

# The Luna Light



*“The People’s College”*

*Becoming The Premier Rural Community College in America*

Volume 2 Issue 24

July 6-July 12

## Legislative Finance Committee selects five school districts for a program evaluation



**Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) staff members led by David Abbey, executive director, (fourth to the left) met recently with representatives from West Las Vegas and Las Vegas City Schools to lay out the work plan for an upcoming performance review.**

This summer, The Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) will conduct program evaluations of Aztec, Bloomfield, Bernalillo, Las Vegas Municipal and the West Las Vegas school districts. Selected primarily based upon the medium size of the districts, the evaluations will identify opportunities for improving district governance activities, resource allocations, and student performance outcomes. LFC program evaluation staff will work closely with local school districts to identify what works for medium-sized districts in these areas and help identify a set of “best practices” for these areas. “This provides an opportunity to look at some of the best practices at our more successful schools, like Union Elementary, and determine how they can work in other areas,” said Luna Community College President and State Senator Pete Campos during the West Las Vegas Municipal school district entrance conference.

### *The History of the LFC’s School District Reviews*

In October of 2007, in response to legislative requests, The Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) program evaluation staff presented an evaluation of selected operations in the Albuquerque Public School District (APS). This review was completed with the objectives of reviewing revenue and funding sources, risk management practices, student outcomes, and human resources programs. Some key findings developed as a result of this evaluation were: the over funding of the district because of inaccurate claims for ancillary-support service provider units and requests for state support for insurance costs with out reconciling available resources in existing accounts.

Based on the experience of the APS evaluation, LFC program evaluation staff developed a framework for reviewing a school district and applied it to the Program Evaluation of Rio Rancho

Public School District (RRPS), and presented it to the LFC in June of 2008. Among other items, this review examined leadership of the school district and how decisions are made, how resource allocations are tied to the use of the district’s strategic plan, how successful RRPS was at recruiting and retaining quality teachers, and how well the students in the district were performing. Some key recommendations developed as a result of this evaluation were: identifying opportunities for budget planning when opening new schools, high expectations and stable leadership lead to high levels of student achievement, and more progress is needed to improve student outcomes for low income students.

### *What is a Program Evaluation?*

Both of these reviews were conducted as program evaluations. Program evaluations are a distinct type of review; separate from financial audits or financial investigations. The American Evaluation Association defines an evaluation as “assessing the strengths and weaknesses of programs, policies, personnel, products, and organizations to improve their effectiveness.” LFC program evaluations provide information to improve program operations, assist decision making, and improve public accountability. An LFC program evaluation is an objective and systematic examination of evidence for the purpose of providing an independent assessment of the performance of a state organization, program, activity, or function. LFC program evaluation staff present the findings of the evaluation in a written report and to the Legislative Finance Committee as a body.

**Continued on page 4**

# Mary Duran says Luna CC has a good staff, but red tape slows down college



**Name:** Mary A. Duran  
**Position:** Student Services Specialist, SMET Department  
**How many years at LCC (what year did you start)?** Two years - 2007  
**Favorite food and why?** Tacos because they are so bad but yet so good!  
**Favorite hobby and why?** Spending time with husband and kids and of course R & R - makes me happy!  
**Favorite TV show and why?** *Grey's Anatomy* because it's about friendships and reality.  
**Where would you like to see yourself five years from now?** I hope to be a grandmother by then.  
**What do you like best about LCC?** Where I work and the people I work with. Also LCC has a lot of good staff and great benefits!  
**What do you like least about LCC and what would you offer as a solution?** At times the "red tape" slows down the process. My solution would be narrowing down the amount of signatures or approvals required on not all but certain documents and changing the protocol.  
**What is your greatest strength?** I am strong-willed and strong minded.

