



2019 LAMAR STATE COLLEGE PORT ARTHUR REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2018-2019

SEP
2018

INTERNATIONAL SHOW

CANEDO-GONZÁLEZ PERFORMS
IN SOUTH AMERICAN THEATER

Blas Canedo-González, a voice instructor at LSCPA, brings with him to the stage and the classroom a lifetime of experience to go along with a pure, unadulterated love of singing. Canedo-González works to influence others through his professional performances as well as his time in the classroom. In September 2018, Canedo-González struck one of the high points of his career after taking the stage for the Teatro Mayor Santo Domingo, one of the most prestigious theaters in South America in its production of “Der Rosenkavalier”.



OCT
2018

REYNARD HONORED

LSCPA PRESIDENT NAMED ‘PACESETTER’
BY NATIONAL MARKETING ORGANIZATION

LSCPA President Dr. Betty Reynard was named the National Council of Marketing and Public Relations Pacesetter of the Year District 4 winner. Dr. Reynard, who joined LSCPA in fall 2014, was selected to represent NCMPR District 4, which includes Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wyoming. NCMPR is a nation-wide organization that helps support two-year colleges in their marketing and public relations efforts.



OCT
2018

\$1.6M GRANT

FUNDS CREATE PETROCHEMICAL TRAINING UNIT;
AT LEAST 900 NEW JOB ANTICIPATED

When students train for process technology and instrumentation at Lamar State College Port Arthur, they’ll be working with the real deal. The U.S. Economic Development Administration awarded a \$1.6 million Disaster Supplemental Funding Grant. With a \$400,000 match provided by LSCPA, the total project cost is \$2 million. With that grant, the construction of a new Liquefied Natural Gas training unit was planned with completion set for the Fall 2019 semester. The anticipated impact is the creation of 900 jobs.





NICO SHARES HIS 'VOICE'

LSCPA ALUM MAKES NATIONAL SPLASH
ON TELEVISION SINGING COMPETITION

Former LSCPA Commercial Music program student De'Andre Nico sang his way to national attention on the NBC show "The Voice." Nico, a Port Arthur resident, earned a four-chair turn in the initial blind audition after performing an intense cover of Bruno Mars' "When I Was Your Man". He then chose superstar Adam Levine as his coach for the remainder of the competition. Nico made it to the Top 10 Elimination Round before being controversially ousted short of the show's finals.



MOTIVA DONATES \$250K

INDUSTRIAL PARTNER CONTRIBUTES TO
COMPLETION OF PETROCHEMICAL TRAINING UNIT

Motiva donated \$250,000 to enhance the LSCPA Process Technology Program and support a \$2 million grant that will go to the construction of a glycol processing training unit at the college. The processing unit will provide a hands-on environment for students to grow their skills and be competitively positioned for jobs. LSCPA President Dr. Betty Reynard said, "The unit is going to be greatly beneficial to our students, as it provides real-world work to give them more experience that they can use in their future careers."



LIFETIME AWARD

GARY STRETCHER HONORED FOR
CAREER OF LEADERSHIP, IMPACT

Dr. Gary Stretcher, longtime Vice President for Academic Affairs and current Director of External Learning Experiences, received the Lindle Grigsby Leadership Award winner, an honor bestowed upon an individual who demonstrates the highest levels of service and leadership among community colleges in the state of Texas. It is awarded during the annual Texas Community College Instructional Leadership conference. The award came just weeks before Dr. Stretcher announced his intention to retire after nearly 30 years at LSCPA.



BEST IN THE NATION

INSTRUCTORS HONORED FOR CAREER
EXCELLENCE IN THE CLASSROOM

The National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) honored four LSCPA instructors for going above and beyond in the classroom. Earning recognition were Michelle Askeew (mathematics), George Bohn (Instrumentation Technology), Adriane Champagne (Office Technology), and Brandon Buckner (Surgical Technology). NISOD's Excellence Awards recognize men and women each year who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment and contribution to their students and colleagues.



Message From The President



Betty Reynard

Change keeps us moving forward. Change challenges us, makes us think and improves who we are.

