Curriculum changes on the horizon for auto collision

In an effort to assist students to enter the job market and meet employee demands, Luna Community College Vocational Director Gary Martinez will be looking into changing the school’s auto collision curriculum.

Martinez, along with Luna Community College Auto Collision Instructor Anthony Baca, President Dr. Pete Campos and Santa Rosa Satellite Director Albert Campos met with Jim Guthrie, president of Car Crafters (auto body repair) in Albuquerque, recently.

Guthrie walked Luna Community College employees through a step-by-step analysis on what his auto collision employees do and what the industry is asking for.

“This is a good point of contact for the industry,” said Martinez.

To read the full article, read Tuesday’s Luna Light.

Rudy Lovato puts up the lettering at the Maria H. Paiz Administration Building on Wednesday. The Luna Community College Board of Trustees voted to name the administration building after Paiz last October. Paiz was the executive office manager for the president’s office. She passed away in April.

Several deer were on the Luna Community College campus early Thursday morning. This particular photo was taken by Luna Community College Lead Database Administrator Denise Gibson.
The Foundation office now accepting applications for the Spring 2015 Semester!
Call Sarah Flores at (505) 454-5367 for more information. Check out our website: www.luna.edu/foundation
Deadline is February 16th.
Curriculum...

“Luna Community College is on the right track,” said Guthrie. “An antiquated curriculum, is an unqualified job applicant. This will be valuable not only to the student but to the shop owner.”

Guthrie said in the future he is willing to make a financial commitment to Luna Community College.

“We want to show our students that opportunities exist in today’s world of work,” said Dr. Campos. “This is a very exciting opportunity to bring the private and public sector together to assist our students with a transition from education to the real world of work. Mr. Guthrie has opened his heart to a joint vision and bold opportunity that will benefit students, faculty Car Crafters and employees.”

The college intends to introduce a memorandum of understanding, align curriculum and develop a joint venture that will benefit students as they pursue employment in the auto collision and related industries.

“This is an entire fresh perspective on what we need to do for our program,” said Baca. “This aligns our program with the needs of the industry.”

Martinez said that one opportunity for students will be more of a fast paced cohort to get students what they need to prepare them for work.

Car Crafters President Jim Guthrie (center) talks with Luna Community College employees Anthony Baca, Gary Martinez, Albert Campos Jr. and Dr. Pete Campos. Car Crafters is the largest auto body repair shop in New Mexico and sits on 8.5 acres and is 80,000 square feet.

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Car Crafters is the largest auto collision repair shop in the state and sits on 8.5 acres and 80,000 square feet.

Weekly Calendar

**Tuesday, January 20, 2015**
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  Piyo Fitness (MEC Atrium)
5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  LCC Board of Trustees Regular Board Meeting (Student Services 102)

**Wednesday, January 21, 2015**
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  Coaches School of Driving (General Studies 108)

**Thursday, January 22, 2015**
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  Piyo Fitness (MEC Atrium)

**Saturday, January 24, 2015**
7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  CNA Testing (Allied Health NO-7 & MO-11)

LCC: “The People’s College”
2015 Mora Homecoming Parade

LCC: “The People’s College”
Luna Community College quilting and sewing student Emilia Rivera’s works are being displayed at the Ray Drew Gallery at Highlands University. It is entitled “Simply Me.” They will be on display until Feb. 15, 2015. For more information on quilting and sewing classes, call the LCC Vocational Department at 505/454-2530.

Several Accelerate students participated in resume writing and an interviewing techniques workshop on Friday. Tasha Martinez—Associate Program Director of the New Mexico Municipal League led the workshop providing useful information to students in improving resumes. Accelerate students are preparing for a “Professional Readiness” event to be held at Santa Fe Community College in February. For more information on the Accelerate Program, call Diane Moore at 505/454-5303.

This will be our last Luna Light. The Luna Light has run with integrity and has grown in popularity over the years. Due to the popularity of the newsletter, it is now time to have the board of trustees address policies and regulations for its future operations. Until such time that the board addresses the future of the newsletter, the college will temporarily suspend its publication. We hope to be up and running soon.