*Anyone wishing to nominate an LCC employee to be featured in this section should call Jesse Gallegos at 454-2510 or e-mail him at [jagallegos@luna.edu](mailto:jagallegos@luna.edu).*

**Mary Duran likes spending time with her husband and her children. She says she is a strong-willed person.**

## Weekly Activities

### Monday, July 6, 2009

■ 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Substance Abuse/Addiction Seminar (Gen. Studies/102-B)

### Tuesday, July 7, 2009

■ 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CPR/First Aid/Citizens Develop. Disabled (LRC/Lect. Hall)

■ 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Mora Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting (Mora Site/Admin. Bldg.)

■ 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. LCC Board of Trustees Work Session (Stud. Svcs./Conf. Rm)

### Wednesday, July 8, 2009

■ 7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. NM State Police Training (Springer Satellite/Forrest Room)

■ 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Rights & Advocacy Training/CDD (LRC/Lecture Hall)

■ 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Gross Receipts Tax Workshop

(Student Serv./Conf. Room)

### Thursday, July 9, 2009

■ 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Citizen's for Develop. Disabled Training (LRC/Lecture Hall)

■ 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Summer Activities/Hot Dogs/ Drinks/Prizes (Tennis Courts)

### Friday, July 10, 2009

■ 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Defensive Driving Class / CDD (LRC/Lecture Hall)

■ 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Las Vegas Land Grant Board Meeting (Stud.Serv./Conf Rm)

### Saturday, July 11, 2009

■ 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. C.N.A. Testing (Allied Health/ N7&3)

■ 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Defensive Driving Class (General Studies/Room 102-B)

# Procedure for admission to the Luna CC Nursing Program

## By Annette Annette Weinkauf/Assistant Director

Nursing is a very demanding profession that requires many skills and the capacity to think critically. The rewards are the ability to make a difference in many lives throughout the lifespan. Because of the extensive knowledge base required for the profession, the nursing program is very rigorous. Nursing programs have admission criterion in order to improve the chances of students being able to complete the course of study successfully, pass the National Council Licensure Examination, and have a rewarding career as nurses. Many classes must be completed before entering the program to provide foundational knowledge and allow students to concentrate on core nursing courses once they are accepted.

Admission to the nursing program at Luna Community College is based on a point system that is explained to students when they first receive advisement. Points are measured in five areas, grade point average (GPA), Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) scores, residency status, and work experience. In addition to accumulating points, students must also meet certain criteria. They must have a minimum 2.7 GPA and a grade of C or above in five prerequisites: Anatomy and

Physiology I, Anatomy and Physiology II, Freshman Comp I, Introduction to Psychology, and Medical Terminology. The second criterion is a minimum score of 40<sup>th</sup> percentile rank by program in each of the sections of reading, math, science and English on the TEAS test.

There are 110 possible points that are earned in several ways. The GPA is calculated in the same classes listed above for a possible 50 points. The GPA is divided by four and then multiplied by fifty to determine the number of points, so for example a 4.0 GPA earns a total of 50 points and a 3.0 earns 37.5 points. Forty possible points are earned by passing the TEAS exam. The percentiles are added in each of the four sections and divided by ten. So someone with scores of 50 in reading, 42 in math, 60 in science, and 75 in English would earn 22.7 points toward their score. Students who have completed Nutrition and Developmental Life Span before they apply to the program earn two points, one point for each class. Five points are given to students in-state and five points for being considered in-district. Up to eight bonus points can be earned by working in a health field that requires patient care. Two points are awarded for every three months of documented employment.

A score card looks something like this:

Course #	Course Title	Credit hrs.	Grade	Points		Teas Results	Ranking points
BIO 100	A&P I	4	A	16		Reading	40
BIO 102	A&P II	4	B	12		Math	45
ENG 111	Comp I	3	A	12		Science	44
PSYC 101	Intro to Psych	3	B	9		English	50
BIO 103	Med Term	2	A	8			
<b>Total</b>							<b>17.9</b>

Cumulative GPA 3.56,  $4 = .8906$  x 50% = GPA 44.53 + Teas = 62.43

## Other Related Courses

Course #	Course Title	Credit	Grade	Ranking Pts
PSYC 242	Life Span	3	C	1
BIO 210	Nutrition	3	B	1

Total 2

## Bonus points for related work experience\*

3-6 months (2 pts)      6-9 months (4 pts)      9-12 months (6 pts)      >12 months (8 pts)      Total 0

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# Legislative Finance Committee...