At Lamar State College Port Arthur, we embrace change and over the past year, those changes have made us better able to provide the finest education that Southeast Texas has to offer.

From physical changes where buildings are undergoing renovations to program changes where we offer new and cutting-edge educational opportunities, LSCPA has worked every day to create and grow an inclusive community where students come first every time.

We have been blessed with multiple substantial grants that have resulted in the grand opening of the Motive Petrochemical Training Unit in November 2019, a state-of-the-art crafts training center to be housed in the historic Armory Building on campus, as well as the renovation of the 110-year-old Ruby

Tuition, fees slashed by 29%

Starting with the Fall 2019 semester, LSCPA students were paying 29 percent less thanks to the allocation of funds by the Texas State University System Board of Regents.

The TSUS Regents set a standard for tuition and fees at all three Southeast Texas two-year colleges with a student paying \$2,165.55 for a 15-hour load of classes, lowering rates to 2009 levels.

The board also reduced the fee for dual credit courses from \$75-\$110 per semester credit hour to \$50 per semester credit hour at all three colleges.

The recently approved state budget provides an additional \$17.3 million to narrow the funding gap between the Lamar State Colleges and community colleges. The Board of Regents dedicated 95 percent of this new money, \$16.5 million, to reduce tuition and fees. The state colleges will use the remaining five percent to enhance student support services.



Fuller Building. Once improvements are made to the Fuller Building, underserved students will find extra help to get them into college and through successfully to a degree or certificate in the shortest, least expensive way possible.

A new Culinary Arts and Hospitality Program will utilize facilities in downtown Port Arthur starting in 2020, joining the renaissance of that area started by Motiva Refinery with their purchase of several buildings.

All this change comes with one thing in mind: serving a burgeoning student body that for the Fall 2019 semester, set a new enrollment record with 2,741 students.

And while LSCPA changes, we will never deviate from our mission to employ the finest faculty members, to offer the most beneficial degree and certificate programs, and to be a great member of the Southeast Texas community.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

Nelson Mandela

PIPER PROFESSOR GRACE MEGNET

When Grace Megnet came to America from her home in Switzerland, she had very little money in her pocket but lots of big dreams on her mind. Two decades later, Megnet won one of the most coveted awards possible for a college professor.

Megnet, who teaches Art at Lamar State College Port Arthur, has been named a 2019 Minnie Stevens Piper Professor, an award given to just 10 higher education professors from across the state of Texas.

Megnet's voyage from Switzerland to Port Arthur has taken her down many paths. With little more than the clothes on her back, she arrived in Texas pursuing a dream that would include art, literature and education ... lots of education.

"I got into teaching by accident but once I experienced the classroom," Megnet said, "I often wondered why I should be paid for it because it was so much fun."

When she came to the U.S., she taught Fine Arts at a Catholic school, opened an art gallery, earned a Masters of Fine Art in painting, and pursued a career as an artist. She joined LSCPA in 2005 and became a full-time assistant professor in 2009. She recently completed a second master's degree in literature.

Grace Megnet, an art professor at Lamar State College Port Arthur, was also selected as the 2018 Texas State University System Board of Regents' Teacher Award winner. The announcement came during the TSUS Regents Quarterly Meeting in Lost Pines, Texas in August 2018.

WORKING WITH MOTHER TERESA

Grace studied at the University of Berne and at the Sorbonne then became a teacher. She prepared gifted children for gymnasium for four years at a Swiss school, then joined Mother Teresa in her charitable works. Grace opened three new foundations, including one with a school for refugee children.

INTERNATIONAL ARTIST

Grace has displayed art in exhibitions around the world and her work is on permanent display at the Swiss Embassy in Madrid, Spain, the Museum of Corne in Spain and in Beaumont, Texas at the Art Museum of Southeast Texas and Lamar University.



Building for the Future

Economic Development Grant paves way for Motiva Petrochemical Training Facility

When students train for instrumentation and process technology at Lamar State College Port Arthur, they'll be working with the real deal.

The U.S. Economic Development Administration announced recently that LSCPA is the recipient of a \$1.6 million Disaster Supplemental Funding Grant. With a \$400,000 match provided by LSCPA, the total project cost is \$2 million.

