

LAMAR INSTITUTE  
OF TECHNOLOGY

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 3, Griselda Thornton

Dec. 6, Tami Browning

Dec. 6, Mary Morris

Dec. 6, James Rawls

Dec. 6, Vickie Seymour

Dec. 9, Deloris Savoy

Dec. 14, Bonnie Albright

Dec. 15, Dawn Katz

Dec. 16, James Girard

Dec. 18, Bryan Barron

Dec. 18, Gina McMahon

Dec. 18, Deanne Tanner

Dec. 19, Darren McIntire

Dec. 20, Casey Ford

Dec. 20, Delaina Gaspard

Dec. 21, Joshua Cobb

Dec. 21, Judy Tinsley

Dec. 23, Harriet Armstrong

Dec. 24, Alfred De La Rosa

Dec. 28, Alex Monceaux

Dec. 28, Jackson Porter

Dec. 29, Kenneth Lamartiniere

Dec. 29, Nicole Mitchell

Dec. 29, Thomas Noyola

# THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2018

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## Board of Regents approves 10-Year Master Plan

Dr. Lonnie L. Howard presented and gained Board approval for our next Campus Master Plan (2018-2028) at the recent TSUS Board of Regents meeting held at Sam Houston State University, November 15-16.



Construction workers install the frame on the new Student Services Building.

The Regents appreciated his visionary testimony on how this ambitious master plan would drive LIT to achieve its institutional goal of “10-in-10;” that is: our president wants to grow the college to an enrollment of 10,000 students in the next 10 years (or by the year 2028).

The plan revolves around 12 key initiatives. Some of the initiatives include: adding additional classrooms and labs, classroom standardization, workforce training, Tommy Williams Building improvements, additional land purchases and the creation of a nursing program.

## LIT names an Executive Vice President/Provost



Dr. Mix speaks at Open Forum to LIT stakeholders.

As a newly created position to serve as the deputy to Dr. Howard, LIT conducted a national search for an Executive Vice President and Provost. Dr. Kerry Mix has been named the sole finalist. His impressive career includes both community college and university experience.

Dr. Mix has expertise in student services, workforce development, and academic affairs. He has held positions as an Electronics Faculty, Educational Consultant, Ambassador Coordinator, Dean of Enrollment Services, Dean of Business/Technology, and Vice Chancellor for Academics and Provost. In addition, he was selected to be a Research Assistant for the prestigious Center for Community College Student Engagement as well as a Liaison for National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development.

Dr. Mix has earned an AAS, BAAS, MS, and a PhD from the University of Texas at Austin.

Scheduled to begin on January 7, 2019; let's welcome Kerry to the LIT Family.

## Bill Scott named TSUS Board of Regents Chair



New TSUS Chairman of the Board Bill Scott with Vice Chair David Montagne and other regents in Huntsville.

William F. Scott of Nederland was recently elected Chairman of the TSUS Board of Regents, and David Montagne of Beaumont was named Vice Chairman. Scott, appointed to the BOR in 2013, is CEO, Chairman and Co-owner of Trans-Global Solutions Inc. He earned a BS in Government from Lamar.

Montagne, appointed to the board in 2009, is Executive Vice President & General Manager for the Sabine River Authority of Texas. Born and raised in Orange County, he is also an LU graduate with a BBA.

# THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

## Marketing Moment: December 2018



In addition to traditional media vehicles, the marketing department will give prospective students and the public never-before-seen glimpses into our amazing programs. To boost organic social media engagement, LIT will continue to develop HD and immersive videos for its channels to showcase the skill and talent of our employees and students.

## Two LIT all-stars honored during Beaumont Chamber's 40 Under 40 reception

LIT proved it has a couple of the best businesswomen in the Golden Triangle as the duo was honored at the Southeast Texas Young Professionals Organization's (SETXYPO) 40 Under 40 reception at the Jefferson Theatre. Awardees were Interim Director of Workforce Training Angela Clark and Dean of Student and Academic Success Dr. Miranda Phillips.

