# Lamar State College Port Arthur

# Report to the Community



or more than a century, a partnership has
existed between the community and the college that calls Port Arthur its home.

Never before, though, has that partnership been as important as over the past 12 months. In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and its unprecedented flooding, we have leaned upon one another for support as only caring neighbors can do.

LSCPA has always been a refuge for those seeking the enlightenment and career opportunities

afforded by advanced education. This past fall, LSCPA served as a refuge of a different type.

The College was thrust into a momentary position of support, offering shelter to Port Arthur residents during the storm. Afterward, we eagerly provided Port Arthur ISD and the City of Port Arthur temporary long-term office space so they could carry on business.

Ultimately, as is the case with neighbors, the College needed help as well. It was no surprise that it came unselfishly and in abundance.

Support from individuals, business, and industry has been immense, helping LSCPA maintain its goal of providing the best education opportunities available in the region.

Petrochemical industry leaders poured money into the community and the College to help motivate faster recovery. Students were provided with grants to replace laptops and books lost in the flood waters. Money continues to pour in, thanks in great part to our partnership with the Port Arthur Education Foundation, to help rebuild the campus and provide money for our students.

There is still much work to be done. Enrollment continues to increase slowly, but steadily, in spite of Harvey's aftermath. A half-million dollar donation from Texaco retiree and Port Neches resident Ed Hogenson and his family has resulted in a massive upgrade to the Office Management Program at LSCPA. Another grant, for our Allied Health Department, means our nursing programs will offer an even better learning experience.

I say it often, but it bears repeating: Port Arthur is a great community and Lamar State College Port Arthur loves its place as a caring neighbor.

Dr. Betty J. Reynard President, Lamar State College Port Arthur

# Real-world refinery facility result of \$1.6M Economic Development grant

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 announced in September 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 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.

"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 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 technicians within the refining, petrochemical and oil and gas industries relating to a distillation process.

A binary mixture of glycol and water is used as the feedstock for the unit. The distillation process yields 99 percent pure water and glycol.

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.



Ed Hogenson and his daughter Debbie Spittler pose for a photo together at the Gates Memorial Library on the campus of Lamar State College Port Arthur in January 2018. Together, the father and daughter donated \$500,000 to the college to support its office management programs. Mr. Hogenson retired from Texaco in Port Neches, while Mrs. Spittler works as a financial advisor. She received a degree from Lamar University-Port Arthur in the late 1970s.

## **The Value of Investment**

# Tant family embodies spirit of community

Joe and Dabeyva Tant experienced what is easily the most heartbreaking thing to happen to a parent, losing a child.

In their grief, they have found a way to support their belief that in memory of Jace Edward Tant, they can make others' lives better.

The Tants sponsor the annual Jace Edward Tant Memorial Scholarship for athletes at Lamar State College Port Arthur, awarded annually to a Seahawk athlete who succeed in the classroom and on the field of play.

"Our motto is 'Run, Jump, and Play.'

That's something Joe and I would have loved to be able to see Jace do," Dabeyva said. "This scholarship and the support of Lamar State College Port Arthur is an embodiment of Jace's spirit."

Joe also serves as executive director of the Port Arthur Education Foundation, an organization that brings many thousands of dollars in grants to LSCPA, especially in the wake of Hurricane Harvey.

"I was a broke, struggling student-athlete and I remember those days when I didn't know where the next dollar was coming from," said Joe. "What drives Dabeyva and I is the idea that students in Port Arthur and the greater Port Arthur area deserve the chance to become something better in their lives. Money should not stand in the way of a student who is truly dedicated to improving their lives."

Joe serves as financial analyst for the Port Arthur Chamber of Commerce and together, Joe and Dabeyva work with Southeast Texas Training and Staffing Services.

"We see people all the time who are eagerly pursuing a four-year college degree and our message is always, get your first two years at Lamar State College Port Arthur," Joe said. "It only makes sense to spend less to get the same education you would in Beaumont. The instructors here are qualified, the campus is state of the art ... it's really an easy decision."



