

# The Luna Light



*“The People’s College”*

*Becoming The Premier Rural Community College in America*

Volume 2 Issue 2

January 21-January 25

## Getting started at Luna CC

Getting started at a post-secondary institution can be quite intimidating, especially to first time students. However, here at Luna Community College we try to make sure that every student has the opportunity to succeed. In fact, it may be easier than what you may expect.

The following is a quick look and advice of what students need to do to start their college education on the right track.

The first thing is to apply for admission. The admissions staff consists of: Moses Marquez, Tom Herrera, Cindy Branch and Diane Vigil. They are located in room 119 at the Student Services Building. Students must complete an LCC application for admission and arrange to have an official transcript(s)/GED sent to LCC if they are pursuing a degree or certificate. This can include a high school, GED or college transcript. For more information on the admissions office, you may call 505/454-5311, 505/454-2541 or 505/454-5312 or 505/454-2550.

Keep in mind that a student is classified as a resident or non-resident for tuition purposes based on information provided on the completed application for admission.

After doing this, we suggest you meet with an educational advisor at the ACCESS Center which is located in

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**Luna Community College student-athletes Dominic Serna, Ricardo Taddy and Colby Curry take some time to look over some notes before class recently.**

## Historical moment: the path to becoming premier

**By Dr. Vidal Martinez/LCC Vice-President of Instruction**

Dr. Pete Campos and the Luna Community College Board of Trustees approved an articulation agreement with the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy. The agreement is historical by “extending the open door” for educational opportunities for firefighters and individuals seeking a career in the fire service.

The curriculum which follows national fire training standards will give LCC students the opportunity to earn college credit and specific course certificates from the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy. Students now have the chance to seek specific course content or a degree in fire science with the support of the N.M. Fire Academy.

The degree is well-rounded, including a general education component, program requirements leading to a research capstone course, and electives that provide flexibility to student needs. The program also allows transferability of credits (course completions) between LCC and the N.M. Fire Academy with potential national certification for specific fire science courses. See program outline.

For the Spring 09 Semester, LCC offers FS220: Fire Service Instructor I and FS205: Firefighter Tactics and Strategies. In the summer, LCC plans to offer Fire Inspector I and Introduction to Firefighting. Additionally, other approved

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# Historical moment...

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electives will be added to the fire science program. They include Pump Operations & Hydraulics, Basic Firefighter Emergency Medical Care, EMT-Basic, and Hazardous Materials Awareness & Operations. For further information please contact Mrs. Kayleen Encinias (454-2567) or Mrs. Debbie Trujillo (454-2504).

I would like to thank President Campos, LCC Board of Trustees, Mr. Reyes Romero –Fire Academy Director and Mr. John Standefer – State Fire Marshal for their continuous support of fire service education in northern New Mexico. Without them the fire science program would not be possible.

**Luna Community College President Dr. Pete Campos signs an articulation agreement for a new fire science program. The Luna Community College Board of Trustees approved an agreement with the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy. Pictured (front, l-r) LCC Vice President of Instruction Dr. Vidal Martinez, LCC President Dr. Pete Campos, LCC Board Chairman Ambrose Castellano. (Back, l-r) LCC Trustee Levi Alcon Jr., LCC Board Vice-President Tony Valdez, LCC Trustee Abelino Montoya, Jr. and LCC Trustee Kenneth Flores.**



## LCC students encouraged to voice concerns to legislators

By Regina Madrid/LCC Financial Aid Director

In 1996 Governor Bill Richardson and the New Mexico State Legislature funded the College Affordability Act providing college and university students an additional incentive to go to college and complete their degrees. The College Affordability Fund provides scholarships of up to \$1,000 to eligible students each semester.

Under the leadership of previous Cabinet Secretary Beverly McClure, the New Mexico Higher Education Department championed the funding of the act to increase the availability of state funded need-based aid to New Mexicans, thus encouraging more students to attend college and complete their degrees. The funds are intended to assist the non-traditional student who may not have continued their education directly after receiving their high school diploma or GED, and who may be working while attending college.