Phillips said she feels privileged and humbled to be a part of the 2018 class.

"From the selection process to the presentation — it was an amazing experience," she said. "Just to be considered among this group of business professionals was truly rewarding."

Every year The Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce and SoutheastTexas.com honor the best and brightest young professionals under the age of 40 for their academic achievements, professional success and community involvement with the 40 Under 40 awards.

Clark echoed Phillips' sentiment. She said being selected was an honor.

"It felt like I was living a dream," She said. "It was extremely empowering, being surrounded by positive energy and other prestigious community professionals from throughout the Golden Triangle."

An independent panel of judges selected the 40 honorees. Emphasis is placed on leadership in business, law, real estate, nonprofits, education, healthcare, arts and entertainment, and other industries. Congratulations to all!

(Photos courtesy of The Beaumont Enterprise).



**Interim Director of Workforce Training  
Angela Clark.**



**Dean of Student and Academic Success  
Dr. Miranda Phillips.**

## Veterans Day Social honors all who served

The third-annual event honored our veterans and the Veterans Day holiday on Mon., Nov. 12 in the Multi-Purpose Center. Regional Fire Academy Coordinator/Fire Chief John Randall and student Jeffery Gibbs were on hand to present moving testimonials and tributes.



**Veteran and LIT Student  
Jeffery Gibbs.**



**Bill Sizemore, English & Art Instructor.**

## Deloris Savoy named December Employee of the Month



**Deloris Savoy at Fall Convocation.**

Academic Advisor Deloris Savoy was selected as the Employee of the Month for December. Nominated by Clint Vannoy, Savoy can be seen around the campus or on location at area schools doing her best to help potential and current students meet their academic goals.

"She is one of the first faces you see when looking to register and trying to start the process of enrolling in higher education. She is always bright-eyed and very welcoming for nervous new students," Vannoy said.

Savoy was ecstatic to learn about her selection for the award.

"I'm very grateful and appreciative of this opportunity to be recognized by Dr. Howard and my peers," Savoy said. "I'm so happy to be a part of the LIT family."



**Students gather for activities in the Quad to help fight symptoms of depression.**

## LIT students take on critical issues of depression and poverty

In an attempt to bring awareness to common issues plaguing college students and society today, LIT General Education and Developmental Studies Instructor Donna Burnside recently organized two civic engagement projects for her students.

The inaugural Thanksgiving food, coat and blanket drive was held through Nov. 19. Boxes located throughout the campus were filled with non-perishable goods, coats and blankets. Donations went to local nonprofit Some Other Place in Beaumont.

On Tues., Nov. 13, her classes hosted a Depression Project in the quad with two guest speakers. Students raffled 10 themed t-shirts, with funds going to LIT Student Health Services. Participants enjoyed a stress-relieving day full of food, fun and entertainment.

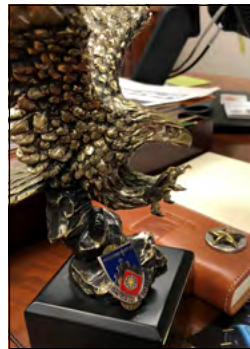
## Former LIT student, Army veteran says “thank you” with military combat badge

Brandon Cecil is all about giving back—and little wonder, since the LIT student had joined the Army in 2004, selflessly serving two tours of combat duty in Iraq and one in Afghanistan.



The now 33-year-old married father of two left the Army in 2015, returning to his hometown of Warren to take a lineman position with a railroad yard. But Cecil wanted a career in welding. Thanks to the GI Bill, his tuition was covered, but he knew he still needed tools, books and supplies.

Cecil was awarded a Coastal Welding Supply (CWS) Scholarship at LIT that the company has provided here since 2009. The scholarship is in memory of CWS President J.C. “Chuck” Mazoch’s father, Al Mazoch, the company’s founder.



“Here’s this guy (‘Chuck’) who barely knows me and gave me a boost in the right direction,” Cecil said. “I wanted to give him back something personal I had earned. So, I handed him one of my combat patches. LIT...is very student-led. That’s what college life should be.”