## **Golden Pass Hurricane Harvey Recovery Fund**



Pictured, from left, are Bill McCoy, Port Arthur Chamber of Commerce president; Joe Tant, executive director of the Port Arthur Education Foundation; Mellie Bevilacqua, executive director of the Foundation for Southeast Texas; Sheila Trahan, Dean of LSCPA's Business and Technology Department; Barbara Phillips, board chair for the foundation; and Robert Bilnoski, vice president of Human Resources/Public Affairs, Golden Pass LNG Terminal.

As an institution, LSCPA survived Hurricane Harvey with a minimal amount of damage. The school was very fortunate. But for students, faculty and staff, the devastation was widespread.

Now, nearly a year later, the recovery continues. Many residents of Port Arthur and Southeast Texas are still working to recover. The first priority realized by LSCPA was that students needed help to continue following their collegiate goals. Several hurricane-related grants were received thanks to the help of the Port Arthur Education Foundation as well as the school's various industrial partners.

The Foundation of Southeast Texas' Golden Pass Hurricane Harvey Recovery Fund presented LSCPA with a check for \$50,000 to help replace computers and related equipment lost in the Ruby Fuller Building.

The Communities Foundation of Texas Harvey HELP \$25,000 Grant was designated to provide emergency aid funding to students financially impacted by Harvey. An initial \$50,000 grant also provided aid funding for students during the Fall 2017 semester. The Port Arthur Education Foundation also provided a \$173,470 grant to support students impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

## How You Can Contribute to the College

You can become a member of the LSCPA family with a gift directly to the college or to the Port Arthur Higher Education Foundation.

The Foundation administers more than \$6 million in permanently endowed scholarships for LSCPA students. The awards bear the names of longtime community members, celebrities and local social and civic clubs.

In Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 semesters, the Foundation provided 851 scholarships in the amount of \$693,349.

To contribute, contact the Office of the President at LSCPA by calling 409-984-6100.



## Triebel wins coveted Leon Jaworski Award

Mavis Triebel, a professor of government at LSCPA, has been chosen by the State Bar of Texas as the 2018 recipient of the Leon Jaworski Award. This prestigious statewide award recognizes individuals or groups for their outstanding contribution to Law Focused Education in the state of Texas.

Triebel has led the LSCPA-sponsored Citizen Bee competition for the past 30 years, a contest that tests high school students on their knowledge of government, law and current events.

Jaworski is a Texas attorney whose greatest fame came as a Special Prosecutor during the Watergate scandal. He was also an ardent volunteer, which inspired the annual Jaworski Award.

"Your dedication and support of the Texas Citizen Bee both as the coordinator for Region 5 and as the proctor for the state competition every spring has been invaluable," said Kevin Vela, chair of the Jaworski Law Focused Education Committee. "Your work with the Region 5 community has created a model regional competition as you have involved not only the students and their schools but have provided opportunities for the local community to participate in the experience and see the great work of the students."

## IS THERE A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE?

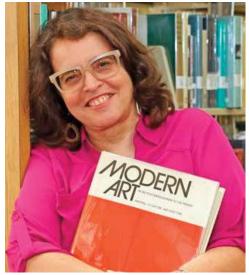
Lamar State College Port Arthur boasts 21 doctoral graduates among its faculty and staff, including 10 full-time instructors and four adjunct instructors.

## **Megnet named Regents Professor**

Grace Megnet arrived in Texas in the late 1990s in pursuit of the American dream. Little could she dream, though, that after more than two decades of dedicated hard work she would earn one of the most coveted education awards in the state.

Megnet, an art professor at Lamar State College Port Arthur, was 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 September.

Growing up in Switzerland, she studied at the University of Berne, and at the Sorbonne, and then became a teacher. In Switzerland, she prepared gifted children



for the 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.

When she came to the U.S., she taught Fine Arts at a Catholic school, opened an art gallery, earned a Master's 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.

"When I found out about winning the Regents' Teacher Award, I had a flood of memories come to me," she said. "I remembered Texas' goodwill toward this immigrant. I remembered a house, a car, a cat, a college degree, art shows, stories published. I remembered smiling faces, listening hearts, encouraging words, outstretched hands, and hugs. I remembered tears and laughter with my friends, and I remembered the gentle presence of my husband through it all."

