

LAMAR INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 13, Adam Balla
Nov. 13, Linda Kornis
Nov. 14, Sean Stewart
Nov. 15, Tiffany Johnson
Nov. 17, Thomas Culp
Nov. 17, Meagan Phillips
Nov. 18, Stephen Arnold
Nov. 23, Joy Griffin
Nov. 23, Margaret Noble
Nov. 25, Angela Hill
Nov. 25, Valerie Worry
Nov. 26, Monica Cuccia
Nov. 26, Emma Finkenbinder
Nov. 27, Clay Grant
Nov. 28, Kristina Mendoza
Nov. 30, Alicen Flosi

TOWN HALL MEETING

Thanks to you, things are fantastic at LIT! If you're available on **November 6**, please join me for a 'Voluntary' Town Hall Meeting in the **Beeson Auditorium** from **3 - 4 p.m.** This will provide me an opportunity to share some important updates, as well as hear your questions and/or insights. Bottled water, cookies and snacks will be available. I look forward to seeing you there.

THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2018

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U.S. Congressman Weber visits LIT

Congressman Randy Weber, representing the 14th congressional district in Texas, addressed a packed room of LIT students, faculty and staff members on October 17. Weber discussed his job responsibilities and recommended college students take an active role in government today.

Weber, who has lived in the Gulf Coast area for over 60 years, has represented the 14th district since 2013. He met with Dr. Howard and said our Institute is critical to the Southeast Texas economy.



Dr. Lonnie L. Howard meets with U.S. Congressman Weber.

CLICK HERE TO
WATCH
THE VIDEO



Faculty & staff attend TLC trainings to meet system goals.

Teaching/Learning Center focuses on TSUS' 2020 Vision

The LIT Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) is equipping employees with the tools to increase enrollment and effectively recruit and retain students in an ongoing effort to do our part to achieve the Texas State University System (TSUS) 2020 Vision goals. Dr. Howard created the TLC as

a part of his Shared Vision of Growth and Excellence, with the purpose of educating faculty and staff through scheduled workshops and trainings.

To align system goals with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 60X30TX Plan, TSUS charged its schools to grow enrollment and expand access through online and dual enrollment, serve an increasingly diverse student population, increase student success and degree/certificate completions, control costs and maintain affordability.

In Fall 2018, on the 20th class day (census day), credit enrollment increased **10.3%** due to extensive efforts towards retention and recruitment. This is a high-water mark for the college. The Quarter-4 non-credit headcount increased an amazing **91.2%** due to direct marketing efforts towards adult learners. The TLC's intentional training and workshops focus on effective instruction, recruitment, enrollment, retention, and dual credit faculty are correlated to these amazing numbers.

Led by TLC Executive Director, Dr. Angela Hill, the college hosts advising trainings for all faculty and Student Success staff. In terms of retention, the center held a customer service workshop on Oct. 18, and there is ongoing training on Starfish Early Alert (our retention tool).

THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER



LIT Public Speaking Instructor Donna Burnside's class paints the campus purple

The quad was awash in a sea of purple as students wore the color and gathered to support the fight against domestic violence on Oct. 30. The idea to draw awareness to the growing incidents of domestic abuse started with LIT Instructor Donna Burnside, who charged her students to participate by performing poetry, skits, plays or rapping on the subject. They also distributed purple ribbons.



A Marketing Moment November 2018

Be on the lookout for the Marketing Department's modern and engaging MORE Campaign. This campaign centers around the fact that LIT offers MORE than any other college in Texas. MORE degrees that work. MORE earnings after graduation. MORE opportunity. This campaign is scheduled to launch on Nov. 1 on radio, television, on digital devices and social media.

Student gives \$15,000 donation

It has always been in Tony Rutledge's nature to help others. His position as a student worker in the LIT Development/Foundation Office assisting people with financial needs was a match made in heaven. But no one could have guessed that the relationship he formed with the "Fabulous Foundation Trio" (FFT) would lead to a \$15,000 donation a little over a year after their first encounter, while Rutledge is still enrolled as a student.



