

## **Job shadowing Dr. Howard**

By Monica Cuccia

What a wonderful experience I had with Dr. Howard on Wednesday October 31st 2018. It was Halloween, but there was nothing scary about what we were going to be doing. I was job shadowing Dr. Howard for 4 hours that day, I had already shadowed with him on a previous day for 4 hrs. We started off with a small meeting with the presidents of the staff and faculty senate. The discussion was over administrative days off and scheduled days off. Dr. Howard was very passionate about giving all his employees, staff or faculty, as many days off as he would be able to. Family is very important to Dr. Howard and he wants us to be able to spend as much time as we can with our families.

Accompanying me that day was Dr. Mary Sizemore, she works at Lamar Orange, and she has chosen Dr. Howard as her mentor for her leadership training program. She could have chosen one of the many qualified colleges at Lamar Orange, instead she wanted to work with Dr. Howard as she feels he was her best choice.

Off we went to our second meeting for this day. We arrived at the MPC building where there was a meeting being held with LIT in attendance with local juvenile probation representatives. Minnie Rogers was also in attendance as this is one of her passions, to help the troubled youth in our community get a good start in life even if they have gotten into trouble with the law. This meeting was very informative and I am very excited about LIT's involvement in this new project.

Next, Dr. Howard, Mary and I were guest at a Rotary meeting with Pat Calhoun. I have never attended a Rotary meeting and this was doing to be a real treat. The speaker for that day was State Representative, Dade Phelan. Dade Phelan spoke directly to Dr. Howard in his speech at the meeting about funding they had been working together to get for L.I.T. for in the sum of around 1.2 million dollars. This state funding would help us help the community in adding a truck driving school with the assistance of local companies. Unfortunately Dade's effort in adding it to the state budget had not worked out this time.

I was not aware that Dr. Howard would be so involved politically for Lamar Institute of Technology. In attendance that day was Mayor Becky Ames. I saw her but we were not lucky enough to meet her. I saw how committed Dr. Howard is to doing everything he can to better our college.

His heart is big and continues to grow. Thank you Dr. Howard for letting me spend time with you. I will never forget my experience.