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*A Framework is Developed: How the LFC Reviews School Districts*

From the lessons learned during the APS and RRPS program evaluations, LFC program evaluation staff developed a framework for reviewing local school districts. The framework consists of gathering information to help complete the following objectives:

**Governance.** Assessing the oversight of the school district and its use of governance and management best practices. Examples of what evaluation staff looks at are strategic plans and how much the data gathered drives decision making.

**Resource Allocation.** Reviewing the use of funding and cost-effectiveness of resource allocation decisions, including human resources. Examples of what evaluation staff looks at include program spending decisions and how teachers are allocated to schools.

**Student Outcomes.** Reviewing student academic performance and how policy, spending, and/or personnel changes may have contributed to the intended results of improved student performance. Examples of what evaluation staff looks at are the district's student graduation rates, number of students taking remedial course in college, and the fourth and eighth grade students' proficiency rate on the NMSBA.

*Moving Forward: How the LFC Selected the School Districts*

The LFC wants to continue identifying challenges local school districts face and help in identifying opportunities for student outcome improvement using this framework. Because the evaluations of APS and RRPS were of some of the largest school districts in the state, LFC program evaluation staff wants to target its current review on medium-sized school districts. Using the framework developed in the APS and RRPS program evaluations, LFC program evaluation staff developed

criteria for selecting school districts based primarily upon their size.

The staff limited the pool to school districts with a medium-sized membership (approximately 1,500-5,000) and medium-sized operational spending (\$15-\$30 million). Then LFC staff considered the demographics of the student population when selecting schools, with a focus on school districts with less than half of the student population eligible for free and reduced lunch and less than 10 percent of the student population being Native American. Next, LFC program evaluation staff limited districts to those districts that could easily pair with other districts regionally. This allows LFC program evaluation staff to limit the amount of resources expended during the review as a large portion of the evaluation may be fieldwork. After consulting with the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC), the LFC chose five school districts for its review: Aztec, Bloomfield, Bernalillo, Las Vegas Municipal, and the West Las Vegas school districts. Bernalillo was primarily selected based upon the Native American demographic of its student population.

*The Future: Improving Student Outcomes Together*

Taken together, the LFC program evaluation of these five school districts will not only help facilitate comparisons across these medium-sized districts, but can be used to compare with other similarly situated districts in the state or country. LFC program evaluation staff will not only identify opportunities for improvement in the areas of governance, resource allocation, and student outcomes, but also identify activities in the school districts that are efficient and effective in fulfilling the districts' goal of providing quality service to students and improving student performance. The LFC program evaluation staff envisions this review as part of a larger, continuous review of the state's school districts. LFC staff looks forward to working with the school districts to help improve not only the success of students in these five school districts, but also opportunities for improving the success of all New Mexican students.

## RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES— WEEK OF July 6-July 11

**Monday, July 6** – No activities planned

**Tuesday, July 7** – Campus Tour, 2 p.m.

**Wednesday, July 8** – Mailings, Fall '09 Registration & start of semester

**Thursday, July 9** – KNMX Radio, LCC Half Hour Show w/ Jesse Gallegos, 1p.m.

**Friday, July 10** – Recruitment Booth, Pecos @ Adelo's General Store

**Saturday, July 11**– No activities planned

## Quote of the Week

**“The tragedy in life doesn't lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach,”—**

*Benjamin May, (1895-1984), American Educator .*

# Procedure for admission...

Continued from page 3

## Residency

New Mexico Residency (5 pts)   X   District Residency (5 pts)   X  

Total   10  

Total  74.43 

After all the scores are calculated the students are ranked from the highest to the lowest number of points earned. The number of available openings for fall admission is determined and the top ranked students fill those slots. For the past two years there have not been enough applicants meeting the entire criterion to fill all the available openings. Those that meet all the requirements are accepted first and the remaining slots are filled based on the number of points earned. Students that did not meet all the requirements are admitted provisionally.

