

The Luna Light



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

Visit us at
www.luna.edu

Volume 5 Issue 40

October 8-October 14, 2012



Fall 2012 Luna Community College Dental Assisting students are currently preparing for the New Mexico State Board exam in radiation health and safety. Pictured (l-r) are Julie Silva, Leah Ortiz, Monica Garcia, Maria Chavez, Devinn Martinez and Rachel Trujillo.

SM&ET Department receives \$50,000 grant

The Luna Community College SM&ET Department received a NM EPSCoR grant for \$50,000.

LCC adjunct faculty member Richard McNeill and Department Director Dr. Andrew Feldman were notified on Aug. 29 that LCC will be receiving an EPSCoR seed grant for \$50,000. EPSCoR, which stands for Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, called for seed grant proposals several months ago and Mr. McNeill, a botany instructor, submitted a proposal. The proposal is titled “Building the Capacity to Monitor Climate Change and Manage Lands to Minimize Climate Impacts in New Mexico.”

The money from the grant will mainly go for equipment for student use in the biology lab area and out in the field. Students will be able to participate in faculty guided research projects monitoring local vegetation for effects from climate change.

Since LCC is a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), this grant works to provide opportunities for students that are under-represented in the sciences. Students who do participate will present their research at the annual EPSCoR student research conference.

Keep an eye out for announcements around the department of Science, Math, and Engineering Technology as they begin the grant.

LCC’s Montoya earns certification



Joseph Montoya

Luna Community College Building Technologies Instructor Joseph Montoya recently received an international certification as a master trainer in accordance with the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER), and is now authorized to train and certify instructors.

While in New Orleans for the Master Trainer Instructor Certification Training Program (MTICTP), Montoya also received certification as a Construction Site Safety Master (CSSM) instructor, which is the highest level of recognition within the NCCER safety system.

LCC
“The People’s College”

L
U
N
A

C
C

“The
People’s
College”

HEALTHY  WOMAN
AN ALTA VISTA REGIONAL HOSPITAL RESOURCE

National Mammography Day Is
October 19...

Let's Go Pink!



Join Dr. Chawki Nahabet
Obstetrician & Gynecologist
Open House & Free “Doc Talk”
Understanding Breast Cancer
Risks & Treatments

Friday, October 19, 2012
12 noon

Rio Vista OB-GYN Reception Area
108 Legion Drive, Suite D, Las Vegas

FREE  Light Lunch  Refreshments  Door Prizes

For more information or to reserve your seat call (505) 454-4000

Member of the Medical Staff at Alta Vista Regional Hospital

8 entrepreneurial secrets for longevity

By Luna Community College
Small Business Development Center

Starting a business is not that hard to do, but staying in business and being successful; now that is the challenge. Below are 8 ways to help improve your business performance increasing your chance of long term success.

1. Stay current

Join an industry association related to your product or offering. Subscribe to all the magazines that cover your business. (They are tax deductible!) Look at joining an organization like NASE (National Association of Self employed). They have great sources of advice and information as well as great discounts on insurance, rental cars, and other business expenses. Read and constantly be researching topics about your business. It's easy on the Internet!

2. Make sure you have a financial plan

Also a budget and a measurement process to keep track of how you are doing monthly. If you don't know where you stand financially and have no short term and long-term financial goals, then you are just letting fate dictate your success and we know those odds aren't too good. Control your own destiny!

3. Cash forecasting

It sounds boring and difficult, but it's not. Keep it simple. Look at your next 3 months projected income or revenue, then just lay next to it all the expenditures you need to keep the business running. The difference is your cash flow. You must do this to avoid surprises. Most businesses hit the brick wall because they fail to understand their cash flow.

4. Get an advisory board or a mentor

Sounds crazy for a small operation? It's not! The board can be family members that you trust, or friends. Ask them to be your board of directors and review your business plans and results with them. Having someone to bounce ideas off and get an objective opinion is critical. Or, get a business coach. The Small Business Development Center can provide free technical assistance for business retention and expansion.

