

THE TALON

Laramie County Community College



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THE TALON

Winter 2015 • Volume 22

The Talon is published by the Public Relations Office at Laramie County Community College, Cheyenne, Wyoming. See it online at lccc.wy.edu/about/publicRelations/publications.

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on the cover

The trees and other vegetation surrounding Peanut Pond on the LCCC campus are resplendent in their autumn colors.
Photo: Ty Stockton



From The President

It is truly my pleasure to introduce you to our latest edition of The Talon. As in the past, inside this edition you'll discover stories about the many individuals whose lives and accomplishments are woven into the fabric of the LCCC community. Read about many of the newer faces at LCCC, such as **Dr. James Malm** who has taken the helm of our Albany County Campus, or **Daniel Maw**, one of our art faculty and department chairs and his approach to storytelling through his art, and **Austin Albers**, LCCC's volleyball coach and how his approach to recruiting local and regional talent proves who can be a winning team with athletes from our backyards.

Within these pages, you'll also learn about the innovations and happenings occurring at LCCC. For example, we share an update on the work with our **Building Forward** facilities plan and the progress to date on our current major building projects. Or learn about how the college is **partnering with the University of Wyoming** to better align our programs ensuring a smoother transition for students transferring between LCCC and UW. You'll also learn about our work with the refining industry and other community colleges in Wyoming to create an **accelerated training program** that addresses critical workforce needs.

We've also added a few new elements to this edition. I am very excited to share the 2013-2014 LCCC annual report supplement within this edition. This supplement provides a quick snapshot of the people, programs, and finances of the college, as well as the institution's **annual report** card, where we grade our ability to be effective and efficient in our work. We've also added a **Class Notes** section, highlighting the accomplishments of some of LCCC's alumni. I would encourage all alumni of the college to participate in our Alumni & Friends program and share their successes with us.

Of course, there is much more inside these pages. I know you will find the stories informative and motivating, and hopefully you will enjoy reading them as much as we enjoy writing and telling them.

LCCC is a community of wonderful people, who together achieve wonderful things. On behalf of all of us at LCCC, thank you for your support of our exceptional community college. Best wishes for a joyful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Joe Schaffer, Ed.D.
President





LCCC student Chance Englebert in the bareback bronc riding event at the Shawn Dubie Memorial Rodeo. He took first place in the short go.



IF YOU BUILD IT...



Several projects are currently under way at the LCCC campus in Cheyenne. Here are updates on the four that will have the most immediate impact to the community:

- 1 GATEWAYS (pictured):**
After a slight delay, these improvements to the main entrances off College Drive are almost complete. Vertical elements still need to be designed and installed, but the project should be finished by spring 2015.
- 2 PARKING LOT:**
With upcoming construction projects, more parking will soon be available (on the north side of campus) to students and employees. The cold weather created a challenge, especially with asphalt availability. However, the lot should be ready by April 2015.
- 3 FLEX-TECH BUILDING:**
One of two projects approved by voters for funding in 2013, the building's schematic design was presented to and approved by the Board in November. As the design development phase begins, a groundbreaking is scheduled for spring 2015 with the doors opening in August 2016.
- 4 STUDENT CENTER:**
The other project approved by voters, this is currently in design development phase and is also scheduled to open in August 2016. 🐅

ACC

THE "OTHER" SCHOOL IN LARAMIE



James Malm knows that the Albany County Campus plays a vital role in the educational community in Laramie. As part of Laramie County Community College, ACC serves as an important link between high schools and the University of Wyoming.

Housed in a new facility that opened in 2006 on Laramie's east side, ACC serves hundreds of students each semester.

"We're a transfer college for UW," said Malm, associate vice president of ACC. "About 90 percent of our students have relationships with the university."

Those relationships include preparing students to transfer to UW, offering developmental courses that help students prepare for college-level classes, and having UW students take classes that can transfer back to the university.

Among other courses, ACC offers an engineering technology degree that can be completed at the campus, as well as developmental classes that are not available at UW.

Malm joined the LCCC team in 2014, and he has three major goals for 2015:

- exploring a campus expansion plan
- building relationships with the community
- completing an organizational analysis

The expansion would address the college's growing classroom needs while creating an educational hub.

