

The Luna Light



*“The People’s College”
Becoming The Premier Rural Community College in America*

Volume 5 Issue 34

August 27-September 2, 2012

Focusing on a culture of completion



Phi Theta Kappa Executive Director Dr. Rod Risley speaks to students and staff last Friday at LCC.

By Jesse Gallegos

Last Friday, I along with several other Luna Community College students and employees, had the opportunity to attend a seminar led by Phi Theta Kappa

Executive Director Dr. Rod Risley. Risley, by the way, has headed this organization since 1985.

His talk was focused on the importance of community colleges doing everything they possibly can to make sure that students complete their education and are able to enter the workforce or go on to a four-year institution.

Although he had many interesting insights on why many students don't complete their degree or certification program, one in particular stuck with me.

I am paraphrasing his statements. Dr. Risley said that sometimes the simple things that colleges do or don't do makes a dramatic impact on students—especially new students. Something as simple as an instructor not talking to a student when they meet up with one another in a hallway can be a deterrent. Basic simple human goodness does count after all.

Many students are intimidated by being in a higher education setting and

little things to us could very well be big things to them.

He emphasized that community colleges need to push more into moving toward a culture that provides support. And support could mean anything from a classroom setting being comfortable to the college making sure a student has proper resources.

Here at LCC, the college has grown in filling the gaps to help students succeed—many of our programs are nationally accredited, making these programs stronger. With that, the college has improved in its outreach, collaboration and articulation agreements.

In addition to this, the college has been working diligently on a strategic plan.

“LCC is planning many changes that will improve the graduation rate,” says LCC Director of Institutional Research and Development and Effectiveness John Tiernan.

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Several Pecos High School students walk around campus on Tuesday, Aug. 21. Many Pecos High students are taking dual credit classes at Luna Community College. Pictured (l-r) Joshua Gomez, Alfonso Martinez, Ramiro Esparza, Devin Varela, Emilio Dimas and Manuel Griego.

Completion...

Continued from page 1

“The new LCC strategic plan (in development) has many objectives specifically geared toward maintaining high levels of student satisfaction and providing quality education. The majority of strategic objectives are geared toward improving the student experience at LCC and this will definitely have a positive impact on student graduation rates.”

LCC has joined many colleges across the nation in Phi Theta Kappa’s C4 Community College Completion Challenge initiative.

“We are all stakeholders in ensuring students are provided every opportunity and the support required to succeed in acquiring a certificate and/or associate degree,” says LCC faculty member and Phi Theta Kappa Advisor Cindy Armijo. “We are all affected by recruitment, retention and specifically, completion. I take supporting student completion personally and I challenge every LCC employee to actively and purposefully take it personally as well!”

“We are all stakeholders in ensuring students are provided every opportunity and the support required to succeed in acquiring a certificate and/or associate degree,”—LCC faculty member and Phi Theta Kappa Advisor Cindy Armijo.

Among Risley’s comments were:

- Students needs are different now than before.
 - Support needs to be very visible
 - Students have to be engaged outside the classroom.
 - Share frequent feedback with students
 - Students need validation such as good job or how is it going?
- The goal of the Completion Challenge is to increase graduates by 5 million by 2020.
- Risley said jobs are out there (600,000 jobs in manufacturing and 500,000

jobs in health care are unfilled).

With LCC continuing to move forward, our graduates will help fill some of this void.

Editors Note: Please see page 6 for an administrator, staff and faculty pledge provided by LCC’s Phi Theta Kappa.

Engaging the campus community

By Cindy Armijo

LCC Faculty/Phi Theta Kappa Advisor

Based on research findings showing a decline in American education where the United States dropped from No. 1 in the world to No. 17, along with the alarmingly high number of unfilled jobs requiring skilled and credentialed individuals, in 2010 President Obama initiated a White House Summit calling for increasing graduation rates by at least 50 percent by 2020. This spurred Phi Theta Kappa and five other prestigious higher education associations to jointly initiate “Democracy’s Colleges – Call to Action” and the College Completion Challenge, pledging to support community college completion.