The anticipated impact is the creation of 900 jobs.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for Lamar State College Port Arthur to grow our petrochemical-related career training," LSCPA President Dr. Betty Reynard said. "This new facility will provide a much more real-life learning experience to those seeking careers in the industry."

The EDA investment will fund a Process Technology Training Unit Project, which will provide state-of-the-art industrial training equipment for a complex located outside and adjacent to the existing Sheila McCarthy Umphrey Industrial Technology Center on the LSCPA campus.

The training center will assist students employed in the regional petrochemical and chemical industries, which will increase the quality and quantity of the Port Arthur area workforce, especially helping aid the recovery from Hurricane Harvey while establishing resiliency for future natural disasters.

"The relationship between the college and the petrochemical companies in the region has been a strong one and this new project helps solidify that bond of education resulting in a qualified and well-trained workforce," Dr. Reynard said.

The goal of the Process Technology Training Unit Project is to provide state-of-the-art training equipment for students enrolled in the Process Operating and Instrumentation programs, while also providing customized training for individuals currently employed in the regional petrochemical and chemical industries.

The equipment complex will consist of three major sections including a distillation unit, a 'HOT' distillation unit, and skids for each unit.

The Distillation Unit is a functional, large-scale, realistic, industrial process system that provides 'real world' training in operations regularly undertaken by process operators and instrumentation technician within the refining, petrochemical and oil and gas industries relating to a distillation process.

The "HOT" Distillation Unit provides a functional, large-scale training environment that provides realistic hands-on training in the functionality of a complete distillation process. The unit includes a 32-foot high, 12-inch diameter functional distillation column. The device allows for distillation with pressure manipulation through vacuum, feed rate changes, and experimentation with, or manipulation of, different feed composition mixtures, temperatures and reflux ratios. Activities focus on common tasks and formal procedures undertaken on a daily basis by operators in many industries.



\$6M EDA grant creates state-of-the-art Craft Training Facility

The cavernous three-story building on Lakeshore Drive alongside the LSCPA softball field has stood mostly vacant for nearly a decade. The occasional welding class and dressing rooms for the Seahawks softball team have made the building home.

The Armory, so named because it was once used by the U.S. military prior to being donated to the college, will soon become home to a state-of-the-art craft training facility that will provide education opportunities to help local residents get well-paying jobs quickly. The grant's intent is to serve as a job catalyst to support the economic recovery in an area impacted by Hurricane Harvey. The project is expected to create 167 jobs.

"Craft training differs from degree programs in that it focuses on short-term training designed to bring a student quickly into the workforce at a profitable wage," Dr. Ben Stafford, Dean of Workforce Training and Continuing Education and author of the grant, said. "This center will train craftsmen for all of the local expansion projects."

Once the 23,000 square foot building is retrofitted, the college will be able to offer training in welding, scaffold building, pipefitting, rigging, structural steel, electrical, instrumentation, carpentry, concrete work, and a wide variety of safety training.

The College will be partnering with Bechtel Engineering to offer five different craft apprenticeships, Stafford explained. Once students complete their College training, they will be interviewed by Bechtel. Those hired will proceed into 1,000 hours of paid on-the-job-training. At the completion of their apprenticeship they will enter the workforce just one step below a Journeyman.

"While it is common to see advanced simulation in degreed programs," Stafford said, "this craft training center will be one-of-a-kind in bringing realistic industry conditions into the College training environment." The facility will include classrooms, labs, office space and will continue to be home to the school's softball program. Construction on the upgrades is expected to begin in late 2019.

The City of Port Arthur's Economic Development Corporation is contributing \$1 million toward the matching fund requirement, while Bechtel is donating equipment to cover the additional matching amount. With the initial grant, the total investment will be \$6 million.

"In 2018, EDA made \$587 million in Congressional supplemental appropriations available to eligible grantees in communities impacted by natural disasters in 2017," said U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Dr. John Fleming. "We are pleased to support Texas communities, including several in Opportunity Zones, as they work to diversify and strengthen the State's economy."