Many students attending Luna Community College have received funding from the College Affordability Fund. Beginning with the 2006-2007 academic year, LCC has awarded approximately \$95,056 from the College Affordability Fund.

As a result of the state's budget shortfall, the Legislative Finance Committee has recommended that \$20 million be withdrawn from the College Affordability Endowment fund.

As stated by Tashina-Banks-Moore with the Higher Ed Department, "...the College Affordability Grants are critical funds that support our low and middle-income students and to reduce the amount of CAG funding available to them has a potentially harmful impact on the aid available to our neediest students."

LCC students are encouraged to contact their state legislators and voice their concerns over the proposed reduction.

## New Mexico Higher Education Department wants to hear from adjunct faculty

By Pete Manthei/LCC Institutional Research and Development Director  
Attention Adjunct Faculty!

The New Mexico Higher Education Department wants to hear from you. This week, department directors will be distributing Part Time Faculty Job Satisfaction Surveys which HED would like you to fill out and return to either Donald Schleisman at HED or to my

office (SS-104). These surveys will be completely anonymous, the signature on page two only indicates that you agree to participate in the survey and will be destroyed before the answers are reviewed. While the return date of Jan. 23 is not written in stone, we would like to get them back as soon as possible.

If you did not get a copy of this survey, send me an e-mail to [pmanthei@luna.edu](mailto:pmanthei@luna.edu) and

I will be glad to send you a copy of the survey.

This is an important survey and I hope all adjunct faculty will participate. Thank you in advance.

*The Luna College Half Hour Radio Show on KNMX has been cancelled for Thursday, Jan. 22 due to school election interviews.*

# LCC students reflect on Martin Luther King Jr.

*Jacqueline Hampleman's reading class read Martin Luther King's speech "I Have a Dream" and these were their reflections.*

**What makes Martin Luther King's speech "I Have a Dream" so memorable?**

**Samantha Garcia**

*"This speech is so memorable because he had a dream about freedom."*

**Carla Ortiz**

*"To me the most memorable part of Martin Luther King's speech was when he said: 'I have a dream that one day ...little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls and walk together like brothers and sisters.'"*

**Marquita Arguello**

*"The speech is so memorable because it shows how everybody should all be treated the same in this world no matter if you're white or black or Hispanic. Everyone should be treated equal."*

**Desaree Ortiz**

*"What makes this speech so memorable is the way he describes all the dreams he wants to come true and how the world would be a better place."*

**Kimberly Mejillas**

*"The speech is so memorable because Martin Luther King Jr. believes that all men were created equal and you shouldn't judge a person by their color."*

**Shelby Sandoval**

*"This speech is so important and memorable because the day this speech was given was the day God opened the eyes of everybody to help them realize that everybody should be treated equally no matter what race they are because He brought them into this world all the same way - to live an equal and happy life."*

**Dana Abreu**

*"This speech is so memorable because it made a difference in the lives of everyone. The words that he spoke were meant for everyone to hear."*

**Martin Ortiz**

*"Most of the things he was talking about had come true. What he had fought for and dreamed about came true."*

**Albert Lucero**

*"The reason the speech is so memorable is because the words that Martin Luther King chose were of great pride. He was sure that his opinions of the world would change society and the world involved."*

**What dreams do you have for making the world a better place?**

**Shelby Sandoval**

*"If I could change the world and make it a better place I would try to take away violence and hatred among everyone. I believe that everybody should live a happy*

*life and not walk around having to worry about if anything bad is going to happen to them or to anybody around them."*

**Anonymous**

*"I have a dream that maybe one day no one will be hungry and they will all have food to eat."*

**Dana Abreu**

*"My dream is to make the world a better place by not killing each other. Everyone deserves to live and have their dreams fulfilled."*

