Luna Community College’s Title V Mission:
“Developing a comprehensive online learning network for rural, time and place-bound students.”

A Title V Tribute to Mary Medina and Veronica Serna

The Luna Community College Title V program began in December 2007 under the leadership of Interim President Dr. Sigfredo Maestas. Under this grant, LCC was awarded $2,853,708.00 to be distributed over five years. Mary Medina and Veronica Serna were the first staff members to be part of the program. The purpose of the Title V grant is to develop online learning technology for delivery of a complete general studies associate degree and high demand nursing courses to the area’s rural, low-income, time and place-bound students. Under the guidance of Ms. Medina and Ms. Serna, a Faculty Computer Lab and a student online learning lab have been implemented on the main campus. Also, an online learning computer lab was created in Springer, NM and an additional computer lab for online students is currently being implemented in Pecos, NM. Finally, a video and audio recording studio was created in the Learning Resource Center.

Also as part of the Title V initiative, Ms. Medina, Ms. Serna, and the rest of the Title V staff have led the way in the implementation of online student services. Thus far, LCC has seen the development of online registration, online orientation, and online financial aid with much more still to come. Ms. Medina, Ms. Serna, and the Title V staff have laid the groundwork for online account payment and remote desktop access (which will allow for students to access software from anywhere).

Through the Title V grant, 18 Instructors have gone through rigorous training and are delivering 22 courses online. Currently, there are 10 more courses being developed to be piloted Fall 2010 and 10 Instructors who are currently going through the training in Blackboard, Wimba and PLATO.

Title V has thus far spent $535,384.81 in computers, software, and other technology which has gone to strengthen LCC’s online learning endeavors. All of the Title V projects that have been accomplished for the past two and a half years have been due to the fact that Mary, Veronica, and the Title V staff have invested countless hours in making sure that all projects have been achieved. Through these efforts, the Title V program has been evaluated three times by External Evaluators and once by the United States Department of Education. Through all the evaluations, there have been no deficiencies found and the only comments have been with regards to the outstanding work of the Title V department under the leadership of Mary Medina, Vice President of Student Services.

This edition of the Title V Newsletter is dedicated to these two women who have blazed the path for the future of LCC in online education. Their expertise and dedication will be sorely missed by the Title V department and is a great loss to Luna Community College.

The Title V staff will endeavor to move the Title V program forward in continuing to serve students at LCC.

Thank you Veronica and Mary, for your tireless dedication to our students and for leading the way in making Luna Community College a better place. We will miss you!!

Point to Ponder:
“The work goes on, the cause endures, the hope still lives and the dreams shall never die.”
- Edward Kennedy