

Dental assistants' role praised

Luna program celebrates recognition week March 9

Luna Community College dental assisting students will celebrate Dental Assistants Recognition Week from Saturday, March 6, to Sunday, March 12.

The week has been designated by the American Dental Assistants Association. Dentists in the U.S. and Canada will celebrate by honoring their dental assistants for the variety of duties they perform and their help in providing patients with quality dental care.

As part of the celebration, dental assisting students are inviting Luna students and employees to have cake and refreshments at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 9, in the Allied Health Sciences Building.

The theme for 2022 is "Dental Assistants: Passionate About Our Patients, Dedicated To Our Profession." The organization acknowledges the growing importance of dentistry's role in health care and the responsibilities of dental assistants. Dental assistants are a key part of the dental practice year-round, strengthen the entire practice and enhance patient



The dental assistant plays a key role in dentistry and health care. Recognition of dental assisting — and the certificate program available at Luna — will take place March 6-12 nationwide, including a gathering on campus on Wednesday, March 9.

satisfaction. Dental assistants are committed to professional development and quality dental care.

Gloria Pacheco, Luna dental assisting program administrator, said being a dental assistant is a prominent and rewarding career.

"Dental assistant (studies) can lead to a satisfactory, high-in-

demand position in general, specialty practices or military branches," she said. "Furthermore, dental assistants can go into other fields in dentistry, such as dental hygiene, doctor of dental science, lab technicians, and more."

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8-WEEK CLASSES AT LUNA!

Join us for our
eight-week classes
beginning March 21!

For details and
registration
information, please
see luna.edu/schedule
or call 505-454-2550
or 505-454-5313.
Register now through
March 25.

AUTO 100 Automotive Fundamentals	Sat	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Springer
BIOL 1110E & 1110 LE General Biology & Lab	Async	Async	Online
CS 217E Windows Server 2 (Distance Learning)	Async	Async	Online
CS 245E Security + (Distance Learning)	Async	Async	Online
CS 248E Web Design & Programming (Distance)	MTWR	2-3:50 p.m.	Online
CS 267E Network Concepts II (Distance)	MTWR	11 a.m. to 12:50	Online
DENT 170 Clinical Training Practicum I	MTWR	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	TBA
DENT 170 Clinical Training Seminar	Fri	8-9:50 a.m.	Las Vegas
ENGL 1110H Composition I (Hybrid)	TR	8-11:50 a.m.	Las Vegas
FCMK 100 Intro to Furniture & Cabinet Making	Sat	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Las Vegas Santa Rosa Springer
PSYC 1110E Intro to Psychology (Distance)	Async	Async	Online
WLDG 118L Welding Level I Lab	Sat	2-4:50 p.m.	Las Vegas
WLDG 119L Welding Level I Application Lab	MTRF	1-4:50 p.m.	Las Vegas
WLDG 125 Machine Operation in Metal & Lab	Wed	8-11:50, 1-3	Las Vegas

*More classes, including CDL theory and driving, to be added!



Dental assistants

Continued from Page 1

Pacheco worked as a dental assistant for 12 years and has taught at Luna since Jan. 15, 2001.

“Individuals interested in dentistry should know that this career field is fast-paced and high in demand,” she said. “It presents itself with challenges — however rewarding and self-satisfactory in the sense that the work accomplished at the end of the day has made a difference for someone wanting to smile bigger and brighter. I need to mention the fact that we need to nourish our body; the best method is by having the tools to do so, and the tools I refer to here are your teeth. Many do not realize how important and valuable it is to have a skilled dental assistant in the office providing care. When you think about the duties of a dental assistant, they should be considered a dental nurse.”

Pacheco said that dental assistants must attain a New Mexico license to practice dental X-rays along



Gloria Pacheco, whose own experience includes 12 years working as a dental assistant, has been teaching at Luna since Jan 15, 2001.

with expanded functions, and Luna provides the quality training necessary to accomplish that.