LCC: “The People’s College”
Spring 2015 Community Education Courses

Gymnastics
Instructor: Bernardina "Nina" Ayon
Course Dates: Jan. 12 - Feb. 5  Mar. 9 - Apr. 2
              Apr. 7 - Apr. 30  May 4 - May 28
Days & Times: Mon & Wed 9:00am - 10:00am
Location: Gerald Ortega Wellness Center  Cost: $35/semester

High Intensity Interval Training
Instructor: Aaron Gallegos
Course Dates: Jan. 12 - Feb. 4  Feb. 9 - Mar. 4
              Mar. 9 - Apr. 1  Apr. 6 - Apr. 20
Days & Times: Mon & Wed 5:30pm - 6:30pm
Location: Gerald Ortega Wellness Center  Cost: $35.00/4-week course

Line Dancing
Instructor: Denise McElroy
Course Dates: Jan. 12 - May 7
Days & Times: Tues & Thurs 8:00am - 11:00am
Location: Gerald Ortega Wellness Center  Cost: $40/semester

PIYO (Pilates/Yoga)
Instructor: Erin Grassie
Course Dates: Jan. 20 - Mar. 12
Days & Times: Tues & Thurs 5:30pm - 6:30pm
Location: LCC Media Arts Atrium  Cost: $35.00/8-week course

Self-Defense Karate
Instructor: Jeff Ortzow
Course Dates: Jan. 13 - Mar. 5  Mar. 10 - Apr. 30
Days & Times: Tues & Thurs 5:30pm - 6:30pm
Location: Gerald Ortega Wellness Center  Cost: $41/semester

Morning Zumba
Instructor: M. Evelyn Marquez
Course Dates: Jan. 12 - May 8
Days & Times: Mon & Wed 9:00am - 10:00am
Location: Gerald Ortega Wellness Center  Cost: $50/semester

Evening Zumba
Instructor: Louie Trujillo
Course Dates: Jan. 13 - Mar. 5  Mar. 10 - Apr. 30
Days & Times: Tues & Thurs 5:30pm - 6:30pm
Location: Gerald Ortega Wellness Center

For more information, contact Martin Garcia @ 454-5312 or mgarcia@luna.edu
Second half of fiscal year

By Dr. Pete Campos
LCC President

I’ve had the opportunity to closely review the long term fluctuation and recent decline in revenues from the extractive industry and how this effects funding for our 2015-2016 operating year budget. The extractive industry is made up of the drilling, mining, quarrying, dredging, oil and gas extraction industries. We have all heard how the cost per barrel of crude oil is dropping and we are experiencing first-hand, the dropping price of gasoline per gallon at the pump. While this scenario benefits the consumer at the gasoline pump, the drop in the price of crude oil means less money available to fund the operational needs of state government. For every drop of $1 in the cost of a barrel of crude oil it is estimated it drops revenue coming into state coffers by $7.5 million. For example: if the cost per barrel of crude oil drops from $67 a barrel to $57 a barrel the $10 difference means $750 million less revenue available to fund state government.

On the other hand, Personal Income Taxes, Corporate Income Taxes and Gross Receipt Taxes have all increased significantly during the last quarter. This increase in revenue to the state will help to offset the loss of extractive industry revenue to the state. The House Appropriations and Finance Committee (HAFC) and Senate Finance Committee (SFC) will closely monitor where and what revenue will be available to fund state government.

The drop in the price of crude oil has also affected the states ability to collect revenue directly from the oil and gas industry. The oil and gas industry has reduced the rates it pays in taxes. The reduction in oil and gas revenue to the state will also effect our ability to fund state operations over the next fiscal year.

It is important for us to apply a level of conservatism and caution as we move into the second half of the fiscal year at Luna Community College. As we did in 2008, we must implement conservation and proactive practices to save energy and keep our utility cost to a minimum, continue to help each other with our everyday workload, possibly cut back or postpone less priority purchases until we have a better handle on future revenues.

Let’s focus on some of the positive: it has been recommended that Luna Community College receive reaffirmation of accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission for another 10 years; we are making over $8 million dollars (revenue currently appropriated and leveraged from state, federal and insurance resources) of improvements to our Trades facilities and roofs on the main campus in Las Vegas, HVAC system improvements at our Springer Satellite and the Wellness, Safety and Security Training Center at our Santa Rosa Satellite; we are establishing a strong partnership with the UNM School of Nursing to improve our nursing services to the students who attend our nationally accredited nursing college; we have advanced our level of certification because we provide excellent services at our Preschool (Early Childhood Education Center); we are becoming home to the Rio Gallinas (grades 6-8) Charter School; and, we have been approved as an Early College High School where students can take their high school courses and concentrate on a college pathway into the health services field.

This is just the tip of the iceberg! A fundamental academic, vocational and community educational outreach base has been solidified. There is much more progress to come, all for the benefit of our students, faculty, staff and community (service area). Stay tuned to Luna Community College and accentuate the positive. What we are accomplishing is good for our health, morale and future. We have good jobs and we are doing everything possible to prepare our students for good jobs as well!