Joanne Brown, Tony Rutledge, Vickie Seymour and Lydia Townes pose in front of the President's Photo Wall.

His bold and generous donation to establish the Jarrod Tony Rutledge FFT Scholarship Endowment can be traced back to three factors, the impact made in his life by Foundation staff, his calling to assist those in need and the settlement from a work-related injury.

"It was nice working with people in that office that were very much like me in the fact that they want to help people," Rutledge said. "When I got the money in order to be able to do this, I knew that this was something I wanted to do. I wanted to be able to give back to the school that had given me means to open doors to my career."

Rutledge and the FFT, which consists of Development/Foundation's Coordinator Vickie Seymour, former Administrative Associate Sr. Lydia Townes and former Executive Director Joanne Brown, chose Cyber Security, Computer Networking and Pharmacy Tech as qualifying majors for the scholarship. Anyone taking a sociology course can also apply. It will be distributed after he graduates in 2020.

He said college culture, affordable tuition and quality education has put him in the position to succeed. Rutledge plans to continue to donate and add to his endowment to give other students the chance to get a degree that works.

Rutledge began in the office in the Fall semester of 2017 as a student worker, and remained in his position for a year. He is still employed at the institute, but he's in the Business Technologies Department now while working on three associate degrees (Computer Networking, Cyber Security and Business). Though he's in another department, Seymour, Brown and Townes and the Development/Foundation office will always have a special place in his heart.

"He is still a full-time student," President Lonnie L. Howard said. "Yet, he made a decision to provide opportunities to future generations. Tony's selfless gesture is proof that LIT faculty and staff make an impact that goes beyond the classroom."

Rita McClelland Named November Employee of the Month



Humanities and English Instructor III Rita McClelland takes over this coveted position of Employee of the Month. She was nominated for going over and beyond her job responsibilities. Despite having stepped down as program coordinator over a year ago, she continues to step UP to help anytime she's asked. Most recently, McClelland has been helping BISD Early College High School (ECHS) adjuncts.

"I would like to give a big shout out to Ms. McClelland! She has been an amazing and patient help to BECHS as we become more proficient within the Blackboard platform." Beaumont ISD Principal Melanie Pharis effused. "I am truly surprised about this to be quite honest" McClelland added.

THE
**PRESIDENT'S
NEWSLETTER**



Georgann & John Raney set up an endowment for future students in need of financial assistance.

LIT receives \$36,245 endowment from Beaumont residents

Students who have a passion for working with their hands and Lamar Institute of Technology hold a cherished place in the hearts of Georgann and John A. Raney, Jr.

The daughter and son of pipefitters, their humble upbringings inspired the couple to bequeath a generous endowment of \$36,245.68 to LIT, including two local maps over 100 years old. The couple also has strong beliefs in and ties to education.

“Just about everywhere we go, people say they went to Lamar Institute of Technology,” Raney said. His wife added that she is drawn to the college because “you have women in Process Operating, X-ray Technology and non-traditional educational fields for women.”

The Raney Scholarship is specific to LIT students majoring in Advanced Engine Technology and Industrial Mechanics. “Beaumont has been good to a lot of people,” Raney said. “We hope this will just be a start.”

LIT supports Spindletop Award winner Regent Scott

Completely filling two tables at the Oct. 9 Spindletop Awards ceremony, LIT showed its support for TSUS Regent William Scott and Trans-Global Solutions as Scott accepted the Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce’s (GBCOC) namesake award. Our invited guests included newly installed LSCO President Thomas Johnson, State Rep. James White, BISD Board member Angela Corbin Bransford, LIT Foundation donors Gus and Jean McFaddin, Golden Triangle Business Roundtable Executive Director Dennis Isaac, Dr. Lonnie L. Howard’s 2017-2018 Leadership Beaumont (LB) Mentee Joe Evans, LIT’s executive team and faculty representatives.



TSUS regent William Scott accepts Spindletop Award with his sons at the Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting.