These projects are all funded under the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (PL 115-123) (PDF), in which Congress appropriated to EDA \$600 million in additional Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) Program funds for disaster relief and recovery as a result of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, wildfires, and other calendar year 2017 natural disasters under the Stafford Act.

\$2.87M Title V Grant targets underserved student population

Many LSCPA students come from low-income households and are often the first in the family to attend college. The U.S. Department of Education Title V grant will address the need for additional support for those students with the creation of the "Excelencia Center" on campus.

The more than \$2.87 million grant, distributed over five years, will fund the Excelencia Center and its efforts to provide success coaches and tutors as well as additional computer equipment and upgraded facilities to attract and retain students considered to be in at-risk categories.

More than 250 applications were received for this grant with LSCPA rated among the top 30 in the country. Only 43 grants were funded nationally.

"We will have a more deliberate outreach to Hispanic students as well as first generation students, providing them with the necessary information about accessibility and the importance of education," Dr. Pamela Millsap, Vice President for Academic Affairs, said. "Nearly half of Hispanic college students report that their parents had not earned a high school diploma. This grant and the Excelencia Center will create momentum for the Hispanic community to embrace educa-

tion as a necessity rather than an option for the future."

Especially important, Millsap explained, is the need for a bridge from high school to college for at-risk students.

"Hispanic and traditionally underserved students are disproportionately academically unprepared for college-level courses," she said. "Student support services need to be consolidated and tailored to meet student needs in order to be effective. They need help transitioning from high school to college and this program will help them establish themselves as bona fide, dedicated students who are successful more quickly and consistently."

“We will have a more deliberate outreach to Hispanic students as well as first generation students, providing them with the necessary information about accessibility and the importance of education.”

Dr. Pamela Millsap,
Vice President for Academic Affairs

They've Got Mad Skills!

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER/GAME DESIGN PROGRAM BRINGS HOME GOLD
AT STATE SKILLSUSA COMPETITION, TAKES SHOT AT NATIONAL FAME

Members of the Lamar State College Port Arthur Software Developer/Game Design SkillsUSA team are Madison Blanton (pictured at right), Kaeden Jenkins, Greyson Fortner, and Lee Thomas. Sarita Medhekar is sponsor and program director.

The Lamar State College Port Arthur Software Developer and Game Design Program is stepping onto the national stage after winning gold at the recent SkillsUSA state competition.

Madison Blanton of Nederland and Kaeden Jenkins of Port Arthur teamed up to win gold medals in the Interactive Application and Video Game Design competition at the Texas SkillsUSA meet held earlier in April in Waco, Texas.

With that first-place victory, Blanton and Jenkins advanced to the SkillsUSA 55th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Ky.

Greyson Fortner of Beaumont and Lee Thomas of Port Arthur teamed to win the bronze in Web Design at the 2019 state meet. This is the second year LSCPA's Software Developer and Game Design Program has participated in the SkillsUSA competition. A year ago, Crystal Anderson of Port Neches and Michael Richard of Lumberton brought home silver medals for their work in 3-D Visualization and Animation.

"From being able to participate and win silver in our first year to winning gold and bronze this year and making it to national stage provides

unique opportunity for building our program and getting students more involved," said Sarita V. Medhekar, Coordinator of Software Developer and Game Design at LSCPA. "More students are showing an interest in competing and being a part of our program outside the classroom. This is great for teaching students to work together. This provides unique opportunity to learn things in real-world applications. And, it is valuable for enhancing programming skills and experience as they go out in the future to seek careers in this field."

Medhekar also served as tutor and trained LSCPA's students for SkillsUSA competition.

SkillsUSA's national championships is a showcase of career and technical education students with more than 15,000 people, including students, teachers and business partners, participating in the week-long event. More than 6,300 outstanding career and technical education students — all state contest winners — competed hands-on in 103 different trade and technical fields.

#GAMEON





Tevin Baker, pictured with LSCPA President Dr. Betty Reynard, drew national attention during Hurricane Harvey when his pleas for help for he and his mother via Twitter were picked up by NBC and broadcast across the U.S. In spite of losing everything in the Harvey floods, Baker finished with a 4.0 grade point average, winning the John C. Huval Memorial Award for Academic Excellence. After two seasons with the Seahawks basketball team, Baker earned a scholarship to play for East Texas Baptist University.