The number of students in the program is limited by the number of faculty and the availability of clinical sites. The number of nursing programs in the state of New Mexico has increased from 16 to 21 over the past three years and there is intense competition for clinical sites. A

nurse must have a bachelor's degree in nursing in order to teach in the clinical setting and in our area nurses with these credentials seem to be in short supply. The RN to BSN program at Highlands will increase the number of nurses with a bachelor's degree in Las Vegas but it will take time. So although in 2006 we almost doubled the number of students admitted every year, at this point in time we are at capacity.

Every school of nursing has a different system for accepting students. Our system is number based which has the advantage of eliminating personal bias and nepotism. Unfortunately it cannot measure motivation, caring, honesty, diligence or many other characteristics needed to be a nurse. Until there is an instrument to measure these qualities we will continue to use the point system unless research gives us new direction.



**Many have said that New Mexico has some of the most beautiful skies in the United States. This particular picture was taken on the east side of the LCC Student Services Building on Tuesday, June 30.**

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



**Conni Reichert, Director Allied Health Sciences, pre nursing students Danyelle Romero, Nicole Sena, Susanna Castellano with nursing student Stephanie Lovato all helped in the July 3 early hours Fiesta Memorial Run kicking off the Las Vegas Fiestas weekend. Proceeds over expenses are to be donated to the Dana Konno Scholarship Fund for Nursing Students here at LCC. The run also remembers community members Pablo Read, Jon Schlosser, Dave Wesner, Zach Pappas and Alfonso Silva.**



**Luna Community College faculty member Connie Ortiz waits for some ice-cream from Summer Excellence (in) Educational Development (SEED) Coordinator Julianna Ortega last week. Also photographed is LCC Activities Coordinator Melissa Lopez. Lopez said that 10 gallons of ice-cream were served during the social gathering.**

# Coaching in today's world



**By Henry O. Sanchez**

A coach is a teacher, an educator who plays a crucial role in the development in a child's life. A coach introduces and trains the child to a lifestyle that will last a lifetime—that of competition and training for it. It is a fact that children are not naturally competitive, but must learn this skill.

Once you become a teacher/coach the influence you will have over a student-athlete is a great responsibility. High on this list of responsibilities is to understand and communicate with your student-athletes and parents.

In our society where coaches/teachers are held responsible for areas in which they have never been trained, the psychological dimensions of coaching and teaching prove to be the most confusing and demanding part of the job. How do you deal and work with the athletes, the parents, the administrators, the news media and the general public?

In years gone by, the coach seldom heard from the parents; today they are more vocal and involved in all programs. If a team is losing it has become totally the responsibility of

the coach who has to consistently defend the program.

I tell the young coaches that they must understand that these athletes are the pride and joy of their parents. When you as a coach yell, insult or do not play their son or daughter, you are directly or indirectly hurting the parents. It is understood that this was not your intention, but it is the way it goes over. The main solution is for the coach and parents to communicate and do what is best for the student-athlete.

We must also remember that it is difficult for parents and fans to be objective when the team is losing. The old adage "That winning takes care of everything," seems to apply in most cases. But we know that if you coach long enough, the losing seasons will come.

Again, the psychological aspect of coaching, communication and organization must come into play. It is not uncommon for people in positions of authority to micromanage or second guess the coach. The parents' threats of lawsuits seem to control all rational thinking and influence many key decisions. What can we expect from the athletes when all they hear at home is negative thoughts and comments on the coach and the program?

We must mention that a team is everyone working together for the same goals and respect for each other. When the concept of team breaks down it exposes involved into the vulnerable positions and creates many unwanted situations. Competition exposes our personality, character flaws and strengths in all involved (the coach, the athletes and the parents.)