Radiologic Technology Program Seminar held

Radiologic Technology Program Director Brenda Barrow recently taught a Radiologic Technology Seminar broken into a half-day and full-day session. Two of these seminars are held each year, Barrow said.



The money raised through fees helps defray costs for radiology students attending the Texas Society of Radiologic Technologists (TSRT) annual Educational Symposium. The rest of the funds support national radiology exam fees, state licensing and student scholarships.



Public Service and Safety Department Chair Ken Mason speaks at CTE Teachers Lunch & Learn.

New opportunities presented at CTE Teachers’ Lunch & Learn

Attendees were urged to achieve “Excellence in Career and Technical Education” during LIT Educators Week Career and Technical Education Teachers’ Lunch and Learn on Fri., Oct. 12. A complimentary breakfast and lunch were served.

Participant takeaways were:

- New strategies for closing the career and technical employment gap.
- Recommendations to encourage students to explore technology careers.
- New work-based learning methods ensuring student success and lifelong learning.
- Opportunities between LIT and high school CTE classes.
- Innovative steps in seamless K-12, college and career pathways.

Do you want coverage of your event or have a story you would like to see in the newsletter?

Contact Chris at celliott@lit.edu or Rhonda at rmitchell@lit.edu.

THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

Open House at Allied Health and Sciences Department a triumph

About 100 area high school students recently gathered at the Paul & Connie Szuch Multi-Purpose Center for a tour of the building and the AHS's facilities including Chemistry, Sonography and Dental labs and watched demonstrations in EMS, Radiology and Respiratory labs.

High schools represented were Brookeland, Beaumont United and Community Christian of Orange. After welcome speeches by Vice President for Student and Academic Success Melissa Armentor; AHS Chair Peter Whittaker, and Financial Aid Coordinator Cathy Falb, students met with instructors. This was the first time the open house was offered in the fall, due to an increased interest during the annual spring tour, according to Health Information Technology Program Director Staci Waldrep. She said the department is already planning for a fall tour next October.

TLC Presenters Wanted!

Have you successfully applied a best-practice technique that could benefit your peers or students? Have you stumbled upon an easy process that may help others do their job? What about an instructional method that has increased student engagement or retention? Maybe you attended a conference, read or written an article that sparked an idea or practice that you'd like to share? If so, come present within our Teaching and Learning Center. Contact Dr. Angela Hill, Executive Director of the Teaching and Learning Center at teachandlearn@lit.edu or (409) 839-2917.



LIT Foundation Charity Golf Tournament success

Over \$90,000 raised for student scholarships!

The LIT Foundation Charity Golf Tournament sponsored by ExxonMobil, along with other major sponsors Regina Rogers and Apache Industrial Services, was originally expected to raise between \$60,000 and \$80,000, according to Committee Co-Chair Dwayne Champagne. So, expectations were superseded. Kudos go to the committee, LIT Foundation, all monetary and food sponsors for making our first-ever tournament a huge success!



Charity Golf Tournament Committee members Ashley Alemayehu, Dwayne Champagne, Rebecca Knott, Cary Berry, Pat Calhoun and Dale Boothman.



Volunteers from LIT's EMS program are all smiles.



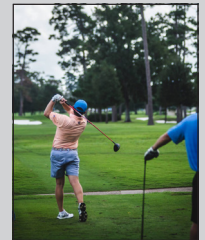
Wonderful sponsors from Edward Jones Investments.



Dr. Howard tries fried pork rib with Aggreko's Brent Fusilier and Randy Courville.



Teams made the best of great morning weather.



Golfers tee off for a great cause and have fun.

Did you miss it? High school welding winners announced



Dusty Green and Cody Freeman (competition winner) from Silsbee High School.



About 140 high school welding students competed in the annual Texas Rice Festival welding competition on Oct. 3 at LIT.

Coastal Welding Supply cooked chili dogs while both they and Winnie Welding Works donated embroidered jackets, welding tools and belt buckles.



Technology Dept. Chair Pat O'Connor speaks to young welders.



Coastal Welding and other sponsors provided lunch and prizes.

Thanks for all you do!