A new Culinary Arts and Hospitality program will offer two certificates and an Associate of Applied Science degree starting in Spring 2020. The program will be offered at a new location in downtown Port Arthur, with start-up equipment and facility costs funded through an EDA Grant in partnership with the Port Arthur Economic Development Corporation. With some of Port Arthur's major industries investing in renovating several downtown buildings, this program's location will offer an opportunity to showcase the College in a revived part of the city.



The LSCPA Allied Health Department has recently recorded two major milestones. The Upward Mobility LVN to ADN program has been working under "Initial Approval" awarded by the Texas Board of Nursing in 2015. In January 2019, the TBON acknowledged LSCPA for "Full Approval" status. In order to maintain full TBON approval, the College's Upward Mobility program must maintain at least an 80 percent pass rate on state licensure exams. Going above and beyond, as the Allied Health Department is apt to do, 100 percent of the 37 students from the Fall 2018 graduating class passed their licensure exam.



SEAHAWKS ATHLETICS



Pitcher Britni Hunt earns top softball honors

Freshman Britni Hunt was named one of the top 98 players in NJCAA Division I softball by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association after the Seahawks' 2019 campaign. Hunt, a graduate of Port Neches-Groves High School, appeared in 29 games in 2019, collecting an 11-10 record on the mound. She had a 3.71 earned run average with 119 strikeouts. She also won NJCAA Region 14 All-Conference honors alongside freshmen Brooke Smith and Rebecca DeLome and sophomore Bailey Coreay.

Madison named national JUCO Coach of the Week

Lamar State College Port Arthur men's basketball coach Lance Madison earned the HoopDirt.com national junior college Coach of the Week during the 2018-19 season. Madison, in his seventh season as head coach of the Seahawks, was named the JUCO Coach of the Week after two weeks of adversity, followed by two huge NJCAA Region 14 wins.



Madison missed a conference game scheduled Feb. 2 against Coastal Bend College as he flew home to attend his mother's funeral. After Madison returned, he and the Seahawks were able to orchestrate back-to-back league victories over Lee College and Blinn College.

Seahawks honored for top grades

The Lamar State College Port Arthur women's softball team earned top academic honors and was recognized by the National Junior College Athletics Association, along with four individual Seahawks who were honored for their work in the classroom.

Basketball player Tevin Baker earned All-Academic First Team honors after posting a 4.0 grade point average. Baker, a Port Arthur native, is taking his talents as guard to East Texas Baptist University, an NCAA Division III program.

The softball team collectively earned a 3.06 GPA, placing them among the top academic programs in the nation. Bailey Coreay and Carmen Sanders earned second team All-Academic Team honors, placing their GPA within the 3.80-3.99 range. Lilly Renteria won third team honors after placing within the 3.60-3.79 GPA range.



Darion Chatman returns to play for the Seahawks in 2019-20 after scoring 7.5 points a game as a freshman. Chatman and Jamyus Jones were part of the state championship team at PA Memorial High School who decided to join their hometown college team.



**GINA LINTON, 2009 graduate
owner, DeLuxe Sheveux Salon, Beaumont, Texas**

From the very beginning, Gina Linton had a dream to own her own beauty salon. After years of education and practical experience, the Port Arthur native's dream became a reality.

Linton is a 2009 graduate of Lamar State College Port Arthur's Cosmetology program. A decade after receiving her certificate, Linton points to the discipline she learned from her instructors as one of the keys to her professional success.

"I need discipline in order to succeed," said Linton, who now lives in Beaumont. "I heard about the disciplined program at Lamar Port Arthur and I knew that's where I needed to be."

Linton passed her state practicum and written exams on her first try and immediately began to do cuts and color as an independent stylist. She moved to Ulta Beauty and Beauty Surprise then worked for Studio 77 before going out on her own as a salon owner.

"Once I had that experience of working booth rental, I knew I was strong enough to go out on my own," she said.

