Report: Community Colleges must focus on quality of learning

Increasing college completion is meaningless unless certificates and degrees represent real learning, which community colleges must work harder to ensure, says a report released on Thursday by The Center for Community College Student Engagement. It appeared in The Chronicle of Higher Education. "Overall, 67 percent of community college students said their coursework often involved analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory; 59 percent said they frequently synthesized ideas, information, and experiences in new ways. Other averages were lower: 56 percent of students, for example, reported being regularly asked to examine the strengths or weaknesses of their own views on a topic. And just 52 percent of students said they often had to make judgments about the value or soundness of information as part of their academic work. One problem may be low expectations," says Kay M. McClenny, director of the Center for Community College Student Engagement. “And the national push for attainment could drive those expectations down further, she says, citing a remark she worries about hearing on campuses: “Well, sure, we know how to retain students and help them complete. We just lower our standards.”

You can read the complete Nov. 11, 2010 Chronicle of Higher Education article online.

Local business owner Charlie Sandoval is scheduled to speak to students enrolled in the principles of small business at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 18. Other business majors are welcomed to attend. Pictured with Sandoval is LCC Business Instructor Elaine Ortega. For more on Sandoval, see page 8.
Find the hero in you.

Give blood 3 times a year!

Luna Community College

BLOOD DRIVES

10:00AM – 3:30PM

Monday, November 29th
Tuesday, November 30th

In the Bloodmobile

Contact Jackie Romero-Arguello @ 454-5379 to sign up,
or log onto www.unitedbloodservices.org
Sponsor Code: Luna

United Blood Services
www.UnitedBloodServices.org

Please bring photo ID and donor card. Free Cholesterol Testing every donation!
Luna CC speaks out

Where would you like to see yourself five years from now?

Victoria Flores
Student Services Specialist II
Santa Rosa Satellite
“I am working towards my master’s degree right now and I plan on finishing in the spring of 2013. Once completed, I will be an SLP - speech language pathologist and hopefully, I will be working with the youth in our community.”

Vanessa Vigil
Liberal Arts
“Working as a dental hygienist either in Albuquerque or Las Cruces.”

Jordan Bernal
Business
“I see myself working for NASA in Las Cruces. That’s where I’m from.”

Ricardo Roman
Accounting
“Living in another city, maybe in Houston. I also want to have three degrees by then—an associates, bachelors and a masters.”

Register for Spring Classes at....

View and Print the Spring 2011 Schedule of Classes @ www.luna.edu
CLASSES BEGIN TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2010.

1.800.588.7232 OR 505.454.2500
Register online at https://pathways.luna.edu
Weekly activities

Monday, Nov. 15, 2010
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Skills USA Cosmetology “Snack Shack” (Admn./Room 108)
5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. DWI Class (General Studies/Room 102-B)

Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2010
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Skills USA Cosmetology “Snack Shack” (Admn./Room 108)
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Responsible Driving for DWI Participants (Gen. Stud/102-B)

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Skills USA Cosmetology “Snack Shack” (Admn./Room 108)
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Robertson Tour (LRC/Lecture Hall)

Thursday, Nov. 18, 2010
9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Quadrant Quarterly Training/Postmasters (LRC Lecture Hall)
5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Noches de Familia Activity (IPC/Cafeteria)
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Monthly Water Board Meeting (Technologies/Room 126-B)

Friday, Nov. 19, 2010
9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Quadrant Quarterly Training/Postmasters (LRC Lecture Hall)

Dr. Vidal Martinez: We should all be proud

The results of our focus visit by The Higher Learning Commission was satisfactory! I would like to thank everyone, without you, this would not have been possible. The team came together and it was synergetic. We should all be proud. Our next step is the development of online programs. In the near future, we are looking at offering an online degree in military studies and business. Anything is possible if we work together.

Again, I want to thank all of you.

Dr. Vidal Martinez
Old-school athletics: let’s learn from it

This is the second of a series of articles written on old-school athletics by Luna Community College sports performance instructor Henry Sanchez.

It’s amazing the older we get the more we appreciate The Good Old Days and the people that made them that way for us. As the years have passed like the wind, I have come to appreciate more my education at St. Joseph’s College and my mentor and coach Dr. Rudy Cordova.