5. Maintain a balance between work, play and family

This is critical for long-term success. We all put in crazy hours on a short-term basis to get a hot project done or the product out the door, but if you do this on a long term, regular basis it is a dangerous sign that you are losing perspective. You need to be able to step away on a regular basis and get your batteries re-charged. And also have time for family because if they suffer it is almost a sure bet your business will suffer too.

This is critical for long-term success. We all put in crazy hours on a short-term basis to get a hot project done or the product out the door, but if you do this on a long term, regular basis it is a dangerous sign that you are losing perspective. You need to be able to step away on a regular basis and get your batteries re-charged. And also have time for family because if they suffer it is almost a sure bet your business will suffer too.

6. Network

It's easy to get isolated in a home business or your own small business operation. Force yourself to get out and meet with others that can provide a business support structure for you. One of the benefits of a corporation is the working of teams and the on going support structure it provides. You need to create that for yourself. Don't think you can do it all by yourself; by talking to others in business you will find out great ideas and it will help motivate you. Becoming a member of the

Las Vegas/San Miguel Chamber of Commerce and/or the Economic Development Corporation will provide an opportunity to network with other business owners.

7. Discipline/Motivation

One of the hardest aspects of a small business or home-based business is creating the discipline or motivation to work each day. It is so easy to get distracted and put off the essential tasks that need to get done. Keep your work place and hours separate from the rest of your responsibilities. Develop a to-do list EVERYDAY. Set goals for the week. Review how you are doing against them. We all struggle with this and it is one of the key elements of success.

8. Don't rest on your laurels

Be prepared to always change. Force change. Look for things to do more efficiently or how to improve your offering or product. Constantly evaluate your competition and benchmark yourself against them.

Remember success is more attitude than aptitude and never forget that failure is only the opportunity to begin again more intelligently.

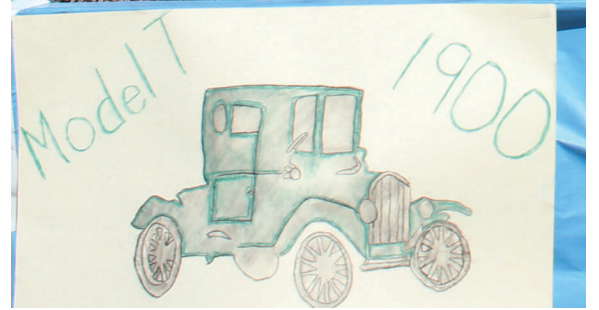
For **FREE** business assistance, contact the LCC SBDC at 454-2582 or 1-800-588-7232 ext. 1759. For an up to date listing of all SBDC services and trainings visit our web page at www.nmsbdc.org

Luna Community College:
“The People’s College”

Santa Rosa High Homecoming Parade







L
C
C







Action for Health Community Workshop

Thursday, October 11

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Luna Community College
Student Services Conference Room
366 Luna Drive
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701

What your family needs to know NOW about . . .

- **The Affordable Health Care Act**
- **The Medicaid program** and critical decisions it's facing in New Mexico
- **Dental Care . . .** together we can see that quality, affordable dental care is provided to all!

RSVP today!

FREE WORKSHOP & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Toll free (877) 867-1095

Email: info@HealthActionNM.org

www.HealthActionNM.org

Sponsors:
Health Action New Mexico &
Luna Community College Montañas Del Norte Area Health Education Center



L
U
N
A

C
C

“The
People’s
College”

Luna Community College

COMMUNITY EDUCATION –FALL 2012

HELPING HOARDERS

OCTOBER 10 WED 6 PM-9PM

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER, LECTURE HALL

INSTRUCTOR: KATHERINE ANDERSON, CPO-CD

COST: \$30



Do you know a pack rat? A friend, neighbor, family member or other loved one that hoards? Have you seen hoarding shows on TV and wondered whether their tactics work? Would you like to know how to help a loved one that hoards? Join us for this three-hour workshop at LCC. Compulsive hoarding is the accumulation and failure to discard a large number of possessions that appear to be useless or of limited value; having extensive clutter in living spaces that precludes activities for which the rooms were designed; having significant distress in functioning caused by the hoarding; and the inability to organize the possessions. Come learn from a certified professional organizer who has studied hoarding. Hear what the latest science shows about this behavior, how you can help and what does not work.