That's when De Luxe Cheveux Salon came to life. "The biggest thing about having your own salon is that you have the opportunity to give back to your community," she said.



**JUAN RODRIGUEZ, 2012 graduate
reporter, KVUE TV, Austin, Texas**

Juan Rodriguez always knew he had a higher purpose, something that would impact his community in a positive way.

As a television reporter, he tells the stories of those who would otherwise be anonymous victims of circumstances often beyond their control.

Rodriguez was born in the city of Cotija de la Paz in Michoacán, México, immigrating to the U.S. with his family as a young boy.

He was raised in Port Arthur, graduating with honors from Memorial High School in 2010. He earned an Associates of Arts degree from Lamar State College Port Arthur before finishing his Bachelor of Arts degree in Broadcast Communication and Modern Language at Lamar University in 2015.

After joining KBMT 12News in Beaumont as a reporter, Juan quickly became a popular fixture, earning recognition as one of the Top 40 Under 40 Professionals in Southeast Texas.

After his coverage of Hurricane Harvey, Juan started getting calls from TV stations across the nation.

In June 2018, he moved to KVUE, one of the top 50 TV markets in the U.S.



**GARRETT GUILLOT, 2016 graduate
Process Operator, Nederland, Texas**

If Garrett Guillot has learned anything in life, it is that patience is one of the most important things in pursuing success.

Guillot started out as an engineering student at Lamar University before deciding to try the Process Technology Program at Lamar State College Port Arthur. When he graduated in 2016, he thought the job offers would come pouring in.

"My friends in the industry would skip different job opportunities, thinking that because there are a thousand people applying for a job that there was really no chance they'd get it. Well if you don't apply, there's zero chance to get a job," he said.

After six months of interviews, Guillot found his first job as a loader at Lucite International in Nederland. A year later, he is putting his degree to work as a Process Technician.

"When I went to interview, they were looking for someone with a degree, so the time I spent at Lamar State College Port Arthur was really important. It made the difference between them choosing me or not," he said.

Now Guillot is making a six-figure salary and working to gain more experience and seniority. "This job is everything I had hoped for," he said.

Lane Glaze

CHOOSING TO WIN AS HE FACES LIFE'S CHALLENGES

It was only a few years ago that Lane Glaze started using a wheelchair. As his body began to betray him in the face of a neurological disease, the young Port Neches resident faced a life challenge that for many might serve as a defeat.

Instead, Glaze proved to others something he already knew about himself: he will continue to win at life no matter what.

While the progressive disease has taken his ability to walk and limited the use of his hands and arms, Glaze utilized graphic design programs as a student at Lamar State College Port Arthur and developed a logo that recently won the Port Arthur Transit logo contest. Glaze placed first in the contest, earning a \$500 award, while Haley Broussard and Irene Iju James were runners-up.

The logo contest was the brainchild of Port Arthur Transit Manager Ivan Mitchell. In cooperation with the college, the PAT sought a new look for replacement buses that will be traversing the city in the coming years.

"The contest seemed liked a great idea because it worked as a partnership between the city and the college," said Dr. Ben Stafford, Dean of Workforce and Continuing Education, who coordinated the contest at the school. "This is a relationship we're always happy to foster and in this case, it helped lift up a remarkable student who serves as an inspiration to us all."

Glaze suffers from Friedreich's ataxia, a neurological disease that causes the abnormal metabolism of iron in his system. Though the problem was identified early in his life, it wasn't until he was 16 years old that his condition forced him into a wheelchair.

"Not many people know what it is," he explained. "My body can't release iron properly, so it builds up. It throws off my balance and coordination and it's starting to affect my speech."

It doesn't affect his positive approach to life, however.

"It just takes me longer to hit the keys," he said of working with the graphic design computer programs. "I want to get into 3-D printing and graphic design goes hand in hand with that. My goal is to get into some sort of manufacturing process."



Graphic design student Lane Glaze, above center, won the Port Arthur Transit logo contest. Glaze, a resident of Port Neches, is pictured with, from left, Brad Coleman and Alvin Abrams of the City of Port Arthur Transit, LSCPA Dean of Workforce Training and Continuing Education Dr. Ben Stafford, State Rep. Dade Phelan (R-Beaumont), and LSCPA President Dr. Betty Reynard.