St. Joseph’s College was a full-time teachers training and liberal arts college under the direction of the Sisters of St. Francis. Originally, it was a girls’ college and in 1946 became a co-educational college.

In 1951, a new campus was built on 60 acres of land on the west bank of the Rio Grande overlooking the city of Albuquerque. Today, St. Pius High calls this campus its home.

Coach Cordova was a native New Mexican, who graduated from La Joya High in 1940. He then enrolled at the University of New Mexico where he earned his bachelor’s and master’s degree. He was an athlete and lettered in varsity track and basketball.

In 1942, he entered the armed forces and spent four years service time in the South Pacific with the 25th Infantry Division. In the South Pacific, he was a member of the South Pacific All-Star Basketball Team.

In 1946, he was discharged from the service with the rank of technical sergeant. He then accepted the job of athletic director and head basketball coach at Joseph’s where would spend 22 years building a strong intercollegiate athletic program and creating a health, physical education and recreation department. From this program, many of the top educators, coaches and recreational leaders would emerge.

He took a leave of absence to go to UCLA to earn his Ph.D. While at UCLA, he became a friend of legendary coach John Wooden and even helped in his program.

He returned to St. Joseph’s where he changed its name to the University of Albuquerque. In the fall of 1968, a great shortage in funds forced the cancellation of sports programs.

In 1971 he joined the U.S. Department of Education in Washington D.C. as a deputy director. In 1982, he returned and joined the University of New Mexico as a faculty member in the department of education.

In 1989, he retired and continued with his life of helping others and giving in all aspects of his life. In 1994, he died suddenly leaving a great void in the lives of his students, athletes and in general everyone that knew him.

In 2000, he was inducted into the Albuquerque Sports Hall of Fame. Remembering those great and happy days I often wonder what was it that made Rudy Cordova such a great teacher and coach? His teams were not great winners from the standpoint of wins and losses. Yet the players and students under him would go on to very successful lives and careers.

I think we didn't realize what a great teacher he was, not only in the classroom but also in the way to live life. Fifty years later many of us consider him the best teacher we ever had, which is the highest compliment a teacher can ever earn.

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 sports performance at Luna Community College.
Remembering veterans in Santa Rosa

“The People’s College”
Remembering veterans in Santa Rosa

Luna Community College would like to thank all veterans.
Sandoval to speak to business students

Charlie Sandoval is a native Las Vegan who has been in business for quite sometime now. He first started with a local franchise (Dairy Queen) in 1984 and currently has 16 employees. In July of 1998 he decided to buy an existing business originally called Spic and Span; now known as Charlie’s Spic and Span.

As sole proprietorship and true entrepreneur, he has then expanded his business tremendously. His business offers great Mexican/American food where he diversified toward promoting his product line further including: Starbucks Coffee, a bakery offering additional services such as WiFi, and food catering.

Sandoval has great growth potential in which he also expanded his business adding a new dining area. His vision is to continue to grow in accommodating customers in a relaxing atmosphere “outdoor patio.” He mentions that in “advertising/marketing” his business is mostly word of mouth offering those customers high quality customer service and customer satisfaction.

Sandoval has contributed (social responsibility) to many charitable organizations, hires students from local schools, has approximately 40 employees, entertains customers with mariachi music, and works with his employees as a team. As with his new logo “Cream Puff” he visions someday is to make the world’s biggest cream puff in joining the World’s Guinness.

Sandoval is scheduled to speak with students enrolled in principles of small business at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 18. Other business majors are welcome to attend.

Luna Community College Business Instructor Elaine Ortega is directing the event.

“My objective is to reinforce student learning in principles of small business in relational to entrepreneurial opportunities for a startup or existing business,” says Ortega. “This event is extremely important in motivating our students at Luna Community College (Business Professional Studies) to become entrepreneurs in opening their own business. Students learn to start and run a small business which includes components needed in writing a marketable business plan.”

Students in the principles of small business class are exposed to forecasting revenues and expenditures of a company including working with important financial statements of a business. They are also encouraged to work with financial ratios in projecting the outcome of a company at a given point in time. Students also work with PowerPoint software in extracting major key points of business plan and presenting to the classroom.