The TSUS Board of Regents annually recognizes one teacher from a member institution with the Regents' Teacher Award. Regents' Teachers are selected based on their outstanding performance as educators, contributions to the development of courses, and use of innovative teaching methods, among other criteria. Megnet is the first instructor from Lamar State College Port Arthur to win the award.

## 2017-18 in Review

## Music student Lauren Frazier earns national recognition

Lauren Frazier, a Commercial Music Performance student at LSCPA was named among the most exceptional college music students in the nation in Fall 2017.

Frazier, a freshman, was listed among 94 students chosen from across the United States to receive the National Association of Music Merchants President's Innovation Award. She was one of two students from the state of Texas selected for this award.

Frazier is a graduate of Heritage Christian Academy in Silsbee and is working on an associate's degree in Commercial Music Performance. Her plans are to finish her degree at LSCPA, then attend Texas Christian University or Rice University to earn a bachelor's degree in Music Therapy.

## Higher Education Board awards Nursing Grant

For doing its part to reduce the shortage of nurses in Texas, Lamar State College Port Arthur won a \$52,000 award from the state's Higher Education Coordinating Board.

LSCPA graduated 26 more nurses from its Upward Mobility Nursing program in 2017 than the year before, earning the thirdlargest award given to the 18 two-year colleges that applied.

"By 2030, we'll be looking at a shortage of about 60,000 registered nurses in Texas, so the state wants to address it by supporting nursing programs and encouraging them to be innovative to increase their enrollment," said Shirley MacNeill, Chair, Allied Health Department at LSCPA.

#### Mark Chesnutt headlines 15th Gulf Coast Gala

Country music singer and Southeast Texas music legend Mark Chesnutt headlined the 15th Annual Gulf Coast Gala in April 2018. Chesnutt featured his greatest hits at the annual fundraising fete that benefits the college as well as The Museum of the Gulf Coast.

"Mark's impact on the world of music is huge and we're fortunate to be able to experience his style and talent in person," LSCPA President Dr. Betty Reynard said.

Chesnutt has 14 No. 1 hits, 23 top 10 singles, four platinum albums and five gold records to his credit.

#### Scott Street wins Rogers Community Service Award

Scott Street believes so much in teaching young people to help other people he wrote a textbook about it.

His "Life Skills for Student-Athletes," published by McGraw-Hill in 2006, is used as a teaching resource in colleges around the country.

"I've always been involved personally in giving back to communities," said Street, Director of Athletics at Lamar State College Port Arthur since 2010. "Certainly, at colleges and universities, giving back has always been an important thing."

Street's stressing good works, exemplified by the more than 1,500 hours of volunteer community service by LSCPA student-athletes in the last school year, was recognized in December 2017 when he received the Julie and Ben Rogers Community Service Award.

#### SGA elects new officers

The Student Government Association named its newest class of officers and senators after elections in Spring 2018.

Kimberly Davison, a Paralegal major from Groves, has been elected president of the SGA, while Peggy Bryan, an Academic Studies major from Port Neches, was chosen vice president. Secretary of the SGA is Eduardo Valencia, an Academic Studies major from Port Arthur.

Senators who joined the SGA were Courtney Ceaser, a Commercial Music Performance major from Beaumont, and Raul Torres, an Audio Engineering major from Port Arthur.

The new leaders will serve a term spanning Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 semesters.

## Surgical Tech grads earn 100% Board pass rate

Students from the Surgical Technology Program at Lamar State College Port Arthur achieved a 100 percent pass rate on National Board Exams for the fifth straight year.

The Surgical Technology Program at LSCPA is the only program of its kind in the region offering a clear pathway to a career for those wanting to be a surgical technician.

"Because we are the only one in the region, that means we are well known to our area hospitals and have a history of producing quality graduates over the past nearly 20 years," said Certified Surgical Technologist Brandon Buckner, director of the LSCPA Surgical Technology program. "When hospitals, surgery centers and doctors' offices need to hire, they know exactly where to look for employees."