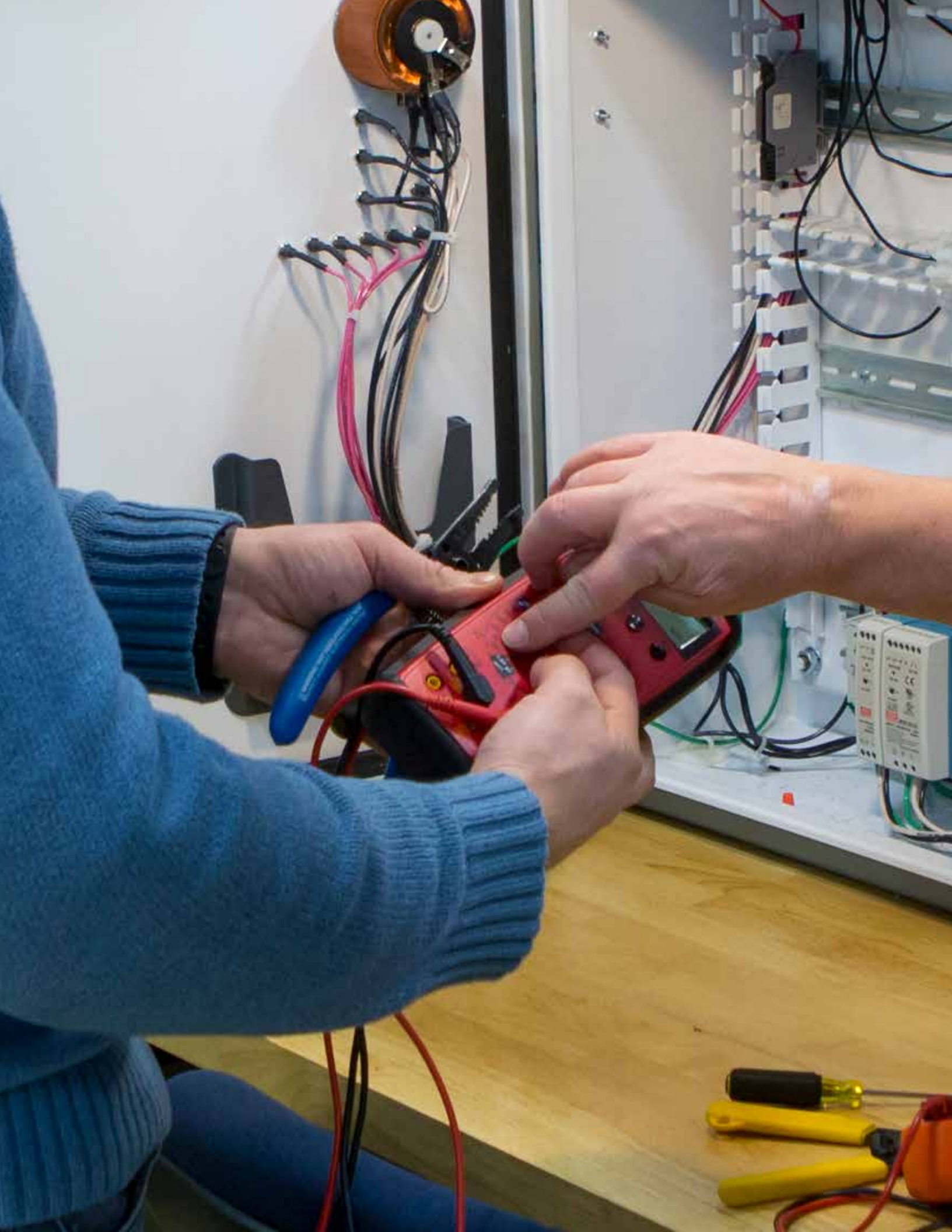
"This will be an educational complex," Malm said. "Across the street, the city is building a state-of-the-art high school. This area is where you can go for your K-14 education. Then you can go across the street to UW."

For relationship-building, Malm serves on several community organizations and started a weekly speaker series that is open to the public.

As for the organizational analysis, he has been reviewing the resources at ACC to ensure the college continues to offer the best services to its students.

So the next time someone talks about going to college in Laramie, keep in mind they may actually be talking about the hidden gem that is ACC. 🐾





REFINING THE TRAINING PROCESS

“We have to listen to the needs of industry.”

