

LAMAR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 4, Richard McAnally

Feb. 5, Cheryl Talbert

Feb. 6, Brian Parrack

Feb. 9, Linda Stoudemayer

Feb. 10, David Block

Feb. 12, Steven Joiner

Feb. 13, Lauren Case

Feb. 15, Rita McClelland

Feb. 16, Pablo Rodriguez

Feb. 17, Chris Elliott

Feb. 20, Renee Sandusky

Feb. 23, Ken Mason

Feb. 24, Cathy Falb

Feb. 25, Julie Pitts

Feb. 27, Byron Prince

Feb. 28, Nola Gaus

THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019

VOL. 2 • ISSUE 2

Dr. Howard gives Vision 2020 Report to Chancellor

As a proud member institution, Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) is committed to supporting all of the goals of the Texas State University System. To this end, the Chancellor's Report discusses four "Plans" (Access, Success, Excellence, and Efficiency) to achieve Vision 2020.

While LIT still needs to "pick-up the pace" in certain areas, the May 2018 Progress Report revealed that of the 36 '2-Yr. Progress to Targets' listed, our faculty and staff have made either some progress (yellow circle), on-track (green circle), or have achieved (green checkmark) 31 (86%) of these performance measures (with two years remaining).

Why is LIT having this type of success? We began immediately and got our employees involved. Friday, August 19, 2016, the Chancellor previewed the Vision 2020 presentation and the following Monday, August 22, 2016, we started developing strategies to mobilize and involve all (full-time and part-time) faculty and staff in a very meaningful way. Thus, the LIT Shared Vision was created with three (3) new college goals to better align with 10-in-10 (10,000 students enrolled by 2028), Vision 2020, and 60x30TX.

Vision 2020 - Progress Report Lamar Institute of Technology	2016 Baseline	2018 Report	2yr Progress to Target	Annual C M %
SUCCESS				
Degrees & Certificates				
Total Degrees & Certificates	511	704	✓	0.0%
Certificate I's	135	201	✓	0.0%
Certificate II's	7	16	✓	0.0%
Associate Degrees	369	487	✓	0.0%
Hispanic Degrees & Certificates	51	128	✓	0.0%
African-American Degrees & Certificates	102	130	✓	0.0%
STEM/Key Fields Degrees	164	184	✓	0.0%
Allied Health Degrees & Certificates	106	121	●	3.6%
Adult Learner Degrees & Certificates	138	273	✓	0.0%
Reverse Transfer Degrees	0	0		
Economically Disadvantaged Degrees & Certs	240	313	●	4.3%
6-Year Graduation Rate				
Total	27.0%	21.8%	●	28.1%
3-Year Graduation Rate				
Total	21.5%	24.4%	●	4.2%
1-Year Persistence Rate				
Any Institution	56.3%	62.5%	●	0.2%

The Institute has made a commitment to achieving Vision 2020 goals in Access, Success, Excellence, and Efficiency.

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Area faculty gather for NISOD regional workshop

LIT hosted Galveston College, San Jacinto College, Sowela Technical Community College, Angelina College, Lamar State College-Orange, Lamar State College-Port Arthur and Lamar University at the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) regional workshop in January. The prestigious organization chooses top institutions each year to hold its regional meetings.

Speaker Cyndee G. Kawalek discussed faculty maximizing student engagement and their instructional time by using Student Engagement and Motivation (SEAM) Training's four pillars. Each pillar provides educators with various strategies to engage students.

(For a related NISOD story, please see Pg. 2).



Speaker Cyndee G. Kawalek discussed faculty members maximizing student engagement.



Educators from across the region, including LIT faculty, attend the NISOD regional workshop.

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Dr. Angela Hill shares conversation and donuts with students during Welcome Week.

Spring 2019 Welcome Week provides fellowship and fun

A flurry of food, freebies and fun activities for the week of January 14-17 were planned and presented by the Student Government Association (SGA). Monday opened with snacks, prizes and an introduction to the SGA.

Newly appointed Dean of Students, Dr. Angela Hill shared conversations and hosted Donuts with the Dean on Tuesday. Wednesday brought more freebies. The week's events concluded with Stay Chill, a snow cone giveaway.



Marketing Moment: February 2019

Metrics show that during our Spring 2018 campaign, the marketing department brought in a total of 5,756 sessions from digital marketing campaigns. A session is a period of time in which a user is actively engaged in our website. Each session counts as a potential student. Of the 5,756 sessions, 4,141 were new users or first-time visitors to our page.

