My Story, the LIT Story, & the American Dream

Lamar Institute of Technology
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Defining the American Dream

What is It?
…the notion that every US citizen has the same opportunity to achieve success & prosperity (by hard work, determination, and initiative).

by Google
The **American Dream**

**Family Defined It...**

*In Blood: 4-Brothers; 3-Served; 1-Didn’t Make it Back.*

**Mother Defined...**

“It Doesn’t Matter Where You Start From; the Important Thing, Is Where You Finish.”

**I Define...**

“With Hard Work, Integrity, and Education, Anyone can Achieve some Measure of the Success.”
American Dream (My Story)

**Then:**
- Born in a Wooden Shack.
- Military (signed-up at 17-yrs.).
- Worked as a Janitor.
- Ate ½ Can Sweet Peas.

**Now:**
- No AAS Degree Until Age 36.
- Trained at the finest Universities.
- 2x a College President.
- Adopted a Son (PhD student).
American Dream (My Story/LIT Story)

‘Skills Training’ It’s in Both Our DNA

March 21, 2017; Dr. Howard welding final ceremonial bead of the new building
American Dream (LIT Story)

Students (How They Come to Us)

- Since My Arrival (July 2016). 13,599 Students Walked thru Our Doors!!!
- Enrollment. **Up 10.3%** and 6,714 (2017).
- Not Academically Prepared. 65% Deficient in either Math, Reading, or Writing.
- Diversity. 1st Generation, Women, and of Color.
- Age Doesn’t Matter. 14 Yrs. (ICIA) - 60 Yrs. Old.
American Dream at LIT

Students (How Leave Us)

- Employment Ready. LIT Guarantee. Students will be Job-Ready or Retrained for Free.

- $$$ Great Salaries. LIT is #1 (TX)/#10 (US) for the Highest Student Salaries (92% Job Placement Rate).

- Earn up to $80,000 for AAS in Process Technology.

- Know Various Skills. 58 Assoc. Degrees & Certificates.
American Dream (LIT Story)

JOBS!!!

$34.5B of Planned Industrial Expansion for this Region

4-Year Degree
My “Vision” for LIT’s Future

10 IN 10
TEN THOUSAND STUDENTS IN TEN YEARS

Hurricane Harvey

Help Families & Expand the Middle Class

SEAL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
Questions

Answers

Thank You!