We all admit coaching has changed and may never go back to what some call the "good old days." Acknowledging all the problems and changing times what are some things that can help to improve our current situations.

No. 1—Administrative staff should attempt to hire full-time teachers and coaches

who are on campus full time (Entire staff is ideal situation).

No. 2—Create and sign contracts with students, parents and coaches. (Philosophy of programs, rules and penalties, etc.). I know this contract will not help in court, but it shows commitment and organization, it gets everyone communicating and understanding the value of working together.

No. 3—School workshops on psychological training. (Can be in-service or meeting with all concerned). Workshops on legal information is also important, because we live in a litigious society and must understand its importance.

No. 4—Meetings (Social in nature get parents, administrators and coaches together). It is important for all to realize you are on the same team. (Pre-season meetings at the start are helpful.)

No. 5—Invite administrators on road trips. Let them travel with team to see a different side. The more they understand and appreciate what the coach goes through, the more likely you will be supported.

No. 6- Deal with the news media (Newspapers, T.V., etc...) on a professional and informative nature. They, the media, can be your friends and greatest supporters; you don't need hostile sports writers reporting on your teams. Find ways to keep them informed and involved in your program.

No. 7- Get the athletes more involved in the program: Help design uniforms and/o warm-ups. Allow them to design uniforms and/or uniforms. Allow them to have an impact on offense and defense ideals. They must feel it is their team.

These are a few things that will help any program. Good luck to all.

*Sanchez is former National High School Basketball Coach of the Year and has over 700 wins. He coached at Our Lady of Sorrows High, Bernalillo High, Highlands University and Robertson High. He also served three terms as the mayor of Las Vegas. He currently teaches in the LCC Humanities Department.*



**Don Bustos is the SBDC Director**



## Students!

Are you looking for on-the-job training? Are you seeking skills for a new career? Do you want to gain experience in your field of study? Do you want to gain college credit? If you answer yes to any of these questions, the LCC Small Business Internship Program can help.

### LCC – Connecting Students to the Workforce!

Luna Community College will “launch” a pilot program this fall called the Small Business Internship Program. The purpose of the program is to provide LCC students opportunities in workforce experience by applying educational skills and knowledge to meet the needs of the statewide workforce community.

#### Program Goals:

- Provide students access to business experience that could lead to gainful employment
- Involve students in community projects, collaborations, and partnerships
- Provide students an opportunity for a stipend salary contingent on available funding

#### Program Benefits:

- Classroom instruction is integrated with practical on-the-job experience
- Create future employment opportunities
- Students can make career decisions based on practical work experience.

If you want to participate in the Small Business Internship Program please contact Don Bustos at 505-454-2595 or [dbustos@luna.edu](mailto:dbustos@luna.edu) for further information.

## LCC Foundation Golf Tourney set for Aug. 22

The 2009 Luna Community College Foundation Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, Aug. 22 at the Pendaries Golf Course in Rociada. A shotgun start is scheduled at 9 a.m.

A four-person team sponsor is \$1,000 or \$250 per individual. A hole sponsorship is \$250.

The entry fee covers green fees, a cart, and a prime rib dinner. All money raised will be used for scholarships.

For more information, call Tournament Co-Director Ernesto Salazar at 505-425-7584 or Theresa S. Vigil at 505-454-5367.

## LCC Foundation Scholarship Fundraiser

Friday, August 28, 2009

Plaza Hotel

Reverse Drawing begins at  
7:30 p.m.

### GRAND PRIZE

**\$5,000.00**

#### Other Prizes Include:

First Ticket Drawn Wins

**\$300.00**

Every 50th Ticket Drawn Wins

**\$100.00**

The 100th Ticket Drawn Wins

**\$200.00**

*For More Information Please Contact:*

*Theresa S. Vigil*

*P.O. Box 1926*

*Las Vegas, NM 87701*

*(505) 454-5367 or [tvigil@luna.edu](mailto:tvigil@luna.edu)*

*Toll Free: 1 (800) 588-7232 - Ext. #: 1019*

**Your \$100.00 Donation includes a Beef Brisket Dinner for two provided by The Plaza Hotel.**

**Dinner served from 6 p.m.—7:30 p.m.**

## LCC: “The People’s College”



The best way to predict the future is  
create it.