Less than a month after graduating from the Graphic Design program in Spring 2019, Makaela Sattler took a job as marketing and public relations director of Cogill Construction.





The Surgical Technology program saw a 93 percent pass rate on state exams for the 2018-19 school year, maintaining a steady pace of success set by the program over the past several years.

The program consistently performs above national averages, which range near the 70 percent mark. The LSCPA program had three straight years from 2015-2017 with 100 percent passing rates on state exams.



New leadership brings experience, expertise

A trio of new administrative leaders joined Lamar State College Port Arthur in 2019.

Dr. Melissa Armentor is the college's new Dean of Technical Programs. She came to LSCPA from Lamar Institute of Technology where she most recently served as Dean of Academics. She also served as Vice President for Student and Academic Success, Dean of Instruction, and Department Chair for General Education and Developmental Studies.

Dr. Armentor earned her bachelor's degree from Lamar University, her Master of Science in Radiological Sciences from Midwestern State University and her Doctorate of Education from Northcentral University.

Hilda Billups is the new Director of Dual Enrollment. She comes to LSCPA from Reynolds Community College in Richmond, Virginia. During her time there, she served as Director of Recruitment and K-12 Coaching.

Billups earned her Atrium Baccalaureus in Religion from Duke University with her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology also coming from Duke. She finished her Master of Science degree in Higher Education from Perdue University Global.



Dr. Melissa Armentor,
Dean of
Technical Programs



Hilda Billups,
Director of
Dual Enrollment



Wayne Wells,
Director of
Correctional Education

Wayne D. Wells is LSCPA's new Director of Correctional Education. His background stems primarily from public K-12 education, most recently with the Beaumont Independent School District where he served as principal and administrator for the past 14 years.

Wells earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Lamar University, later finishing his Master of Education degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Champagne among the area's Top 40 Under 40



Adriane Champagne, an instructor at Lamar State College Port Arthur, has been named among the top 40 young professionals under 40 years old by The Southeast Texas Young Professionals Organization, Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, and The Beaumont Enterprise.

Champagne is an instructor and Program Coordinator of the Business Office Management and Accounting programs at LSCPA with a career in office work and management that spans nearly 20 years.

Recipients were recognized on November 5, 2019.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Founded in 1909 as Port Arthur Business College. Became Port Arthur Collegiate Institute in 1911. Merged with Lamar University in 1975 as part of the Lamar University System. In 1995, the Texas Legislature dissolved the Lamar University System and the college joined the Texas State University System. The school was officially renamed Lamar State College Port Arthur in 1999.

Accreditation

- > Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting
- > Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
- > Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

Approving Organizations

- > American Bar Association
- > Texas Board of Nursing
- > Texas Certification Board of Addiction Professionals
- > Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services
- > Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
- > Texas Education Agency
- > Texas Workforce Investment Council
- > Veterans Administration

SCHOLARSHIPS

Lamar State College Port Arthur offers nearly 150 scholarships for students who attend the college. Some of these scholarships are awarded to students in specific programs but most are general in their scope.

\$342,834

Fall 2018 Scholarships

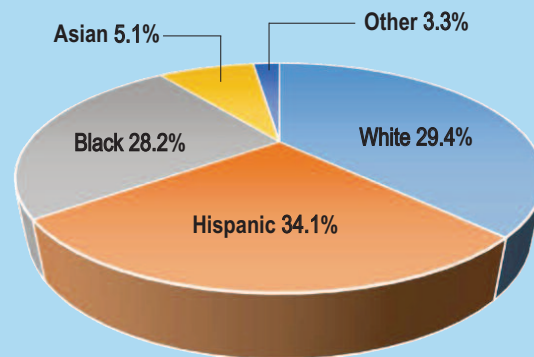
\$215,424

Spring 2019 Scholarships

THE NUMBERS

	Fall 2018	Spring 2019
Enrollment	2,413	2,352
Academic Majors	1,346	1,329
Technical Majors	1,067	1,023
Full-Time Students	884	784
Part-Time Students	1,529	1,568
In-State Students	2,374	2,317
Out-of-State Students	37	34
Foreign Students	2	1
Average Age	23	23
Male Students	978	986
Female Students	1,435	1,366
Degrees Awarded	118	107
Certificates	73	53

Student Ethnicity



2018 Source: Certified CBM001 & In-house reports. Degrees & Certificates awarded are from the Fall 2018 graduation only.

2019 Source: Certified CBM001 & In-house reports. Degrees & Certificates awarded are from the Spring 2019 graduation only.