Students can win \$1,000 and other prizes in two NISOD contests



Students of schools affiliated with NISOD have the chance to win cash and prizes in its Scott Wright Student Essay Contest or Graphic Design Competition.

For the essay contest, students must explain how a faculty member, staff member or administrator encouraged them to complete a course, finish a semester or graduate from college and how it helped them reach their goal(s). Interested students can be directed to: nisod.org/membership/student-essay-contest.

In the graphics challenge, students will be competing to design the official program cover for NISOD's 2020 International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence, where community and technical college administrators and staff discuss effective educational practice. The graphic design contest link is here: nisod.org/membership/student-graphic-design-contest.

If you know any students who might be interested, please encourage them to apply. Hurry though; the deadline is February 28.

February 2019 Employee of the Month is Sha'Nelle Lawson



STEP/QEP Coordinator Sha'Nelle Lawson.

STEP/QEP Coordinator Sha'Nelle Lawson earned the February 2019 Employee of the Month award after working countless hours to help get faculty trained using Starfish for academic advising.

Her efforts directly correlate with our TSUS Vision 2020 Access Goals, reducing the obstacles students face in getting the right classes. Dr. Miranda Phillips, Dean of Strategic & Workforce Initiatives nominated Lawson after witnessing her meet one-on-one with faculty to help them work through technical issues.

"Sha'Nelle truly goes above and beyond to assist our faculty, staff and students," Phillips said. "She's a true asset to our family."

Middle school students gather for JASON Project

Through the JASON Project, middle school students from Jefferson, Hardin and Orange counties congregated at Lamar University, learning how a crime scene works, the benefits of attending the college, and various programs and careers available to them.

Presenters were: Public Service and Safety Instructors, Dennis White and Dr. Tom Noyola, Process Operating Technology Instructor Dr. Valerie Worry, and Criminal Justice students Katlyn Jimenez and Francisco Huerta.



Dr. Noyola, students Katlyn Jimenez and Francisco Huerta smile with faculty member Dennis White.



Dennis White shares his experience with area middle school students.

LIT “Health Warriors” kick off 11th year in Relay For Life cancer event with painting fundraiser

Cancer does not stand a chance if our teams have their way. College students, staff and faculty are contributing their time, efforts, resources and proceeds towards this year’s American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life.

Applied Sciences Instructor and local artist Stephanie Lanoue, as a member of the Hardin South/Jasper team “Health Warriors,” kicked off fundraising by teaching a painting class, “Poppy Love” (acrylic on canvas), on Saturday, February 2. The team is headed by Radiologic Technology Program Director Brenda Barrow. Hardin County’s Relay For Life is Friday, March 29, from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Silsbee High School Stadium.

In Jefferson County, the “Up for a Cause” team is headed by two department chairs. Business Technologies Department Chair Lauri Arnold-Calder started the team six years ago. General Education and Developmental Studies Chair Dawn Katz has participated for four years. The Jefferson County event, “Small Town, Big Fight,” is slated for April 27 on Boston Avenue in Nederland.

The co-captains want to raise awareness on campus with a candy sale, a student relay day and collaborative events with area businesses, Arnold-Calder said. Last year the group raised \$1,290 of the county’s total of \$350,000, which is the largest Relay For Life fundraiser in Texas. Arnold-Calder said it was also named one of the Top 5 Nationwide Per Capita Income events for 2018.

JOIN US!
SAT., APRIL 27, 2019
12 P.M. - 10 P.M.
BOSTON AVE.
NEDERLAND, TX

The money raised through Relay For Life events helps realize the American Cancer Society's mission to save lives, celebrate life, and lead the fight for a world without cancer.

Donations are used to fund life-saving cancer research, patient support services, prevention and education information, and detection and treatment programs.

REGISTER AND JOIN US!
<https://bit.ly/2CdbXr1>

NEED MORE INFORMATION? CONTACT US!
Lauri Arnold-Calder, Co-Captain, ldarnold@lit.edu
Dawn Katz, Co-Captain, dakatz@lit.edu

Visit the link to register bit.ly/2CdbXr1

Dr. Howard & Police Academy graduate appear on 12 News

Did you miss a recent 12 News story about Beaumont’s ethane export terminal bringing 5,000 construction and production jobs to our area? Dr. Howard shared insight into how the college graduates career-ready individuals.

