Spring 2019 Newsletter

And the Award Goes to...2019 LSC Grant Summit!!!

The Fourth Annual LSC Grant Summit was “sold out” in two days. Val Dassey and Christina Wood of OGC, Scott Stallman and Cory Colby of LSC-Tomball, David Grebe, Terrie Wheeler and Beth Thompson all earned Academy Award nominations for their roles in “Who’s on First, Grants Style,” an amusing skit illustrating what could happen without rules and procedures guiding grants. A reprise of the grantor panel featured LSC Foundation Executive Director Nicole Robinson-Gauthier and Robert Andrade of TWC provided participants with practical suggestions from funders. Participants chose from 10 breakout sessions. RDA offers special thanks to the LSC Office of General Counsel, Rand Key, Grants Accounting and the LSC Foundation for partnering with us to bring you the best Grant Summit yet. The staff of Marketing and Communications, Conference Center, and the printing office at LSC-Tomball all earned nominations for Best Support of an LSC Feature Presentation. One LSC! Please join us next year to expand your grant knowledge.

LSC Personnel Serving as Grant Reviewers

Many funding agencies require independent reviewers to review submitted grant proposals. Reviewers are accepted based on their area of expertise and experience. The process of reviewing grants is not only helpful for the funding agency but is also a great resource for increasing your knowledge of specific grants. Becoming a grant reviewer provides valuable insight of the funder’s expectations and is a great way to learn how funders determine which grant proposals will be awarded. Several LSC personnel have gained this knowledge first hand by reviewing grants for agencies such as the National Science Foundation and the Texas Education Agency. Pamela Auburn, Brian Shmaefsky and Fay Lee recently shared their grant reviewing experience. During the 2019 LSC Grant Summit, they explained how the process also served as a way to advocate for community colleges and helped them develop important connections with funders and colleagues.
LSC-TOMBALL “CLASS” Celebrates New Headquarters

The LSC-Tomball Center for Leadership, Academic and Student Success (CLASS) helps students, faculty and staff through various programs that engage, develop and promote student success. CLASS was created with the financial support of a Hispanic Serving Institution Grant provided by the Department of Education in 2016.

LSC-Tomball proudly opened the new CLASS headquarters in February 2019. The Center includes ample space designed to promote student engagement with CLASS’s support teams in learning sessions, in working together and gaining the inspiration to succeed in college. The Center also provides non-academic needs such as food support through “The Den,” formally known as the CLASS food pantry. CLASS also extends needed support to students’ families through programs such as the Family Academy and Family Summit. RDA congratulates CLASS on a successful start at helping students find their way toward a successful tomorrow.

Food Scholarships, A New Concept for Student Success

The Houston Food Bank is funding $312,000 in Food Scholarships at LSC-North Harris. The program will offer up to 60 lbs. of food, twice a month, to participating students. The average student will receive about $200 in groceries each month. Beginning in fall 2019, food will be distributed to 150 students via the Food Bank’s mobile truck. These Food Scholarships will help students in need to feed themselves and their families.

In return for the assistance, students must be enrolled at LSC-North Harris and maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (including a minimum GPA of 2.0). Led by Associate Professor of History Alana Aleman, the college hopes to remove at least one of the many obstacles low-income students face when they try to educate themselves and improve their lives.

The Food Scholarship program will operate separately from a food pantry currently under development at the LSC-North Harris. Food security is consistently identified as a barrier to student completion across community colleges.

LSC-CyFair Responds to HB 2223 with Active Learning Design for Math Project

The Texas HB 2223 mandate of a co-requisite model for students in developmental education has created opportunities for improvement in developmental education. LSC-CyFair seized this opportunity through a grant from the Steelcase Foundation to create an active learning classroom for co-requisite math courses. The Steelcase Foundation is providing $67,000 in furniture, technology and technical support for the classroom. LSC-CyFair requested a flexible classroom design due to the multitude of shared group and individual spaces to support the diverse learning needs of co-requisite math students. The idea is that moving students from developmental studies to college readiness is not only created through course redesign but must also be supported by the physical reconfiguration of an active learning environment that fully supports engaged learning. Dean Claire Phillips and Project Director Preeti Singh will implement the project and evaluate the impact on student success and faculty and student engagement.
RDA Welcomes Jennifer Trice

Please welcome LSC’s newest Grant Developer, Jennifer Trice. Her primary assignments are workforce-focused grants and Corporate College. Jennifer comes to us with experience and training in grant writing. She holds a Master in Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction and Bachelor degrees in Elementary Education and Psychology. Jennifer has worked in educational settings in Canada, Japan, the United Arab Emirates and the United States.

LSC Receives Three Summer Merit Program Grants

Lone Star College received three awards in the Governor’s Summer Merit Program competition for our Tomball, North Harris, and Montgomery campuses totaling $85,565.00. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) awards grants to Texas universities and community colleges for summer youth camps that focus on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) related careers.

The Governor’s Summer Merit Program aims to inspire Texas youth to pursue STEM-related careers. The camps will introduce students to one or more of six industry clusters: advanced technologies and manufacturing, aerospace and defense, biotechnology and life sciences, information and computer technology, petroleum refining and chemical products, and energy.

Lone Star College Summer Merit grants will provide the opportunity for 90 students between the ages of 14 and 21 to attend camps that will prepare them for future high-skill, high-demand jobs. Lone Star College summer programs will focus on science, technology, engineering, and math during the months of June, July and August.

New Awards

Please congratulate the recipients of these and all recent awards:

CyFair, Kingwood, Montgomery, North Harris, Tomball and University Park Campuses were all awarded Title III/V Eligibility
LSC-CyFair, Steelcase Foundation Active Learning Center, $67,000
LSC-DEER, Metallica Scholars Initiative, $100,000
LSC-Kingwood, ExxonMobil Community College Petrochemical Initiative, $5000
LSC-North Harris, Mathematics Association of America, $5500
LSC-North Harris, Food for Change Food Scholarship Program, $312,000
LSC-Tomball, Banfield Foundation, $12,899
LSC-Tomball, Ask About Meningitis, $27,000
LSC-Tomball, Camp Code for Girls, $28,520
LSC-Tomball, Nursing Program Support, $83,782

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