**Martin Ortiz**

*"I have a dream that every country and leaders of countries would get along. Every country would help each other's needs, especially countries that are third world."*

**Albert Lucero**

*"Dreams that I have of making the world a better place is to help people who are in need so people can live prosperous."*

**Samantha Garcia**

*"I have a dream that one day people won't judge other people by the way they dress or how they look. I have a dream that one day people won't judge others by the people they associate with. I have a dream that people would mind their own business."*

**Desaree Ortiz**

*"I dream of a world that has no war, has better schools and does not have violence or drugs."*

**Carla Ortiz**

*"My dream is to make the world a better place and to raise our kids without so much violence. Everywhere I go I hear kids talking about how their parents are always hitting each other or always fighting. Those kids are going to grow up thinking that this is how their life or their marriage is supposed to be. It breaks my heart to hear those stories and to find out that there is no happiness in their lives at all."*

**Marquita Arguello**

*"The dreams I have is for all of us to come together, to stop the violence and the war, to realize that we are all one nation, to appreciate what God has given us and to be thankful for what we have."*

**Kimberly Mejillas**

*"The one dream that I have for making the world a better place is to become an OB nurse. I believe that when I am a nurse, I can help out the mother as well as her baby. By helping out, I know I can one day look back at what I did and I will feel proud of myself. By helping out a baby that needs you is something so special. This creates a bond with you and the child; it's a special bond."*



# Getting started...

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the northwest section of the Student Services Building. Here they will assist you with several things and guide you in the right direction. ACCESS staff consists of: Veronica Serna (454-2562), Melissa Lopez (454-5357), Janice Medrano (454-2546) or Renee Maestas (454-5355). Students with disabilities should also seek assistance from the ACCESS Center.

For those students seeking credit for their courses, you must take a Compass evaluation test for math, reading and English. You may obtain a referral from one of the educational advisors.

If you are undecided about a career, meet with an educational advisor and take a free interest inventory. This test is designed to help you decide what your educational interests are.

We want to remind you that there is financial aid available. We encourage you to visit the financial aid office located in the Administration Building (where the U.S. Flag is waving). Our financial staff consists of: Regina Madrid (454-2534), Joni Martinez (454-5324) or Rochelle Mueller (454-2552).

We also recommend that you meet with your faculty advisor as soon as possible. This will ensure that you are taking the right classes. You have to turn in your registration card at the Registrar's Office located in the northern section of the Student Service Building. For more information on this, call Johnathan Ortiz at (454-2596), Margaret Leyba (454-5313) or Monica Stroud (454-5314).

Financial arrangements are required in order for a student to be financially cleared. Disenrollment will occur after the first Friday of classes and every Friday thereafter during the semester when a student does not make financial arrangements. It is a Higher Education Department requirement that every student does make a financial commitment in order to avoid disenrollment. There is an opportunity to reenroll for the week following the first disenrollment. For more information on financial arrangements, call the fiscal office: Terri Mares (454-5339) or Urszula Abeyta (454-2506). The fiscal office is located in the Administration Building.

For those that want to contact the college through the mail, our address is: LCC, 366 Luna Drive, Las Vegas, NM, 87701.

## Blast from the past

Can you guess which LCC employee's baby 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 to Jesse Gallegos at the LCC Student Services Building.



Last week's winner: Urszula Abeyta  
Last week's picture: Elaine Ortega



LCC dental students are working diligently in preparing for their clinical practicum I this spring semester along with other spring courses. They are ringing in the new year with bright smiles as the program continues to progress. Students from left to right in the circular are: Yolanda Romero, Marcus Garcia, Liz Herrera, Vanessa Valencia, Renee Manzanaras, Barbara Perez and Savannah Coca. Sitting on the dental chair from right to left are Ana-Marie Maes, Denise Romero and LoriAnn Garcia. These students will be LCC Dental Assistant graduates of 2009.

## Quote of the Week

*"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire,"*— William Butler Yeats.

# LCC: "The People's College"