For more information on Luna’s dental assisting program, please call 505-454-2528.



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Gloria Pacheco
Dental assisting program administrator,
Luna Community College

Write on



English instructor Larry Fields discusses how to edit term papers with his students in a recent class.

Short-term courses on tap

Robert Ortiz, Luna furniture and cabinet making instructor, gets his classroom ready for an eight-week course that starts on Monday, March 21, on the main campus in Las Vegas. The last day to register for eight-week courses is Friday, March 25. To see the full schedule of short-term courses, visit LUNA.edu.



Join our team and help us serve our communities!

Employment opportunities

Positions available at Luna Community College

FULL-TIME

- Admissions & recruitment manager ... opened Feb. 16
- Budget & procurement director ... opened Feb. 11
- Custodian I ... opened Feb. 9
- Assistant softball coach ... opened Feb. 9
- Admissions counselor ... opened Dec. 17
- Student success specialist (2) ... opened Dec. 13
- Business, lead instructor ... opened Dec. 10
- Executive administrative assistant to the president ... opened Dec. 7
- Allied Health Sciences: Dental assisting instructor ... opened Nov. 16
- Academic and career planning director ... opened Nov. 3

PART-TIME

- Custodian I, Santa Rosa ... opened Jan. 13

TEMPORARY PART-TIME

- CTE: Welding student lab assistant, hourly ... opened Jan. 21
- Preschool substitute teacher/caretaker ... opened June 29

ADJUNCT (per course)

- Allied Health Sciences: Certified Nursing Assistant instructor ... opened Feb. 9
- Allied Health Sciences: Dental assisting instructor ... opened Dec. 6
- CTE: Furniture & cabinet making instructor ... opened Nov. 15
- CTE: Welding instructor, Springer ... opened Oct. 25
- CTE: Furniture & cabinet making instructor, Santa Rosa ... opened Oct. 25

- CTE: Furniture & cabinet making instructor, Springer ... opened Oct. 25
- CTE: Welding instructor ... opened Oct. 25
- CTE: Commercial drivers license theory instructor ... opened Aug. 26
- CTE: Commercial drivers license driving instructor ... opened Aug. 26
- CTE: Auto technology instructor, Springer ... opened Aug. 26
- CTE: Auto technology instructor ... opened Aug. 26
- CTE: Auto collision repair instructor ... opened Aug. 26

Most recent postings listed first. All positions open until filled unless otherwise noted. For more information on each position, please log on to www.luna.edu/jobs.



College Scorecard:

The U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard has the most reliable data on college costs, graduation and post-college earnings. Visit collegescorecard.ed.gov

The Luna Light is a publication of the Luna Community College Office of Public Relations. To submit story ideas or items for consideration, please e-mail Jesse Gallegos, jgallegos@luna.edu, and Dave Kavanaugh, dkavanaugh@luna.edu.

Luna @ the Legislature

Feb. 17, 2022, END OF SESSION

The 55th Legislature's second regular session began on Jan. 18 and concluded on Feb. 17. Deadline to introduce legislation was Feb. 2. Legislation not acted upon by the governor as of March 9 is pocket-vetoed. Legislation — other than general appropriation or bills carrying emergency clauses or other specified dates — goes into effect May 18.

Luna @ The Legislature, an initiative of the Luna Community College Office of Public Relations, provides a weekly update on the session to inform the campus community.

Legislation of particular interest to Luna Community College, filed as of this publication:

House Bill 2 General Appropriations Act. Funds government operations, including \$1.01 billion from general fund, \$16.8 million from other state funds, \$43.1 million from internal service/interagency transfers, and \$10.5 million from federal funds to the higher education department for fiscal year 2023. Funding amounts include \$10,517,000 total for Luna Community College — \$7.3 million for instruction and general, \$1.87 million for other, \$483,800 for retention and completion, \$251,000 for nursing expansion, \$150,000 for Rough Rider student support services. Introduced by Patricia Lundstrom. Committee substitute passed House 56-13; additionally amended version passed by Senate 37-3; bill passed after conference committee.