So says Dave Curry, program director for the process technology program at LCCC. The concept is simple and straightforward enough, but it’s what drives the work he does for the college.

Curry is part of a team that helped create the new process technology program. In a little more than a year, it has achieved success beyond what many even imagined it could.

The plan started when the Wyoming Refining Safety Alliance approached the college in spring 2013. Following a number of safety incidents around the state, there was hope to develop training that focused on entry level operators for the refinery industry. With strong support from Gov. Matt Mead, WRSA determined that more training was needed for those coming into the field. They came to LCCC, in partnership with Casper College and Western Wyoming Community College, to see if it was possible to get these programs operational.

For LCCC, it meant the daunting task of going from square one in April to having a fully operational program in August.

Curry acknowledges that it took everyone – administration, community partners, board of trustees, the Department of Workforce Services, OSHA – to make this happen.

“I’m just fortunate enough to have good people around,” he said.

DWS stepped up to help spread the word about the program. Local industry experts evaluated the program to make suggestions on how it could be improved. Faculty and administrators thoroughly examined similar programs, including those in the Gulf region, to determine what worked and didn’t. Then they took a thorough look at LCCC’s

curriculum to see how they could improve each session, each training, each semester.

In fact, it was experts in the industry that felt an intensive 16-week certification program had more value to them than a two-year training. Curry has set up the program so that students can easily return at their leisure to complete an associate degree by finishing the general coursework outside of the technical training.

The work is intense and challenging, and Curry ensures that the program prepares students for the realities of the employment, including the value of teamwork. “This is like a basic training before you go out into the world,” he noted, since they spend hours together every day, depending on each other, pushing each other. He finds that this creates better students and a stronger program.

The first half of the program involves the introductory aspects of the process technology, mechanical fundamentals, and OSHA compliance. The second half becomes more involved in the intricacies of the work of and at refineries, understanding the complexity of equipment and operation, as well as thorough safety training.

Demand is extremely high for these classes, and part of that is because grants currently pay for the students’ schooling. These students must still find ways to support themselves otherwise.

“They still have lives, they still have families,” Curry said.

Maryellent Tast, dean of LCCC’s Outreach and Workforce Development, tells of one student in the program’s first class: an Army veteran who saw significant action while stationed in Afghanistan. Accepted into the program, the student sold his car before classes started so that he wouldn’t have to worry about bills or expenses while going through the training. His dedication

ultimately meant that employers were clamoring for his talents, and he ended up with a great position and a wonderful salary, working for a company that respects the skills he brings to the table.

Stories like this aren't the exception. In fact, Tast shared that, of the 34 students who've completed the program, 33 have almost immediately completed and found work in the field.

Classes are made up of 14-18 students, and they must each pass an interview process and background checks. These classes feature a wide range of students. Curry mentioned that one class featured a woman with grown children, a female fresh out of high school, and two navy vets looking for the next career path.

The program has even garnered honors for what it's done for the workforce in the state. The Wyoming Economic Development Association listed the program as one of its 2013 Success Stories.

This is only the beginning. The Wyoming Department of Education just awarded a \$118,000 grant to Laramie County School District No. 2, in partnership with LCCC and Advanced Comfort Solutions, to develop and document curriculum and career pathways for industrial trade careers. By designing and offering concurrent and dual enrollment classes for high school students, they will be able to earn college credit before graduation.

Next up, LCCC anticipates a similar training model for the HVAC/R program at the college. Employers in the area are already contacting the college because of a lack of trained workers in the field.

A 2013 ManpowerGroup survey found that skilled trade positions are some of the most difficult jobs to fill. In fact, different findings suggest that for every five people who will soon be retiring from the field, there is only one new trained worker to take their place.

For Dave Curry and his team, they are more than happy to step up to the challenge of bringing qualified workers to the industry. "These folks are staying in Cheyenne, they're staying in Wyoming," he said.

Employers are seeing the results. Curry has high standards for the program and more so for the students. "It's not a numbers game, it's a quality game," he said. "I am determined to provide highly qualified workers that we can stand behind." 🐅





**"I'm a storyteller.
I create spaces, places,
and circumstances."
– Daniel Maw**

THE STORYTELLER

He has an incredibly distinctive style. The art reaches the larger human experience, but also connects to specific lives.