To register, contact LCC Community Education at 454-5311, 800-588-7232, ext. 1204. For questions, contact Katherine Anderson at 505-856-3667, e-mail kit@andersonorganizing.com.

Weekly Activities

Monday, October 8, 2012

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

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

Tuesday, October 9, 2012

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing (Wellness Center)

5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Safety Belt Class (General Studies/Room 102B)

Wednesday, October 10, 2012

5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Helping Hoarders Workshop (LRC/Lecture Hall)

Thursday, October 11, 2012

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing (Wellness Center)

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Presentation/Affordable Care Act, New Health Care Law/Medicaid Expansion (Student Services/Conf. Room)

Friday, October 12, 2012

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Weight Training (Vo-Ag. Bldg.); Raton High Parade, 1 p.m.; Robertson High Parade, 2 p.m.

Saturday, October 13, 2012

7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. C.N.A. Testing (Allied Hlth/ Nrsng.Lab#3,CompLab#7,MO-11)

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Driver Education Course (General Studies/Room 101)

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Defensive Driving Class (General Studies/Room 102B)

Foundation ready – building future

By Dr. Pete Campos

The past four years have been spent preparing for the next four. We've aligned our curriculum; expanded our program offerings to meet student needs; successfully prepared for and earned many new national accreditations and certifications; improved facilities, grounds and infrastructure; updated our college policies to align with the statutory New Mexico Community College Act; raised academic standards and credentials necessary to teach our students so their college course work will transfer to other colleges and universities and degrees and certifications will be accepted by businesses where they are seeking high wage jobs; strengthened our student organizations so they are recognized nationally and statewide for their intellect, vocational skills and leadership; engaged in a very positive relationship with our staff by enthusiastically supporting the formation of a faculty senate where shared governance is key; earned acceptance into an athletic conference that will bring our young men and women exposure to pursue their athletic career hopes and dreams; strengthened our presence in our surrounding service area from Raton and Springer to Mora, Pecos and Santa Rosa by improving programs, technology, facilities and instruction; enacted over 200 MOU's and articulation agreements with universities, colleges, state agencies, local governments and the private sector; secured over \$4 million dollars in federal and state resources within the past few months to better serve our students needs in areas such as trades, nursing and GED; and, we have convincingly earned a place for consideration of our capital outlay needs on the upcoming November 6th Higher Education GOB question (Las Vegas) and the capital outlay list (Springer and Santa Rosa) for the 2013 60-day session. This along with much more has situated

Luna Community College to be highly competitive in what we can provide students so they can and will compete in a globally job market.

The future holds so much more! Our college catalog, handbooks and Human Resources are second-to-none; our upcoming college re-

The past four years have been spent preparing for the next four. We've aligned our curriculum; expanded our program offerings to meet student needs; successfully prepared for and earned many new national accreditations and certifications...

accreditation cycle (we have been living our mission for the past four years) will officially kick-off in January in coordination with the Higher Learning Commission based in Chicago, Illinois; our on-line and in-class education will increase to new levels because we have prepared to meet the demands of keeping students in college until they successfully complete their chosen course of study, receive their certificates or degrees and transition into a four-year uni-

versity, good paying job or the military; our facilities are being expanded (to include student housing) and our equipment upgraded to address student needs such as wellness, on-line education, vocational hands-on accomplishments, academic rigor, and positive college life experiences; and, Luna Community College "The People's College" will forge its reputation as an affordable college that delivers a quality education.

While I haven't covered every achievement – keep in mind - the list goes on! An anonymous author once said, "This is the beginning of a new day. You have been given this day to use as you will. You can waste it or use it for good. What you do today is important because you are exchanging a day of your life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever; in its place is something you have left behind.....let it be something good." We have done so much good! I am confident what we have put into place will serve as the foundation for a positive future. **STUDENT SERVICE AND SUCCESS IS OUR BRAND!**

LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING VACANT JOB POSITIONS:

- Adjunct Faculty/Per Course Instructor
- Math (Santa Rosa)
- SMET Adjunct Faculty
- Drafting Technology
- Electronics Engineering Technology
- Temporary Part-time Substitute Teacher/Caretaker (until filled)
- Family Nursing Instructor
- Administrative Assistant-Youthbuild Program

- Case Manager/Transition Coordinator-Youthbuild Program
- Program Director-Youthbuild Program

FOR JOB DESCRIPTION(S) AND/OR CLOSING DATES, CONTACT THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT AT (505) 454-2503 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.LUNA.EDU

LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. ALL POSITION POSTING FOLLOW THE LCC AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN.