HB 58 Creates adult online learner scholarship program for higher education; introduced by Joshua Hernandez. Currently in House Education Committee.

HB 59 Modifies school group insurance contributions by employers; introduced by Raymundo Lara, G. Andres Romero, Anthony Allison, Natalie Figueroa, Willie Madrid. Currently in House Appropriations & Finance Committee. See also SB 101.

HB 73 Allows certain educational retirees to return to work without suspension of benefits; introduced by Joy Garratt. Amended version passed House 62-1; passed Senate 41-0.

HB 98 General Appropriations Act, original filing. Currently in House Appropriations & Finance Committee. See HB 2 above.

HB 105 Allows public employees to return to work for affiliated public employers under certain conditions; introduced by William Rehm, Rachel Black, Phelps Anderson, Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Dayan Hochman-Vigil. Currently in House Labor, Veterans & Military Affairs Committee.

HB 107 General Appropriation Act of 2022, funding amounts proposed include \$10,517,000 total for Luna. Introduced by Nathan Small, Candie Sweetser and Patricia Lundstrom. Currently in House Appropriations & Finance Committee. See SB 157 and HB 2.

HB 137 Requires public contracts provide for increased contractor and subcontractor wages in accordance with state minimum wage increases; introduced by Rebecca Dow and Miguel Garcia. Currently in House Rules Committee.

HB 143 Creates five-year innovation accelerator pilot project for businesses, with centers at certain community colleges; introduced by Linda Serrato. Currently in House Appropriations

& Finance Committee.

HB 153 General Obligation Bonds, provides for potential funding of projects including academic libraries statewide and \$1.5 million for heating, ventilation and air conditioning at Luna Community College, with bond election to go before voters in November 2022. Introduced by Christine Chandler. Amended version passed House 66-2; passed Senate 37-0.

HB 159 Provides college and career readiness programming at public high schools around the state; appropriation of \$500,000. Introduced by Linda Serrato and Tara Lujan. Currently in House Education Committee.

HB 170 Sets minimum wage for state employees, higher education employees, public school employees and others at \$15 an hour; introduced by Susan Herrera, Christine Chandler, Angelica Rubio, Anthony Allison, Javier Martinez. Currently in House Rules Committee.

House Memorial 38 Initiates study of training needs for law enforcement and first responders; introduced by Andrea Romero. Currently on House calendar for action.

House Memorial 48 Initiates study of STEM education-to-career pipeline, with study to include public schools, higher educational institutions and workforce solutions; introduced by Tara Lujan. Currently on House calendar for action.

(210/250 House bills introduced to date)

Senate Bill 1 Increases starting salaries for licensed public school teachers — \$50,000 for Level 1, \$60,000 Level 2, \$70,000 Level 3; introduced by Mimi Stewart and Debra Sarifiana. Passed Senate 35-0; passed House 68-0.

SB 7 Sets minimum wage for state employees and employees of state contractors at \$15 an hour; introduced by Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Peter Wirth, Linda Lopez. Amended bill passed Senate 26-11; now on House calendar for action. See alternate bill, SB 125.

SB 25 Creates a research grants closing fund and competitive process for higher educational institutions; introduced by William Soules. Currently in Senate Committees Committee.

SB 36 Increases certain contributions to educational retirement fund; introduced by Mimi Stewart. Passed Senate 35-0; passed House 52-12.

SB 50 Funds expansion of nursing programs at public post-secondary institutions; introduced by Liz Stefanics. Currently in Senate Finance Committee.

SB 51 Creates public works commission to annually hear proposals on capital outlay-funded project; introduced by Bill Tallman. Currently in Senate Committees Committee.

SB 56 Provides for financial aid for nursing students and loan repayment assistance for nurses in advanced practice; introduced by Liz Stefanics. Currently in Senate Finance Committee.