As the largest and most active honor society in post-secondary education, the more than 1,280 Phi Theta Kappa chapters accepted the challenge to assist in college completion through the establishment of the C4 Community College Completion Corps. The C4 initia-

tive’s foundation is supported by the concept of students helping students. First, each honor student is asked to make a commitment to complete their certificate or associate degree. Next, honor students are asked to each reach out to help at least one other student complete

Since last November we have acquired more than 250 student signatures, demonstrating their commitment toward completion.

their credential by being a support system for that student, whether by serving as a mentor, by offering tutoring or by serving as a peer resource link to other needed services. Here at LCC, the Beta Mu Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa has held signing day events on several occasions since November, 2011. Chapter officers and members have provided students, faculty and staff with pertinent statistics and information highlighting the importance of college completion. Since last November, we

have acquired more than 250 student signatures, demonstrating their commitment toward completion.

Recently, we extended the challenge to administrators, faculty and staff to commit to support student completion. A pledge and banner to support student completion was unveiled during a presentation to faculty and staff held last Friday at the Allied Health Auditorium. The presenter, Executive Director of Phi Theta Kappa Dr. Rod Risley, visited LCC’s campus to discuss the imperative ne-

cessity for supporting C4 by establishing a culture of completion. Not only is our chapter asking students to make the commitment to graduate from LCC, but we are also asking the campus community to change the predominant culture from students having a right to fail, to providing requisite support and services to help students complete their community college credentials.

Continued on page 10

NEED HELP NAVIGATING YOUR ONLINE CLASSES?

Then you need to attend one of LCC's

Blackboard Student Trainings

- Monday, August 13, 2012
- Thursday, August 16, 2012
- Tuesday, August 21, 2012
- Wednesday, August 22, 2012
- Wednesday, August 29, 2012
- Thursday, August 30, 2012



All trainings will be held at 10:00am in the
Student Online Learning Lab

Student Services Building Room 204

For more information please call 505-454-5362

* Times and Dates subject to change due to weather conditions and/or work schedule changes.

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**Luna
Community
College**

Exercise & Wellness

Kickboxing and Step Combo

August 20 – December 7 (M-W)

12:00p – 12:50p

- Cardiovascular machines
- Cardio-conditioning equipment
- Free weights
- Boxing equipment
- Exercise balls
- Toning & abdominal equipment
- Wellness staff available

Last day to enroll, August 27th
(LCC Registrar's Office)

Regular Fees: \$ 41.00

Senior Fees: \$ 28.00

Wellness Center 505-425-8767

Registrar's Office 505-454-5314





Administrator, Faculty and Staff Pledge

As an administrator, faculty, or staff member of Luna Community College, I recognize and celebrate my role, working alongside my colleagues, in promoting and ensuring an educated citizenry and a globally competitive workforce. I affirm the need for a dramatic increase in the number of individuals earning postsecondary degrees and certifications to fulfill critical local, state, national and international goals. With the "completion agenda" as a global imperative, I have an obligation through my work to meet the challenge while holding firmly to traditional values of access, opportunity, and quality.

I Believe...

The student success and completion agenda is the future of community colleges.

In every student's potential and responsibility to succeed—and that an engaged student is more likely to persist in college.

The open door must not be a revolving door and that Luna Community College must take responsibility to create an environment that fosters student success.

That completion matters and that every student counts.

That community colleges serve as essential pathways to intellectual progress and economic prosperity for more than 13 million students.

That there are thousands of talented and committed people working "heart and soul" on the front lines of community colleges to increase student success and completion.

I Commit...

To a change in the community college culture, from an emphasis on access only to an emphasis on student success.

To eliminating the attainment gaps that separate student groups on the basis of race, ethnicity, and family income, while increasing success rates for all students.

To acting on facts and proven research to make positive changes in the interest of student success and college completion.