## Grace Megnet collects statewide writing award

When Grace Megnet arrived in the United States in the late 1990s, she came only with a suitcase and \$1,000 in her pocket. She also came with a world class education. Megnet studied Modern Languages at the University of Berne, spent a year in Paris at the Sorbonne and two summers in Cambridge, England, studying English. She has master's degrees in Studio Arts and English from Lamar University and Painting from Stephen F. Austin State University.

It is with this experience and education that Megnet has found success in writing. In Fall 2017, she won first place for nonfiction in the annual Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers competition. It is her third first-place writing award with the organization. In 2005, she joined LSCPA as an art instructor and has since risen to the ranks of associate professor.

## Pamela Millsap joins LSCPA as VP for Academic Affairs

Dr. Pamela Millsap joined LSCPA as its Vice President for Academic Affairs during the Spring 2018 semester.

Dr. Millsap comes to LSCPA from the College of the Mainland where she served as Chair of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department, as Dean of General Education.

She is a licensed clinical psychologist and has a B.S. from the University of Houston and a M.S. and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Vanderbilt University.

#### Music students compete on 'Voice' and 'American Idol'

Students from LSCPA took to the stage for two national television programs, "The Voice" and "American Idol."

Chelsea Traylor advanced to the third round of American Idol, while AaRahn Stewart moved to the second round.

DeAndre Nico competed on The Voice, getting a unanimous vote from judges in his premiere appearance.



Lauren Frazier



Dr. Pamela Millsap



PepsiCo wins pouring rights

New vending machines showed up on campus after the Spring 2018 signing of a multi-

year agreement with PepsiCo for exclusive

beverage pouring rights. PepsiCo offers a

water and energy drinks. More important,

PepsiCo also became a corporate sponsor

"This will be a great relationship for us,"

said Director of Athletics Scott Street.

with an eye on improving the experience of all those who visit the LSCPA campus.

wide variety of products from sodas to

**Grace Megnet** 



## Softball tournament gives LSCPA chance to shine

The LSCPA Seahawks softball program hosted the NJCAA Region 14 Tournament in May 2018. It is the first time the college has hosted a major regional athletics event.

The tourney featured eight Region 14 teams

with the top two finishers advancing to the NJCAA National Tournament in Utah.

Galveston College and Tyler Junior College earned the two automatic berths to the national tournament.



Jessica Saenz, a freshman softball player, received the Jace Edward Tant Memorial Scholarship. The Tant family of Port Arthur presents the award to a first-year softball player during the annual athletics banquet.



LSCPA softball coach Vance Edwards, front-center, poses with his team after defeating Kilgore College in early February 2018, giving Edwards his 200th career win as a coach.



2018-19 SGA officers, front, senators Raul Torres and Courtney Ceaser; back from left, Vice President Peggy Bryan, Secretary Eduardo Valencia, and President Kimberly Davison.



**Director of Athletics Scott Street is presented** the annual Ben and Julie Rogers Community Service Award by Dr. Betty Reynard, left, and Regina Rogers.

Weather delayed the start of the Fall 2017 semester when Hurricane Harvey arrived just in time for the first day of classes. Likewise, weather caused a delay to the Spring 2018 semester when snow fell across Southeast Texas. In fact, enough snow fell that students who braved the trip to campus were able to build a bonafide snowman before the big melt set in later in the day.

10000

### **LEADERSHIP**

BRIAN McCALL, Ph.D. Texas State University System Chancellor

## **DEGREES, CERTIFICATES**

#### ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Accounting Audiovisual Production Business Office Management Cosmetology Instructor Cosmetology Operator Commercial Music-Performance Commercial Music-Sound Engineer Drafting Drug and Alcohol Abuse Counseling Graphic Design

#### **ASSOCIATE OF ARTS**

Academic Studies Business Administration Criminal Justice Drama Kinesiology

#### **TECHNICAL CERTIFICATES**

Accounting Administrative Assistant Computer Programmer Cosmetology Instructor Cosmetology Operator Drafting Technology Graphic Design Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Instrumentation Technology Medical Coding Specialist Medical Office Administration Paralegal Process Technology Software Developer/Game Design Substance Abuse Counseling