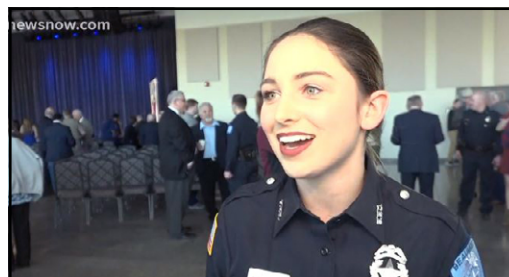
According to 12 News Now, Martin Midstream, American Ethane and several other companies announced a \$1.5 billion terminal will be built during the next three years, which is expected to bring thousands of jobs to Beaumont.

LIT students will benefit also, the station said. The story quoted Dr. Howard as being confident that recent graduates are well-prepared to fill these new positions. “Our students are trained by individuals who are professionals in related industries,” he told Channel 12. Catch the story here: bit.ly/2RGYmCq.

Earlier in January, Channel 12 reported about one of LIT’s newest Police Academy graduates, Sheena Yarbrough. She was one of 11 cadets sworn into the Beaumont Police Department. Yarbrough also holds a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice. The story is here: bit.ly/2DTuWNI.



Dr. Howard provides workforce expertise to 12 News.



LIT’s Police Academy graduate Sheena Yarbrough at the BPD swearing in.

THE PRESIDENT’S NEWSLETTER



Regional Police Academy hosts free training series on campus

The Police Academy, in its ongoing in-service training for Spring 2019, offered the following courses in January for Southeast Texas law enforcement members: Mental Health Officer Training Course # 4001, AR-15 Armorer’s Course, and Sports Events and Risk Management.

Credit hours range from four to 40. Training is held in the Multi-Purpose Center—downstairs in the Conference Room and upstairs in the In-Service Classroom No. 262 and the Cadet Classroom No. 252.

If you have any questions about upcoming training or to register, contact the Regional Police Academy at 409-880-8022 or email policeacademy@lit.edu. Please include the name, DOB, and PID number of each attendee. Officers and employees of law enforcement agencies in the COG (South East Texas Regional Planning Commission) area are given preference for admission. Officers from other agencies may be admitted if space permits. TCOLE requires that students attend all training to receive credit for any course.

Do you want coverage of your event or have a story you would like to see in the newsletter?

Contact Chris at celliott@lit.edu or Rhonda at rmitchell@lit.edu.

CAMPUS



Public Speaking students gather donations for employees hurt by the government shutdown.



GEDS Department Chair Dawn Katz examines NISOD presentation points.



Donna Burnside and students collected two truckloads of donations for families in need.

Faculty members raise “one of the largest single donations” for Golden Triangle Chapter of CPOA

Thanks to a momentous effort by Public Speaking Instructor Donna Burnside, two-and-a-half truckloads of items were collected and donated in January for furloughed federal workers.

The donation, through the Golden Triangle Chapter, Chief Petty Officers Association (CPOA), a nonprofit organization, is “one of the largest single donations at any given time from one specific organization,” said Christie Hamilton, Command Senior Chief for the Marine Safety Unit of the CPOA - Port Arthur.

Burnside enlisted the help of her students and three other faculty members: Johnny Pousson from Computer Drafting Technology, Stanley Spooner in Technology and Jerry Campbell from Advanced Engine Technology.

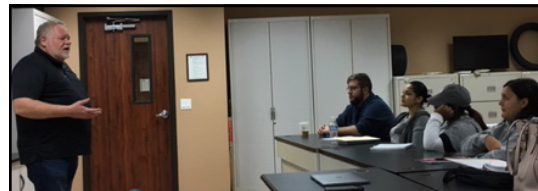
She began the civic engagement project for her students with a collection drop box. After she reached out to Sam’s Club in Beaumont, her apartment complex in Nederland and Nederland Church of Christ, interest in the project mushroomed. Sam’s Club donated water, detergent and paper towels. Burnside and her class collected other donations outside the retailer.



NISOD keynote speaker Cyndee G. Kawalek presents on how faculty can maximize student engagement.



SETEX Construction Corp. makes headway on Eagles’ Nest for Student Success with roof deck installation.



Michael Conner, Executive Director of the Dream Center Gulf Coast speaks to Vice Narcotics class.

Featured photo from the President’s Wall



Nicole Mitchell’s dog, Mr. Deeds shows off his patriotism in his American flag gear.



If you would like your pics placed on the President’s Wall send selfies, cute pet moments and photos from your unique vacations.

Thanks for all you do!