



# HLC focused visit this week

## College making case to remove sanctions

Luna Community College is preparing for a focused site visit with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 10-11.

A three-member HLC team (two remotely, one on the Luna campus) is scheduled to meet with Luna officials during the two-day visit. The visit, and ensuing recommendations from HLC reviewers, will have an impact as the college seeks to get off probationary status.

In advance of the visit, Luna submitted a written report electronically in mid-July that addressed each of the areas found to be out of compliance by the HLC, the Chicago-based organization under which Luna is accredited. To view the report, go to [luna.edu](http://luna.edu) and click on the accreditation link on the bottom right-hand side of the main page. Then click on the HLC Institutional Focused Visit Report 2020 link ([luna.edu/media/FocusedVisitReport.pdf](http://luna.edu/media/FocusedVisitReport.pdf)).

Since June 2018, Luna has been on probation, an upgrade from the show-cause order the HLC had handed down the previous fall. Last year, the HLC Institutional Actions Council found that Luna had made progress in most areas, meeting



requirements in 18 of 21 core component areas. However, the HLC Board of Trustees voted to keep Luna on probation, allowing the college more time and opportunity to improve its performance in some regards and to demonstrate continued improvement in others.

Areas of deficiency as determined by the HLC are specific components from Criterion Two, Integrity, Ethical & Responsible Conduct, and Criterion Five, Resources, Planning & Institutional Effectiveness.

The HLC has previously determined that Luna meets or exceeds standards in the entirety of Criterion One, Mission; Criterion Three, Teaching & Learning, Quality, Resources & Support; and Criterion Four, Teaching & Learning, Evaluation & Improvement.

Luna's HLC report-writing team compiled evidence to show the college is now fully compliant in

components 2A, 5A and 5B and an assumed practice D3 related to participation in College Scorecard.

"Everyone should be congratulated," Luna Interim President Dr. Kenneth Patterson told employees Wednesday, Sept. 2, during a remote campus-wide update and review on the upcoming HLC Focused Site Visit. "We have taken tremendous strides with it. We have addressed issues of the past and are moving forward."

The focused site visit report was originally due in May with a site visit scheduled for summer, but the deadlines were pushed back due to the nationwide impact of COVID-19.

The HLC governing board is expected to make a determination on Luna's accreditation status in November.

Luna has been accredited since 1982.

“The challenge helped define and express in a creative piece each quilter’s experience during the stay-at-home months of summer 2020 ...”

**Lin Chibante**  
Quilting instructor



# Quilting students get crafty

## Pandemic challenge leads to creative work

Quilting students at Luna Community College continue to make brilliant items as they work through the COVID-19 pandemic. So much so, that over the summer, several students took part in a Pandemic Scavenger Quilt Challenge.

The class has been taught remotely.

In doing so, each Monday for eight consecutive weeks, students

received instructions to look through their quilting items and add something new to their quilt. Essentially, each student was asked to find a background piece of fabric, add lines, squares, circles or words relating to the pandemic. As part of the challenge, and to make sure they could date their quilts, students had to sew the year 2020 and add something unique to their experience of the pandemic. In

addition, students were asked to sew something beautiful they found, saw or did during the pandemic.

At the end of the class, each student was asked to place their name and personal icon in a creative way.

Several students, including quilting instructor Lin Chibante, finished their quilts. The student participants were April Hoogerhues, Alison Larance, Mary Loera, Gloria Mejillas, Genevieve Marquez, Annette Martinez and Linda Montoya.

“The challenge helped define and express in a creative piece each quilter’s experience during the stay-at-home months of summer 2020,” said Chibante. “The little quilts will not only be memories of the pandemic of 2020 for a long time to come, but also gave quilters a way to think about and come to understand the pandemic for themselves while keeping busy.”

Here are some comments from students:

“It has great meaning to me as I incorporated several things including Wonder Woman, my faith, my sewing skills, feathers and a mask,” said April Hoogerhuies. “In addition to working on this quilt, I made approximately 1,000 masks during this stressful time.”

“This small quilt was made during the rough times of COVID-19,” said Gloria Mejillas. “I made masks (and) baby blankets and enjoyed the mama bird and her babies outside my studio window. I stayed home (quite a bit), and still do. This project was a way to help cope with what this pandemic has brought to everyone in general. Stay safe and wear your masks when you have to.”