SB 101 Modifies school group insurance contributions by employers; introduced by Harold Pope. Currently in Senate Finance Committee. See also HB 59.

SB 114 Changes stipulations within the state procurement code; introduced by Bill Tallman. Currently in Senate Committees Committee.

SB 124 Changes eligibility requirements for the legislative lottery tuition scholarship and specifies summer session eligibility; introduced by George Muñoz, Mimi Stewart. Currently in Senate Committees Committee.

SB 125 Sets minimum wage for state employees at \$15 an hour; introduced by George Muñoz, Michael Padilla. Amended version currently on Senate calendar for action. See alternate bill, SB 7.

SB 131 Creates an educational loan-for-service program in career technical education; introduced by Cliff Pirtle. Currently in Senate Committees Committee.

SB 132 Increases minimum salary for licensed educational assistants who meet eligibility requirements to \$20,000 a year; introduced by Mimi Stewart. Currently in Senate Finance Committee.

SB 140 Opportunity Scholarship Act. Appropriates \$85.5 million from general fund to establish Opportunity Scholarship to be awarded to qualified, eligible students covering up to 100 percent of tuition and fees after other state aid has been applied; introduced by Liz Stefanics, Joy Garratt. Amended version passed Senate 30-6; passed House 51-17.

SB 146 Authorizes state agencies or local public bodies to join existing cooperative procurement agreements; introduced by Pete Campos. Currently in Senate Committees Committee.

SB 154 General Appropriation Act of 2022, funding amounts proposed include \$10,517,000 total for Luna Community College. Introduced by George Muñoz. Currently in Senate Finance Committee. See HB 2, HB 107.

SB 172 Allows certain educational retirees to return to work without suspension of retirement benefits; introduced by George Muñoz. Currently on Senate calendar for action.

SB 212 Capital Outlay project funding includes \$92,500 for dental lab instructional equipment at Luna Community College; introduced by Nancy Rodriguez. Substitute version passed Senate 38-0; passed House 64-0.

SB 213 Capital Outlay project reauthorization list includes extension of time for Luna Community College CNC milling machine equipment purchase; introduced by Nancy Rodriguez. Substitute version passed Senate 31-9; passed House 65-0.

Senate Memorial 13 Initiates study of training needs for law enforcement and first responders; introduced by Leo Jaramillo. Currently in Senate Rules Committee.

(220/255 Senate bills introduced to date)

(Including bills, memorials, resolutions, 641 total pieces introduced to date)

As of 2 p.m. Feb. 17, 2022. Compiled by Dave Kavanaugh, LCC Communications & Marketing.

ONLINE & FREE!

We help you take on the TEAS!

FREE workshops to help prepare you for the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) are now being offered at Luna Community College. Contact Yvonne Piña, ypina@luna.edu, or 505-454-2525, to sign up or to get more information.

Workshop schedule (Session 1)



Free TEAS prep Workshops

NOW ONLINE; E-MAIL FOR
DETAILS OR TO SIGN UP

WORKSHOP TOPIC

DATE

Intro & pre-test	March 22, 6:30 p.m.
Reading & English	March 24, 6:30 p.m.
Math	March 29, 6:30 p.m.
Science	March 31, 6:30 p.m.
Anatomy & physiology	April 5, 6:30 p.m.
Conclusion	April 7, 6:30 p.m.

**Take all six free workshops,
and we will pay your first TEAS fee!***

* All workshops and post-tests must be completed within same sequence in order to be eligible. Limit one free TEAS fee waiver per participant. Contact LCC Nursing Department for details.



Limas: Region IX Pitcher of Week

Jacob Limas of Luna Community College was recently named Region IX Pitcher of the Week for his efforts at El Paso Community College in a road series Feb. 4-5 in El Paso, Texas.