BETTY REYNARD, Ed.D. Lamar State College Port Arthur

President

Surgical Technology Upward Mobility LVN to ADN Nursing

Studio Art

**ROSSANNA SALAZAR** 

TSUS Board of Regents

Chairman

- Teaching Teaching (Art) Teaching (Theatre Arts) Teaching (Music) Teaching (Physical Education)
- Instrumentation Live Sound Design and Technology Medical Coding Medical Office Assistant Music Nurse Aide Process Technology Surgical Technology Vocational Nursing



Lamar State College Port Arthur is an equal opportunity/affirmative action educational institution and employer. Students, faculty and staff members are selected without regard to their race, color, creed, handicap, age, sex or national origin, consistent with the Assurance of Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Executive Order 11246 as issued and amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Inquiries concerning application of these regulations should be referred to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Pamela Millsap, by phone (409) 984-6211 or by mail at P.O. Box 310, Port Arthur, TX 77641-0310.







**47%** LSCPA's faculty and staff, more than 47%, were seriously impacted by Harvey. Some are still not in their homes as of Fall 2018.

\$173,470

The Port Arthur Education Foundation provided grants of nearly \$174,000 for students impacted by Harvey, replacing laptops and books.



7%

300

shelter for more than 300 people during and immediately after the storm.

In spite of Harvey, enrollment for the

Fall 2018 semester saw a 7% increase

over the Fall 2017 student population.

The Carl Parker Center became a

**P₩**SD

Harvey damaged or destroyed an estimated 80% of housing in Port Arthur. A year after the storm, many are still living in FEMA

trailers alongside homes gutted of everything that represented their lives before August 2017.

LSCPA served as home to the Port Arthur ISD administration as well as the City of Port Arthur Public Library for several months after the storm as those entities worked to recover from flooding.

#### LSCPA BY THE NUMBERS

The direct impact of Huricane Harvey can be seen in the decrease in enrollment from the Fall 2017 to Spring 2018 semesters. Port Arthur's recovery is seen, however, in the increase for Fall 2018 when 2,422 students enrolled for classes, a 5.63 percent increase over Fall 2017.

2,293	
2,295	1,980
1,305	1,091
988	889
770	657
1,523	1,323
2,255	1,954
31	19
7	7
23	22
904	705
1,389	1,275
109	108
98	61
	1,305 988 770 1,523 2,255 31 7 23 904 1,389 109

SOURCE: Certified CBM001 and in-house reports



32% 31% 28% 9% NULLMENT BY RACE/ETHNICITY 9% NULL 9% NULL 9% NULL 9%

\*Designated a Hispanic Serving Institution



## SELECTED AMONG THE BEST COLLEGES IN THE U.S. -- TWICE!

DID YOU KNOW? LSCPA IS JUST 1 OF 9 COLLEGES IN TEXAS THAT OFFERS THE SECOND CHANCE PELL.

nerican

## \$1,093,449

#### IN GRANTS WON IN 2017-2018

\$362,375 Building the Future Wagner Peyser Grant

\$196,375 Nursing Innovation Grant

> \$169,494 Jobs and Education for Texans Grant

\$148,160 Perkins State Leadership Grant

\$51,545 Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Regular Grant \$50,000 Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Over 70 Grant

\$46,295 National Dislocated Worker Disaster Grant

> \$43,205 SBDC Center Grant

\$21,000 FY 2017 Skills Grant

\$5,000 Rebuilding Libraries Grant



CDL Training From Start to Finish CDL faculty approved by TxDOT. CDL Testing Staff approved by Texas DPS.

\$693,349 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED DURING THE 2017-18

SCHOOL YEAR

## 9 OUT OF 10 GRADUATES

transfer to a four-year university or join the workforce.

is the only program between Houston and New Orleans and features 3 LSCPA students who have recently competed in "The Voice" and "American Idol."

The Commercial Music Program

During a four-year period, 2014 to 2018, LSCPA has experienced a 13% ENROLLMENT INCREASE.



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