“Not only has Lone Star College influenced my life, but it also changed it. I will now never have the pain of not seeing my children because I work several shifts a day. I now am an educated, intelligent and strong woman.”

Sharon Johnson, LSC-Montgomery
“My Lone Star College experience has truly had an unbelievable impact on my life. Before attending, I never thought I could have a career. I assumed I would work at a dead end job for minimum pay for the rest of my life. … Because of Lone Star College I now have goals, ambitions, and a bright future.”

Princess Villalta, LSC-North Harris
“Thanks to Lone Star College, not only do I get to say that I am the first in my family to graduate from high school, but now, I can say I am the first in my family to go to college. … Thanks

Essay Winners, continued on page 11
It was the middle of the night, but there was no mistaking the orange glow coming from inside a house in southeast Houston. The call had come in to Station 18 at 1 a.m.; on the crew was Casey Hershey, a 21-year-old rookie.

It looked like a single dwelling, but once the crew got inside, they realized an inner wall had been erected to bisect the house into two dwellings. That changed the way they had to fight the fire. Hershey was “on the nozzle,” in control of the water pulsating through the hose.

“It was the first time I got to prove myself to the crew,” Hershey said. “It was an adrenalin rush.”

The rookie and his fellow firefighters had the blaze extinguished approximately 30 minutes later.

“Everything felt repetitive,” Hershey said. “That’s how you train. You train on the same things over and over again until it becomes second nature.”

Hershey’s training began when he was a 16-year-old volunteer firefighter at the Spring Fire Department, but his formal training began at the Lone Star College-Montgomery fire academy.

“We trained physically, we trained mentally,” Hershey said. “They pushed us to our limits to show us what we can encounter in the real world.”

By the time Hershey left the academy with a structural firefighting certificate he was a fully-certified firefighter and emergency medical technician. He was able to hit the ground running, first with South Montgomery County Fire Department and now with the Houston Fire Department.

At his Houston Fire Department graduation ceremony, Casey Hershey receives his badge from his father, Brannon Hershey, who is also a firefighter.

formal training began at the Lone Star College-Montgomery fire academy.

“We trained physically, we trained mentally,” Hershey said. “They pushed us to our limits to show us what we can encounter in the real world.”

By the time Hershey left the academy with a structural firefighting certificate he was a fully-certified firefighter and emergency medical technician. He was able to hit the ground running, first with South Montgomery County Fire Department and now with the Houston Fire Department.

Firefighter, continued on page 11

Two-Year Colleges Train 84% of All First Responders
The mind of a graduating high school student spins with questions beyond who to take to prom. Where should I go to college? Can I afford it? Where will I live? What happens next?

Nick Brown already had some answers. He knew he wanted to live at home, he knew what he wanted to be when he grew up, he knew he could afford it – if he launched his college career at a community-based institution.

Brown opted for Lone Star College-Tomball. It had all the comforts of home, but with the full collegiate experience.

“Their vision and perseverance to provide that experience is great, and the Lone Star system is vibrant,” Brown said.

In Texas, 78 percent of students completing degrees at four-year institutions were previously enrolled at a two-year institution like Lone Star College System. According to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, this is well above the national average of 45 percent.

Brown said that he understands transfer students still reach the same life goals as a four-year university student but with a more intact wallet. Not only is community college tuition a fraction of university tuition, it is close to home – many students can live at home with their parents while attending Lone Star College.

“Why not take advantage of what you have right in your own backyard?” Brown said. “It’s definitely worth it.”

Brown’s one year at LSC-Tomball, combined with credits earned from Advanced Placement courses in high school, earned him two years of credit at University of Houston, where Brown, now 20, is currently a senior in the honors college. He’s majoring in political science with a minor in politics and ethics and is on track to graduate in May.

Brown intends to ride his academic high straight to law school before embarking on a career in public service. For LSC-Tomball, that means mission accomplished.

“Preparing students to continue their higher education is an essential element of our mission,” said Lee Ann Nutt, vice president of instruction at LSC-Tomball. “To see that fulfilled is incredibly rewarding.”

LSC students also successfully transfer to many other well-known schools like Harvard University, Rice University, Auburn, Cornell, Duke, MIT and Vanderbilt to name a few.

Report based on Lone Star College System students from Academic Year 2010–2011 that enrolled in 4-Year Institutions of Higher Education in Fall 2011.
University Centers offer easy access to bachelor’s degree

Student success—students completing their educational goals—is a core value for Lone Star College System.

In addition to associate degrees and certifications in career and technical education, Lone Star College opens doors for its students who want to continue with their education and obtain a four-year degree and more.

Through partnerships with four-year universities, the two Lone Star College University Centers offer easy access and transfer on site, and students do not have to travel to the parent university to complete a bachelor’s degree.

It’s called the 2+2 program – students complete two years at Lone Star College and obtain an associate degree, then transfer to one of the university partners that have operations on site to complete two more years for their bachelor’s degree.

Lone Star College university partners include: Our Lady of the Lake University, Sam Houston State University, Texas A&M University, Texas Southern University, University of Houston, University of Houston-Downtown, University of Houston-Victoria and University of St. Thomas.

Transferring to a four-year college has never been easier than at the LSC-University Center at Montgomery and the LSC-University Center at University Park!

For more information, visit LoneStar.edu/university-center.

LSC is Veteran-Friendly

Lone Star College was named to the 2012 Military Friendly School list by the G.I. Jobs Military Friendly Schools® team and to the 2012 “25 Colleges with Incredible Veteran Support” list by Best Colleges Online.

In addition, LSC is participating in the College Credit for Heroes program, launched by Gov. Rick Perry last July, which seeks to maximize college credits awarded to active military members and veterans for their military experience. The program has developed streamlined degree paths and workforce certificates for veterans to expedite their transition into the Texas workforce.
Quick Facts
about Lone Star College System

- Taxpayers see $2.30 ROI for every dollar invested in LSCS.
- LSCS has added 30,000 students in the last 5 years, a 58 percent increase.
- LSCS now has 78,000 students enrolled in credit classes, and a total of 90,000 students including non-credit and continuing education.
- LSCS is the fastest-growing community college system in the nation.
- LSCS is the largest institution of higher education in Houston.
- Each year, LSCS adds $1.1 billion to the Houston economy through increased student earnings and employer workforce productivity.
- 78 percent of bachelor’s degree completers in Texas attended a 2-year institution like LSCS.
- LSCS is a primary provider of nurses and first responders in the area; 60 percent of nurses and 84 percent of first responders are trained at a community college like LSCS.
- LSCS is celebrating 40 years of student success and credential completion in 2013.