“I enjoy working with students in this class (principles of small business) which is a requirement for all business majors in developing a business plan. Students learn many topics interrelated to opening a start-up small business or buying an existing business including: entrepreneurial opportunities, preparing the business plan, marketing and managing small business operations, financial and administrative controls and social and legal environments,” said Ortega.

With the economies downfall, the Obama Administration is promoting entrepreneurs to take advantage of many incentives offered to small business owners including: financial incentives, business loans, and tax credits in order to stimulate the economy.

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Luna Community College physical plant employee Manuel Archuleta gives LCC President Dr. Pete Campos and the college a thumbs up.

Luna nursing students sponsoring coat drive

The Luna Community College Student Nurses Association is running their First Children’s Coat Drive. Donation boxes have been placed around campus. Coats will be donated to local school children on Dec. 1, 2010. Let’s work together to provide a warm winter for children in need!

Thank you from the Student Nurses Association.
LCC vocational programs receive good news

To: Luna Community College  
Fr.: AGC-NM Building Branch Unilateral Training Committee  
Date: 9/20/2010

To whom it concerns,

Luna Community College is recognized by the National Center for Construction Education and Research as a Certified Accredited Training Education Facility. In cooperation with AGC-NM Building Branch, Luna CC is currently certified to train the following NCCER titles: Carpentry, Construction Safety Orientation, Residential Electrical, Industrial Welding and Core Curriculum.

AGC-New Mexico Building Branch currently has Apprentices enrolled in Luna CC for the “Classroom Related Instruction” which is required by the NM State Apprenticeship Council (SAC). The current curriculum that is utilized by Luna CC meets and exceeds the SAC Standards.

Regards,

Ralph A. Mora  
Apprenticeship Coordinator  
NCCER Sponsor Representative

Clarabella Hern, originally from Anton Chico, who now works for Custom Nail Technology, gave a demonstration to Luna Community College students last week. Hern is also involved in the state and national SkillsUSA competition.

LCC RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES (and other events) WEEK OF November 15-20

Monday, Nov. 15— no activities planned

Tuesday, Nov. 16— KFUN Radio, 8 a.m., promoting LCC spring classes, community ed.

Wednesday, Nov. 17 —College Fair-Taos HS, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Planning for Future Success-Robertson HS @ LCC, 9 a.m.

Thursday, Nov. 18- College/Career Fair- Talent Search, Pojoaque HS, 9 a.m.– 2 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 19- College Night meeting @ LCC, 9 a.m.
The following story is being reprinted with permission from Bob Morris of the Raton Range.

By Bob Morris
The Raton Range

Some Raton High School students helped a local church with a community project and gained valuable experience at the same time.

Nine students in Mark Honeyfield’s building trades class at the high school removed shingles from the roof of Joe and Beverly Lovato’s house Friday morning, helping the Family Worship Center prepare the roof for new shingles that church members installed during the weekend.

Honeyfield learned about the project from high school janitor Steve Hicks, who attends the church. Hicks explained the church had a challenge through a Bible study class to “help the needy in Raton” and helping the Lovatos is one of the projects the church has taken on.

“They needed a new roof and these guys needed training,” said Hicks, referring to the building trades students.

Family Worship Center Pastor Dave McCarty explained that the Bible study covered the New Testament and lessons learned. One of the tasks group members took on was to find projects in the community to help those in need, “not necessarily somebody who is part of the church, but we will help church members.”

When people are identified who need assistance with a project and cannot afford it, such as the Lovatos, “we step in and help them out,” McCarty said.

Honeyfield volunteered to have the students come to the house at 217 S. Fifth St. to remove the shingles from the roof. Church members were then to put new shingles into place.

“I talked to (Honeyfield) about it — he said his first-hour class was going through training on roofing and concrete work,” Hicks said, adding it was a good way for the students not only to get hands-on experience, but to help others.

Students Cody Montoya and Jay Starr said they enjoyed the opportunity.

“We learned how to do something and now are putting it into motion,” Starr said. “It is pretty nice to give back to the community. Somebody needed help, so we helped.”

“It’s good to keep people happy and help any way we can,” Montoya added.