## College comes together for Allied Health and Sciences potluck

There was a lot to be thankful for at the Allied Health and Sciences (AHSC) Annual Potluck. Faculty and staff from each corner of the campus brought their favorite holiday dishes and desserts to the MPC, complementing meat entrees provided by the department.

AHSC Department Chair Peter Whittaker said it was nice to see that there weren’t many leftovers after the event. He and other employees attending shared their favorite Thanksgiving dishes and what makes them thankful.



**Allied Health and Science Dept. Chair Peter Whittaker enjoys the Thanksgiving Potluck.**



**Michelle DeMoss shares her story and love for Dental Hygiene.**

## Award-winning researcher teaches Dental Hygiene

Michelle DeMoss’ love for health goes beyond the Dental Hygiene classes she leads as an instructor at LIT. In her downtime, she’s becoming known in the medical field for her research at UT Health - San Antonio (UTHSA) Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

She recently received the Excellence in Women’s Health Award from the Council for Excellence in Women’s Health for work on the nation’s opioid abuse epidemic. The second-year student at UTHSA has garnered the award in back-to-back years and said that the support she received from LIT to pursue her Master’s Degree has made a difference.

“LIT is the reason I went back to school,” she said. “The blend of what I’m learning here as I’m teaching and what I’m doing in school...I feel like it’s been a big motivator for me. Seeing how hard my students work - am I going to do any less? I want to do well for them. I want to be what they need.”

**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](mailto:celliott@lit.edu) or Rhonda at [rmitchell@lit.edu](mailto:rmitchell@lit.edu).**

# THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

# LAMAR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET

## HVAC Instructor Henry Gaus named Swine Show Chairman for 2019 South Texas State Fair

We are very proud of our own HVAC Program Director Henry Gaus, who was recently named chair at the Livestock & Poultry Show for the South Texas State Fair, March 21-31. This is the fourth time he has been honored with this title.



HVAC Program Director Henry Gaus.

Dr. Howard, who presented swine awards last year, has pledged to contribute \$125 for one of four champion belt buckles that will be awarded. Awards will be presented for Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, Junior and Senior Champion.



Rotary Club of Beaumont Vocational Excellence Awards Chair Mary Poole, Rotary Club of Beaumont President Lynn Castle, LIT EMS Instructor Allen Welch, Exec. Director of LIT Foundation and Development Pat Calhoun, and Exec. Director of the Teaching and Learning Center Dr. Angela Hill.

## Allen Welch wins Vocational Excellence Award from Rotary Club

EMS Instructor Allen Welch received a 2018 Vocational Excellence Award from the Rotary Club of Beaumont. He was honored at the MCM Elegante Hotel for going above and beyond. Besides his duties at LIT, Welch is a CPR and first aid instructor in the community.



Abigail Maxwell, Emily Middleton, Debbie Brown, Kim Nguyen, Lineia Roy & Kristine Nguyen.



Andrew Joyner-Thomas J. Frank Scholarship Recipient with Dr. Lonnie Howard.



Student Jasmine Gipson sings the National Anthem.



Brandon Phelps with his parents Michael & Susan Phelps and donors Myra & Dalton Babineaux.



Coleman Young, Areli Garcia, Alan Whipkey of Firestone Polymers, Kristy Whipkey, Wilondre Byerly & Sydni Key.



Foundation Vice Chair Dale Boothman introduces the keynote speaker.



Guest speaker Dennis Isaacs, Exec. Director of Golden Triangle Business Roundtable.



Peyton Skinner, Donor and Foundation Board Member Gisela Houseman & Kasie Wright.



Donor & LIT Foundation Board President Rod Carroll & Joseph Stanley.



Donors Tommy Tate, Cindy Lindsay of Coastal Welding, with Nicholas Sowders & Ethan Low.



Donors John & Georgann Raney with Connor Alexander.

*Thanks for all you do!*