On the 5th, Limas went five and two-thirds innings and struck out six while holding the Tejanos to two runs on three hits and four walks. That pitching helped secure Luna's first win of the season, a 3-2 score.

In his season debut, Jan. 29 at Eastern Arizona, Limas threw a three-hitter with no runs and no walks and four strikeouts through six innings of an eventual 1-0 loss in an 11-inning pitchers' duel.

"Jacob has had two really good outings, and we expect him to only get stronger," said T.C. Nusser, head coach of the Rough Riders. "The sky is the limit for him. He is a great kid on and off the field."

Limas is a freshman, right-handed pitcher from Las Cruces majoring in general science. He is an alumnus of Organ Mountain (formerly Oñate) High School.

Luna softball won two of six games to open the season at the Permian Basin Invitational at Odessa, Texas.

Day one of the three-day tourney on Feb. 10 was a tough start. Cisco College staked out a 9-0 win, led by a seven-strikeout, performance for Caitlyn Rangel, who held the Rough Riders to one hit and two walks through four frames.



Jacob Limas delivers a pitch in a series at El Paso. Limas, a Luna freshman, was honored as regional Pitcher of the Week. Photo courtesy of Brad Carlyon.

Tournament host Odessa followed by defeating Luna 17-3. The Rough Riders did load the bases in the top of the fourth inning and scored two runs before the Wranglers escaped the jam. Odessa's Michaella Baker led her side's offensive output with a home run and a double.

Luna bounced back quickly enough, beating Hesston (Kan.)

College 16-10 in Feb. 11's first contest, a morning game that started at 9 local time. The Rough Rider bats got on track early against the Larks, who also hit well.

"Very excited for the girls and the school," said new head coach Randall Krutsch, who said 10 players contributed with runs

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Rough Riders

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batted in for “a solid team win.”

Standouts included Lexi Johnson (three-run home run), Shelby Cordova (two hits and solid play at shortstop), Raegan Shackelford (two hits with a double), Victoria Gonzales (two hits with a double), and Mya Ortega (3 for 3 with two runs).

Val Manzanares and Shackelford pitched three innings apiece.

Odessa again matched up with Luna on Feb. 11 and took a 4-0 head start on a first-inning grand slam by Morgan Dutton. The Rider defense came up with a big play for the third out in the bottom of the third, stranding runners. Reagan Stange began adding insurance with a solo home run in the fourth en route to a 9-0 final tally.

Then on Feb. 12, Luna edged Hesston 10-9 in another rematch, weathering a Larks rally after taking a 10-2 advantage midway through the sixth.

Johnson shined again, hitting 3 for 4 with one double, two runs and one RBI. Shackelford and Sinai Cisneros recorded two hits and three RBI apiece.

Also that day, Tyler Junior College prevailed against Luna, 19-1.

Luna (2-8) lost four at El Paso Community College on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 19-20. Scores were 16-0, 16-11, 7-2, 14-9.

Tyler Sunstrom’s return to Rio



Rancho High School, his alma mater, proved to be a memorable one for both him and his Luna teammates.

Sunstrom hit a home run and drove in four runs as part of a 2-for-4 performance, helping the Rough Riders overcome Community Christian College (Calif.) for a 19-13 win on Feb. 9. Technically home games for Luna, the doubleheader was hosted by Rio Rancho High due to field conditions in Las Vegas.

For the Rough Riders it was their second win of the young season. CCC won game one 6-2. In that game, Luna’s Dominic Lucero went 3 for 3 at the plate, and Kobe Carpio and Tony Limon collected an RBI apiece in a 6-2 defeat. The Rough Riders led 2-0 through two innings amid a solid start for Kekoa Ogawa.

In game two, the lead changed hands several times before Luna punctuated the game with a seven-run surge to regain control in the bottom of the sixth inning. The

Riders then held CCC scoreless in the top of the seventh to preserve a 19-13 win.