Martinez, Title V did an outstanding job

On behalf of the Springer Satellite students and staff, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Lorraine Martinez, director for Title V and the Title V staff for the OUTSTANDING job they have done in accommodating all of us at Luna Community College.

From distance learning (online) course offerings to faculty training, Title V has been very effective in helping us meet the needs of the students at the Springer Satellite. Distance learning has served the purpose of accommodating students in the rural areas and giving them the opportunity to obtain an education without having to travel (or minimizing travel); therefore, it has helped meet the needs of the students.

The majority of the students that we served in this area take advantage of distance learning courses and program offerings. Additionally, students who are taking online courses with LCC have taken advantage of utilizing the Title V computer lab that was implemented in Decem-

ber 2009. This lab has been especially helpful to those who do not have access to a computer at home or elsewhere.

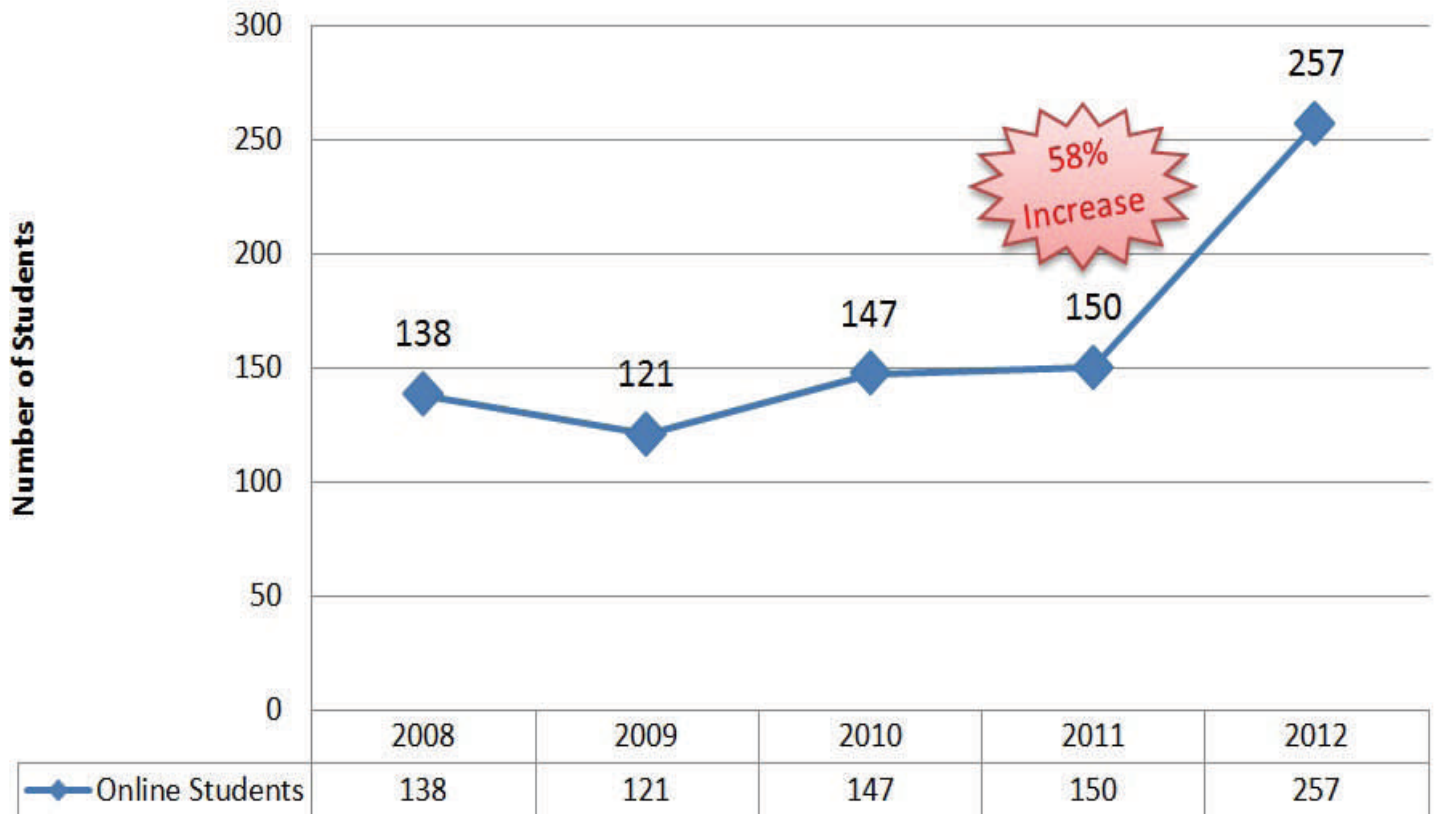
We serve students from Cimarron, Maxwell, Raton, Springer, Wagon Mound and other surrounding areas who take our online courses. The students taking advantage of our courses includes many high schools' (dual credit) students who have expanded their course loads through online courses. Students and staff have also taken advantage of the Smart Board located in the Title V computer lab.