To providing and/or engaging in development opportunities focused on evidence-based educational practice to improve student learning, persistence, and completion.

To creating a positive learning environment, outlining clear objectives, holding high standards and implementing proven practices that encourage and promote engaged learning.

To reaching out to students by mentoring, encouraging, and guiding them toward college completion.

I Ask...

Everyone on my campus (trustees, administrators, faculty, academic advisors, financial aid officers, fiscal office staff, support staff, physical plant staff, security, ancillary programs staff members, student organizations, and students) to help examine current college practices, to identify ways to help students understand the added value of degrees and certifications, and to help them make progress toward their goals.

Every student to help one other student to succeed.

My students to commit, by attending class; being prepared; asking for help when needed; and engaging actively in discussion, assignments and projects with me and with other students, both in and out of class.

Other administrators, faculty, and staff members to joining me by signing and sharing this commitment and call to action.



Luna Community College

Community Education – Summer 2012

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

AUG 30, 2012 9:30am—12noon

Location: Raton High School

Instructor: Joe Rodman Cost: \$25 *



This workshop is about establishing positive relations with customers. Participants will learn there are several groups of people who should be considered customers. The purpose of this workshop is to focus on three key points: identifying customers, understanding responsibility to the customer, and assess strengths in customer relations and identifying areas to improve.

- *This workshop is free for current Colfax Workforce Development Center clients, dues-paying members of GrowRaton and Raton Chamber of Commerce will receive one free registration.*

To register for this class, call Joe Rodman @ 575-445-5445, 575-202-4235, or e-mail jrodman@onestopnmm.org



Luna Community College cosmetology students Tabitha Martinez, and Marcus Montaña along with LCC Cosmetology Instructor Germaine Sandoval display a welcome back cake last Monday. The LCC fall semester begin on Monday, Aug. 20 and will end on Friday, Dec. 7



Luna Community College Assistant Softball Coach Marco Aragon introduces his players during "Meet Your Rough Riders Day" on Tuesday. Pictured (l-r) are: Stephanie Rose, Nicole Rivera, Veronica Holloman, Shannon Taraddei, Denise Otero, Celeste Paez, Kayla Roberts, Savannah Miller, Mary Medina, Mercediz Bileen, Gabie Negreiros, Yadi Carrasco, Coach Meredith Gilpin, mascot baby Marco and Aragon.

Weekly activities

Monday, August 27, 2012

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. *Weight Training (Vo-Ag. Bldg.)*

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. *Public Safety Seminar/San Miguel Detention Center (LRC/Lecture Hall)*

5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. *DWI Class (General Studies/Room-102B)*

Tuesday, August 28, 2012

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. *Line Dancing (Vo.-Ag. Bldg.)*

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. *Public Safety Seminar/San Miguel Detention Center (LRC/Lecture Hall)*

Wednesday, August 29, 2012

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. *Public Safety Seminar/San Miguel Detention Center (LRC/Lecture Hall)* 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. *East Area*

Employee Meeting/Spons: Natural Resource Conservation Services (Student Services/Conf. Room)

Thursday, August 30, 2012

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. *Line Dancing (Vo.-Ag. Bldg.)*

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. *East Area Employee Meeting/Spons: Natural Resource Conservation Services (Student Services/Conf. Room)*

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. *Public Safety Seminar/San Miguel Detention Center (LRC/Lecture Hall)*

Friday, August 31, 2012

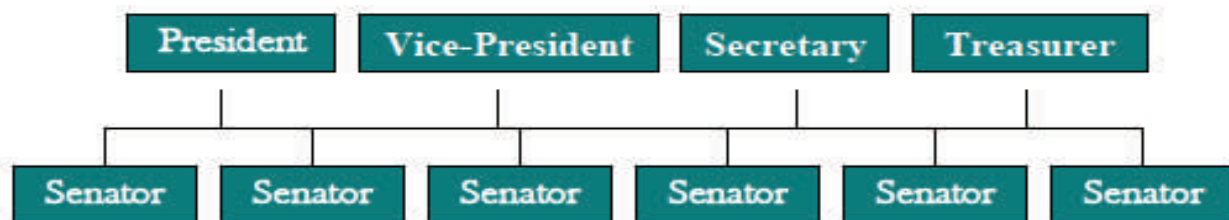
8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. *Weight Training (Vo-Ag. Bldg.)*

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. *Public Safety Seminar/San Miguel Detention Center (LCC Wellness Center)*

We want you!