Sunstrom was one of three Riders – along with Carpio and Samuel Estrada – to hit homers in the nightcap. Each of the three also notched four RBI, and Bo Kidd had two RBI and Milo Behrens one for Luna. Dawson Spear, one of seven pitchers who saw action for Luna, was credited with the win.

The Rough Riders tested themselves over the weekend with a detour to Scottsdale, Ariz., to compete with Scottsdale Post Grad. The hosts won 10-1, 8-7 and 10-4.

The Riders (2-18) are wrapping a busy stretch of 11 games scheduled in a 12-day span. After a mid-week trek to Wayland Baptist JV for a doubleheader in Plainview, Texas, Luna dropped four at New Mexico Military Feb. 19-20 in Roswell. Scores were 19-2, 8-5, 6-4 and 11-3. The team hosts Lamar on Feb. 26-27.



Make a difference. Join Student Senate.

Luna Community College Student Senate is seeking up to five new members to help represent and advocate for students. Senators receive a \$300 stipend per semester; officers receive \$400 per semester.

Eligibility requirements:

- Current Luna student enrolled in at least 3 credit hours
- Minimum GPA of 2.0
- Declared major

To apply, or for more information, please contact:

President Angelica Montanez,
angelica.montanez@student.luna.edu,

or Advisor Kimberly Baca,
kbaca@luna.edu





Hitting the books

Vincent Pacheco, a Level 2 nursing student, catches some study time between classes. For more information on Luna's nursing program, please call 505-454-2521 or visit LUNA.edu and click on the Academics link.



TEAS

Nursing school entrance exam

March 2022 dates

Scheduling for the following dates is taking place now.

Tuesday, March 8	10 a.m.
Thursday, March 10	1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 22	1:30 p.m.
Friday, March 25	10 a.m.
Tuesday, March 29	9 a.m.
Thursday, March 31	10 a.m.

Contact: Yvonne Piña
505-454-2525
ypina@luna.edu

Please provide student ID number, phone number, and exam date in the e-mail.

You have up to three attempts per academic year to pass the exam; the fee for each attempt is \$65.

You're advised to set up an account with ATI prior to the exam date; go to atitesting.com,

click on Create Account. Use LCC ADN for institution, with estimated graduation date of 5/11/2024.



Stop by the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) to get help in your classes!

We have tutors throughout the day to assist you in any subject area you may need. Visit us at Student Services Building 204 (upstairs).

We also offer online tutoring if needed; just e-mail a tutor to set something up.

Contact Ray Varela at 505-454-5306 or rvarela@luna.edu if you have any questions.



Tutor	Subject	Email	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sergio	English, History, Sociology, Psychology	shartshorne@luna.edu	8am-11am	5pm-8pm	8am-1pm	8am-10am 2pm-4pm	8am-10am
Mary Frances	Math, Science, English	mbibb@luna.edu	3pm-8pm	3pm-5pm	8am-10am	3pm-5pm	11am-4pm
Madison	English, Criminal Justice, Sociology, Psychology	mgould@luna.edu	2pm-6pm	11am-6pm	2pm-6pm	5pm-8pm	
Theo	Science, English, History	tcurry@luna.edu	5pm-8pm	4pm-8pm	5pm-8pm	4pm-8pm	
Amber	Criminal Justice, Sociology, English Comp,	amgonzales@luna.edu	10am-3pm	10am-3pm	10am-3pm	11am-3pm	
Brittney	Math, Science,	bmares@luna.edu	online	online	online	online	online
Keegan	Allied Health, Science, English Comp	klopez@luna.edu		11am-6pm	12:30pm-3pm	12:30pm-6pm	
Gabriel	Math, English Comp,	gamaestas@luna.edu		9:30am-12pm 1pm-5pm		9:30am-12pm 1pm-5pm	
Hailee	Math, English Comp	hgallegos@luna.edu	2pm-4pm	8am-9am	2pm-4pm	10am-12pm	8am-12pm

All tutors can be reached via email to set online appointment (google meet or zoom)