Sabine Showdown helps raise new funding for LSCPA

The waters in Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana were filled with money in September 2019 as the LSCPA Sabine Showdown Fishing Tournament got underway.

The tournament, sponsored by Golden Pass LNG and Motiva, featured \$15,000 in payouts in three categories: heaviest redfish stringer, heaviest flounder stringer, and heaviest trout stringer.

“The support for this tournament has been incredible,” said Scott Street, LSCPA Director of Athletics and tournament director. “The area petrochemical industry and their partners, especially, have been all-in from the time we announced our plans to host

this tournament.”

The college is planning this as an annual event with proceeds from the tournament used to provide scholarships, purchase and maintain training equipment, and other campus needs.

“We took an approach that allowed pretty much anyone to participate,” Street said. “You could wade fish, fish from the bank, or go out in a boat to catch the winning stringer.”

Aside from the title sponsors Motiva and Golden Pass LNG, other supporters included Bechtel, Trinity Industries, Valero Energy Foundation, SpawGlass, Flint Hills Resources, Chevron Phillips Chemical Company, and Port Arthur LNG.



THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Board of Regents

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Dionicio Flores.....	El Paso
Veronica R. Harle.....	Baird
Alan L. Tinsley.....	Madisonville
Katey McCall, Student Regent.....	Orange

System Administration

Brian McCall, PhD	Chancellor
Fernando C. Gomez, JD, PhD	Vice Chancellor and General Counsel
John Hayek, PhD	Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Daniel Harper, MBA.....	Vice Chancellor for Finance
Sean Cunningham, JD	Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations
Rob Roy Parnell, AIA, RAS.....	Deputy Vice Chancellor for Capital Project Administration
Carole Fox, CPA.....	Director of Audits and Analysis
Mike Wintemute	Executive Director, TSUS Foundation

Lamar State College Port Arthur Administration

Betty Reynard, EdD.....	President
Pamela Millsap, PhD	Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mary Wickland, CPA.....	Vice President for Finance and Operations
Deborah Hebert, PhD	Dean of Student Services
Helena Gawu, MLS.....	Dean of Library Services
Ben Stafford, PhD.....	Dean of Workforce Training and Continuing Education
Melissa Armentor, EdD.....	Dean of Technical Programs
Hilda Billups	Director of Dual Enrollment
Wayne Wells	Director of Correctional Instruction
J. Mark Knowles, MEd	Director of Institutional Effectiveness
W. Scott Odom	Director of Physical Plant
Scott Street, MBA, MS	Director of Athletics
Michelle Davis, EdD	Department Chair of General Education and Developmental Studies
John Freyermuth, MFA.....	Department Chair of Commercial Music, Visual and Performing Arts
Sheila Guillot, MEd	Department Chair of Business and Industrial Technology
Shirley MacNeill, MSN, RN, CNE.....	Department Chair of Allied Health



Former softball player Brooke Wilhelm was named Miss Golden Triangle and competed in The 2019 Miss Texas USA pageant. She is studying at the Mississippi College of Law.



A film by former Commercial Music student Mahmoud Salimi, "Not Me", was recognized at "Euro Fest" European International Film Festival and was nominated the finalist in Best Short Film category.



Diana Crutchfield, administrative assistant for Student Services, right, was named the 2018 winner of the Julie and Ben Rogers Community Service Award. She is pictured with Regina Rogers, daughter of Ben and Julie Rogers.



Enrollment at LSCPA exploded over the past five years, growing more than 50 percent between 2015 and 2019 with the Fall 2019 semester setting an all-time record with 2,741 students.