You could be a student leader by serving on **your**
Luna Community College Student Government.



Petitions open Monday, September 10, 2012 and can be obtained from Student Government Advisor Denise Montoya in Tech-104 and must be returned by 5:00pm Thursday, September 13, 2012.

Elections will be held 9:00am-3:00pm on Friday, September 21, 2012 in the area outside of the President's Office in the Technologies Building.



CHILDREN'S ACTING WORKSHOP
**DRAMAREADERS, ART
 & GAMES**



Who: Good readers age 6-11
When: Most Fridays 3:30-6:00
AUGUST 24-NOVEMBER 16

**Tuition: \$65 or \$5/class;
 scholarships too**

To Sign up:

**Caroline Rackley: [h]425.6092; [cell]505.217.6169
 or Luna Community Education: 454.5311
 Email<designultd@newmexico.com>**

!!! Lions Club sponsors us !!!

**NMHU Co-ed
 cheerleading
 tryouts**

New Mexico Highlands University and Luna Community College students do not forget that the NMHU Cheerleaders are having tryouts from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. from Aug. 27-29 at the John A. Wilson Complex.

If this time conflicts for you send us your class/work schedule and we can try to make other arrangements. For more information, please contact Coach Michael Campbell, Captain Amanda Rae Sims and Co- Captain Destiny Torres @ 505-795-3295.

Go Cowboys and Cowgirls! The first game is Saturday, Sept. 1.

Engaging...

Continued from page 2

As advisors of Phi Theta Kappa, Dr Twila Quintana and I are working alongside the Beta Mu Nu Chapter officers and members to actively engage the campus community in realizing the need to support college completion. Our goal is to assist in opening the channels of communication by bringing key leaders, on campus and in the community, together to discuss and develop improved ways of helping students succeed. We understand the future of our national, state and local economic security is at stake if we do not begin to embrace a culture of completion.

**LCC:
 "The
 People's
 College"**

Many Luna Community College students enjoyed a barbeque at the Rough Rider Patio as part of back to school activities. Please see *The Luna Light* for information on the college.





Helping our students find housing...

PLACES FOR RENT!!!

Take a look!!!

Need a place? Have a place? Whether you're looking for somewhere to rent or you have something to rent this is the place to look!!!

3 BEDROOM / 2 BATH
Quiet yard & neighborhood
Call Darlene
@ 505-429-4246
for more information

1 BEDROOM / 1 BATH
Located on Tilden
\$450.00 a month
Call 505-426-6509
For more information

1 BEDROOM / 1 BATH
\$450.00 a month plus
\$300.00 security deposit
Call 505-429-3655
for more information

3 BEDROOM / 2 BATH
Call Marc @ 505-429-0431
for more information

(2) 3 BEDROOM / 1 BATH
Mobile homes 60 X 80
1 located in Enchanted Hills
1 located in Pendaries
Call Dennis @ 505-617-1530
for more information

1 BEDROOM / 1 BATH
Call 505-425-8833
for more information

1 BEDROOM / 1 BATH
Call Susie @ 505-425-5538
for more information

3 BEDROOM / 1 BATH
\$550.00 a month plus
\$500.00 damage deposit
and utilities
Call Rose @ 505-429-4412
for more information

Apartments for rent
Call Gene @ 505-426-1506
for more information

2 BEDROOM / 1 BATH
\$650.00 - \$680.00 a month
1 BEDROOM / 1 BATH
\$390.00 - \$420.00 a month
\$100 damage deposit
Water, sewer & sanitation
included and no pets
Call Emilio @ 505-426-7719
for more information