Where you need to be...

For information visit [www.luna.edu](http://www.luna.edu)

Early Registration for Fall 2009	June 1-August 14
Campus Closed 8am to 12 noon <u>only</u> for Faculty/Staff Training	August 11
Classes Begin	August 17
Last Day to Add Classes	August 24
Campus Closed—Labor Day	September 7
Deadline to Change from Audit to Credit	September 11
Midterm Week	October 5-10
Deadline to Change from Credit to Audit	October 16
Advisement Week	November 16-20
Early Registration for Spring 2010	Nov. 16 –Jan. 8
Last Day to Withdraw from Fall-term Classes	November 20*
Campus Closed—Thanksgiving Holiday	November 26-29
Final Examinations	Nov. 30– Dec. 4
Semester Ends	December 4
Campus Closed - Christmas Break	Dec. 21 - Jan.3

# LCC on the academic move

## Department of Business & Professional Studies

Business Accounting--AAS  
Business Administration—AAS  
Office Administration —AAS  
General Business—AAS  
Mass Media Communications—AA  
Business Accounting —Certificate  
Computer Application Specialist—Certificate  
Office Administration Assistant—Certificate  
Small Business Management—Certificate

## Department of Humanities

Sports Performance—AAS  
Criminal Justice—AAS  
Liberal Arts—AA  
Criminal Justice—Certificate

## Department of Allied Health

Nursing—AAS  
Allied Health—Certificate  
Dental Assistant—Certificate  
Practical Nursing—Certificate

## Department of Vocational Studies

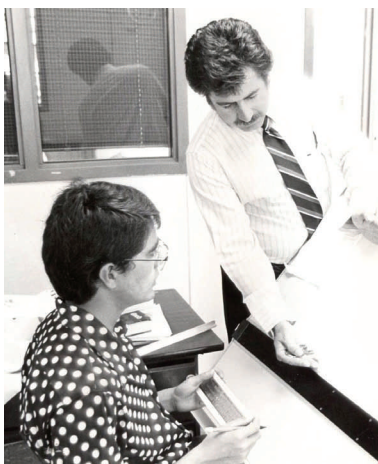
General Agriculture—AAS  
Vocational/Technical Studies—AAS  
Equine Science—AAS  
Automotive Collision Repair Technology— Certificate  
Automotive Technology—Certificate  
Barbering—Certificate  
Building Technology—Certificate  
Cosmetology—Certificate  
Culinary Arts—Certificate  
Furniture & Cabinet Making—Certificate  
Welding Technology—Certificate

## Department of Science, Math, & Engineering Technology

Computer Science—AAS  
Drafting Technology—AAS  
Electronics Technology—AAS  
Video Game Design & Development—AAS  
Alternative & Sustainable Energy—AS  
General Engineering—AS  
Life Science—AS  
Mathematics—AS

## ***Blast from the past***

***Can you guess which former LCC employee's picture this is? The first person to give the right answer will get a free meal from the LCC Rough Rider Grill. You may enter the contest by e-mailing your answer to [jgallegos@luna.edu](mailto:jgallegos@luna.edu) or calling extension 1200. LCC employees are encouraged to turn in a baby photo of themselves or nostalgic LCC photos to Jesse Gallegos at the LCC Student Services Building.***



**Last week winner:** Leticia Archuleta  
**Last week's picture:** Jodie Wolff-Torrez

## Upcoming activities

July 9  
Volleyball intramurals  
TBA at the Wellness Center.

**Bring a friend to LCC Day**  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. next to the tennis courts. Free hot dogs, drinks and prizes.