“The lilies in my yard were beautiful this year, and my quilt features a lily,” said Chibante. “I included Dr. (Anthony) Fauci and ‘lockdown’ for words describing the pandemic. The white ribbon symbolizes the first responders. Through it all, the (2020) census was taken. I had the time to do many details by hand and enjoyed slow stitching. All the words and images in my quilt will always remind me of my thoughts during the summer COVID-19 pandemic of 2020.”

**MORE:** See Page 5



**Opposite page: Mary Loera’s quilt includes written descriptions of ways the COVID-19 pandemic impacted her daily life.**

**Above: April Hoogerhuies’ quilt incorporates symbols of things with personal meaning such as Wonder Woman, feathers and her faith.**

### **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](http://collegescorecard.ed.gov)



“This project was a way to help cope with what this pandemic has brought to everyone in general.”

Gloria Mejillas  
Quilting student

Above: Alison Larence used the contrasts of stark, striking imagery and bright colors as part of her quilt design.

At right: Lin Chibante included positive elements such as lilies and a white ribbon recognizing first responders.



# Challenge

Continued from Page 3

“In my quilt, I featured a doctor’s mask and flowers, along with beads and embroidered embellishments,” said Alison Larance. “I felt a little disconnected creating this quilt, as I am an essential worker and my day-to-day life hasn’t changed much, unlike most others. The greatest change has been to my daily commute. Still, I enjoyed putting together the pieces of this quilt and the time spent contemplating the new world we’re in now.”

“It has the symbol of the COVID-19,” said Genevieve Marquez. “All these things (in my quilt) have occurred. More pets were adopted, and there are no sports. It’s affecting children.”

Chibante said the next challenge is open to all Luna students and employees. The theme will be Landscape Art Quilt. If you would like to participate and receive instructions on the quilting challenge, e-mail Chibante at [lchibante@luna.edu](mailto:lchibante@luna.edu). The completion date is Oct. 30.

**Top: A splash of color and a picture of health care workers are among the features in Gloria Mejillas’ quilt.**

**Genevieve Marquez created a design that blends a variety of elements and subjects with a ultimately upbeat center.**



# Wanted



Luna Community College's Academic Center for Excellence is seeking qualified tutors



in various subjects to fill multiple positions on our team. Positions are temporary, part-time and pay \$10.09 per hour. Tutors must be hard-working and interested in helping our students succeed. Previous experience as a Luna student is a plus. Visit [luna.edu/jobs](http://luna.edu/jobs) for details and information on applying. For more information on what tutoring entails, contact ACE coordinator Ray Varela, [rvarela@luna.edu](mailto:rvarela@luna.edu) or 505-454-5306.

**ACE**  
**academic** **Tutors**

## Safety first



Level 1 nursing students practice social distancing and mask wearing while taking one of their regular exams at Luna's Allied Health Sciences building. Photo courtesy of Yvonne Pina, Luna Community College.

## Planning stages

Andy Aguilar and Nancy Brooks, planners with Architectural Research Consultants, Inc. interview Luna Community College Interim President Dr. Kenneth Patterson to gather input for Luna's Facilities Master Plan. They also met with department and program leaders from Luna.



*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](mailto:jgallegos@luna.edu), and Dave Kavanaugh, [dkavanaugh@luna.edu](mailto:dkavanaugh@luna.edu).*

## Keep on trucking



Luna Community College CDL student Fabian Roybal gives a thumbs up to the Luna CDL program. Roybal has been practicing his driving under the supervision of instructor Florencio Garcia. Upon finishing the course and earning his credentials, Roybal intends to take over a family business. For information on the CDL program, call 505-454-2522.

## Promote the vote

General Obligation Bond C will be on this November's ballot. If passed, the bond would generate more than \$156 million for nearly every public college and university in the state, including \$1 million for Luna Community College to plan, design, construct and replace heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. The much-needed upgrades would have a positive impact on the college for years to come. This particular banner — informing the public about the bond issue — is located where Bridge Street becomes National Avenue in downtown Las Vegas.