2 BEDROOM / 1 BATH
Call John @ 505-617-1600
for more information

2 BEDROOM / 1 BATH
\$650.00 a month
\$500.00 damage deposit
Washer/dryer, dishwasher &
garbage disposal included
and also has radiant heating
Call Angie @ 505-429-5575
for more information



If you have any places to list for rent or know of anyone that does please contact
Joyce Garcia @ 505-454-2500 or you can email me at jogarcia@luna.edu

2012 LCC Foundation Scholarship Golf Classic participants



Alta Vista: Dr. Cordell Halverson, Miguel Cruz, Carlos Coca and Martin Martinez.



Best Western Montezuma Inn and Suites: Sanjay Bhakta, Roberto Arellanes, Kevin Rael and Gil Gonzales.



Citizens for the Developmentally Disabled: Tino Cordova, Adam Ledoux, Bobby Ledoux and Michael Ledoux.



Community 1st Bank: Jay Moore, Ashley Moore, Melissa Rhoads and Ernesto Salazar.



Community 1st Bank (2): Gabe Lucero, Steve Davis, Ken Litherland and Don Quintana.



Electric Horsemen: Dennis Lucero, Cordelle Nugent, Justin Aragon, and Dwayne Craig.

LCC:
"The People's College"

Thank You

LUNA CC

2012 LCC Foundation Scholarship Golf Classic participants



Guadalupe County Hospital: Phil Aragon, Alfredo Cordova, Robert Cordova and James Whinery.



Guadalupe County Hospital (2): Kal Bhakta, Jiggy Bhakta, Bob Bhakta and Moe Patel.



Hands Engineering: James Hands, Javier Ortega, David Sullens and Andrew Hurtado.



HU Scrubs: Shellie Broyles, Jim Diesler, Gavino Archuleta and Chris Perea.



Northern Insurance: Cisco Rubio, Elmer Alcon, Oliver L'Esperance and P.J. Wolff.



Ortega and Associates: Jerry Maestas, Tony Valdez, Leo Montoya and Antonio Ortega.

LCC:
"The People's College"

**Thank
You**

**Luna
Community
College**

2012 LCC Foundation Scholarship Golf Classic participants



Paul Davis Restoration:
Sam Garcia, Jeff Barela Jr., Ambrose Castellano and Jeff Barela.



Southwest Capital Bank:
Dr. Edward Ebell, Aaron Espinoza, Geno Torres and Sam Hillis.



PNM Foundation: Andres Padilla, Antonio Padilla, Chris Nelson and Matt Griego.



Southwest Capital Bank (2): Emilio Vallejos, Bruce Erickson, Gilbert Vallejos and Jonathan Madrid.



Santa Rosa-Mayor Campos: Peter Campos Jr., Albert Campos, Russ Sanford and Dr. Pete Campos.



State Farm-Rosemarie Montoya: Les Montoya, Benny Flores, Richard Flores and Henry Valdez.

LCC:
"The People's College"

**Thank
You**

2012 LCC Foundation Scholarship Golf Classic participants



This picturesque scene was taken from the first tee at Pendaries on Saturday. Nineteen teams participated in the 2012 Luna Community College Foundation Golf Classic.



U.S. Federal Credit Union:
Phil Forbert, Abelino Montoya, Roman Romero and Alan Varela.



LCC President Dr. Pete Campos addresses golfers before the 9 a.m. shotgun start.



LIFE RUN - 5K Run/Walk & 1 Mile Children's Run

Saturday, September 15, 2012

5K Run/Walk starts at 8:00 a.m. Children's Run starts at 9:00 a.m.

NO REGISTRATION DAY OF EVENT

Registration Forms available at Alta Vista Regional Hospital, Abe Montoya Recreation Center or register online at www.newmexicosportsonline.com

For more information contact Linda at (505) 426-3772 or email linda_leyba@chs.net