It has made instruction so much more convenient for everyone.

THANK YOU TITLE V FOR THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY YOU HAVE GIVEN TO US ALL!!!

Louise Fernandez-Portillos
Springer Satellite Director

Exclusively Online Student Trend



NOTE: The number of students in this report represents an unduplicated headcount for the fall semester of the year specified. Students included in this report are those that participated in online classes ONLY, and not courses delivered by other modalities such as live or ITV.

What is retention?

By John Tiernan

Over the last few years, Luna Community College has had many internal discussions regarding retention and how it can be improved. Lately, a couple of articles regarding retention have been printed in **The Luna Light**. These articles have information about how each of us can help improve our retention rates. While each of us, both employees and students, need to play a part in retention; it is important to understand exactly what retention is.

Is retention keeping a student until they graduate? While this might be a good measure for a university, this would probably not be a good measure here at LCC. More than half of our students do not declare majors and do not intend to attain a certificate or degree. These students are here to take a class or two to improve their job skill, they are here to improve their physical fitness in our wellness center, they are here to take advantage of our low tuition and transfer credits to a University, or they are here to become proficient in a hobby they enjoy. The students that do not intend to attain a degree or certifi-

cate deserve to be considered in our retention efforts.

So then, is retention keeping a student through the successful completion of their

because of circumstance. These situations also need to be considered in our retention efforts.

We can continue to try to pin down a definition for retention, and continue to point out all of the students that are left out of each definition. The truth of the matter is that we at LCC realize that retention is an individual matter. Each student has their own set of educational goals and their own obstacles in achieving those goals.

So, to answer the question posed by this article, *retention is helping every student achieve their educational goals, whatever they may be.* The faculty and staff of LCC are here to serve our

students. Whenever a student experiences obstacles in achieving an education, we are here to help.

Students—if you are considering leaving LCC before you have achieved your educational goal, please talk to a teacher, advisor, or staff member so that we can make every effort to help you stay in school and reach your goals.

Students: if you are considering leaving LCC before you have achieved your educational goal, please talk to a teacher, advisor, or staff member so that we can make every effort to help you stay in school and reach your goals.

class? Again, this definition is insufficient because a student can pass all of their courses and still not achieve their educational goals. Many times a student will leave school because life requires them to reprioritize. Often, earning a living and supporting a family takes precedence over education, especially in hard economic times. So a 4.0 grade point average student may leave school and never return

Freshmen cosmetology students. Pictured (l-r): Instructor Clarice Bonney, Christian Griego, Cheyanne Cunico, Amerae Gold, Brittany Stewart, Nicole Rains, Kimberly Vigil, Jorjette Zamora, Alexandria Chavez, Lucy Tafoya, Dezi Rae Benavidez, Jessica Encinias, Andrew Garcia, Francine Vigil and Michael Hurtado.



LCC:
“The
People’s
College”