Honeyfield said the building trades class allows students to get some simple experience in skills involved with construction, along with juniors and seniors getting an opportunity to earn college credit through Luna Community College. He said one upcoming project will be pouring concrete for a driveway project Hicks has underway.

But he added he hopes, as other projects similar to the one at the Lovatos’ home come along, that the students will be able to contribute in some capacity.

“We’d love to do little projects for folks who can’t afford to get something done and don’t expect a professional job,” Honeyfield said, adding the students would be available for smaller projects.

Such projects are “the stuff we teach in schools, and this is a way they get to apply it,” Honeyfield said.

McCarty said it’s “awesome” that the students stepped in to help.

“We are trying to get members together, but people have problems with schedules, so we are happy they were willing to do it,” he said, adding the students’ help made the project proceed faster.

Hicks and McCarty added the church has other projects upcoming to help the needy in the community, such as preparing dinners for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Elizabeth Lisa Montaño, Carmen Padilla and Jennifer Lopez each are pictured here taking a medical terminology class online at the Santa Rosa Satellite last Thursday. For more information on Luna Community College’s Santa Rosa Satellite, call 575/472-1400.

LCC: “The People’s College”
The Luna Foundation Board of Trustees held their monthly meeting recently. The Foundation awarded four scholarships for the fall semester. Pictured (top, l-r) are members Dante Vigil, Phil Wolff, Matt Martinez, and Antonio Ortega. Pictured (bottom, l-r) are Executive Director Sarah Flores, Ernesto Salazar, chairman and Darlene Baca, secretary.

Our Luminaria Drive is fast approaching and is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010. LCC plans on displaying 4,500 luminarias throughout the campus.

Are rules meant to be broken?

**By Jesse Gallegos**

**A Different Perspective**

Smile if anyone of you has ever broken one of society’s simple rules. An example would be crossing a street where there is no crosswalk, not putting on your signals when turning, or maybe throwing some flower seed shells outside of your car window instead of waiting to properly dispose them in a trash can.

Right now, out of the 4,250 people reading this column online, I imagine 4,200 are smiling. The other 50 are probably in denial.

Well, I hope I set the precept for my message today which is our college’s smoking and tobacco policy which many people are still refusing to obey. No, you will not go to jail or anything, but the rule is in the books and I’m wondering why it isn’t followed more.

I asked our Life/Safety Coordinator Andrew Duran about this policy late last week and he gave me some interesting but what I felt as honest answers. My first question is how effective does he believe this policy has been? Here is his answer.

In my opinion, the tobacco policy has been somewhat effective. As with any new policy, time is essential. With time I believe we will see the policy be more successful. Smoking has not been as evident as it was last semester. I cannot state that the policy is the reason for this, but I hope it is and hope that some people have reduced or are working on quitting.

So where have we failed and succeeded? Duran states.

We have failed in the lack of promoting the policy; I would say that if you really don’t know that the policy exists and you walk onto campus, it would not be evident. We further fail in the lack of enforcement, as is often heard, “It’s not my job,” but I feel it should be everyone’s job to be courteous and assist students. Faculty and staff when you see someone smoking outside a designated area remind them of the existing policy and direct them to the nearest designated tobacco use area. On occasion, I will run into people smoking outside the designated areas and have stopped to mention to them where the closest designated area is, on most occasions they state they did not know.

I am keeping my fingers crossed that the reduction in smoking that appears to have happened is a result of the policy, but I feel it is too early to say that we have succeeded.

So where do we go from here? Duran suggests the following

- E-mail blasts to students, faculty, and staff with tobacco information.
- Poster advertisements in our buildings
- Some type of flyer for students during registration, for staff and faculty with any new hires, possible insert with pay checks, etc.

It’s my opinion that we just need to give this new rule a little more time to work. Every day that passes, things will get better and one day soon, everyone will obey this rule.

Smile if everyone agrees on this one.

By Jesse Gallegos

A Different Perspective

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DO YOU WANT TO HIT THE SLOPES THIS WINTER?

COMING TO THE LCC SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB MEETING

Tuesday, Nov. 16 at 4:30 p.m.
Science, Math, & Engineering Tech LOBBY

Dr. Andrew Feldman
Sponsor
454-5306 x1050 for information