Daniel Maw was an instructor at Bowling Green State University before joining the ranks at LCCC. He also serves as the college's chair of fine arts, humanities and philosophy.

His work has been showcased across the country and was recently exhibited at Fort Collins' Crankenstein Gallery.

"The images evolved from studies I made of a particular book illustrator and concept artist at Disney in the '50s and '60s." While this show wasn't terribly conceptual, he said it was definitely an exploration of his softer side.

To see more of Daniel's works, visit danielmaw.dot5hosting.com. 





Teerstyn Johnson,
Pinedale, Wyoming
5-hour drive

Hannah Huus,
Gillette, Wyoming
3.5-hour drive

Mikaila Jegtvig,
Steamboat Springs, Colorado
3-hour drive

Brittney O'Kief,
Valentine, Nebraska
5-hour drive

Whitney Shawyer,
Johnstown, Colorado
1-hour drive

Breanne Hankins,
Johnstown, Colorado
1-hour drive

Paulina Hileman,
Johnstown, Colorado
1-hour drive

BRINGING IT HOME

**Volleyball coach recruits success
within driving distance**



Dani Peterson,
Gillette, Wyoming
3.5-hour drive

Teslin Holton,
Galeton, Colorado
59-minute drive

Hallie Burkart,
Yoder, Wyoming
1.2-hour drive

Shelby Johnson,
Gillette, Wyoming
3.5-hour drive

Kanani Auwae,
Waianae, Hawaii
10.5-hour plane trip

Aspen Olson,
Johnstown, Colorado
1-hour drive

Rory McCloy,
Salt Lake City, Utah
7-hour drive

MiKayla Martinez,
Erie, Colorado
1.25-hour drive

Recruiting overseas isn't necessary to find great athletic talent for a winning volleyball team. You don't even have to span the country!

At least that's what first-year head coach of the Golden Eagles women's volleyball team, Austin Albers, has proven. The team has exceeded 20 wins for the first time in five years, and that's with a roster where 14 of the 15 players live within a 380-mile radius of Cheyenne. That doubles the average number of players within that same radius from the past five years. We're talking at most just a seven-hour road trip away.

"The theory is simple," Albers explained. "In order to build a multinational corporation, you often have to start the process out of your own garage. That is what we are doing here. We are in the beginning stages of

developing LCCC Volleyball into one of the country's big-name programs by starting with the best players from our own neighborhood."

Albers has five recruits committed to join the team next season, and sure enough, they all follow the philosophy: two from Johnstown, Colo., one each from Loveland, Colo., Littleton, Colo., and Riverton, Wyo.

"We feel that recruiting regional athletes allows us an opportunity to spend more time with prospects during the recruiting process to ensure that their vision coincides with ours," Albers said. "When that vision is passionately shared between all the entities of the program, winning becomes a byproduct of developing our athletes into quality young adults." 🐦

PAINT YOUR WAGON

(AND REBUILD IT TOO)



The Lummis family has a long and generous history with Laramie County Community College, including their gift of land in 1968 on which the campus currently sits. The benevolence continued in 2013, when the family loaned the college its antique Arp & Hammond Hardware wagon to be used in the parades during Cheyenne Frontier Days each summer.

Only one minor problem: the wagon came to the college worn and in need of serious repair and restoration, and that's where the talents housed in the walls of LCCC were put to great use.

With the help of the students in LCCC SKILLS USA Club, instructor Rob Benning and CFD Wagon Doctor Ken Willis, the work began. Because it sat idle for several years, the original wagon had warped and rotted boards. The sides, floor and seat of the wagon were carefully rebuilt. The back two wheels, or "fellies," were also replaced, but the metal tires remain original.

The wagon and wheels were repainted to their original colors by the college's Institutional Advancement team, and the Arp & Hammond Hardware Co. sign was recreated and added to the wagon.

After six months of extensive work and detailed attention, the wagon was ready for its grand unveiling. With the assistance of Dixie and Duke (the team of horses owned by Steve Siegel), the wagon had a few practice days before participating in Cheyenne Frontier Days.

This legacy of the Lummisses can now continue in parades for years to come. 🐾





MAKING A SMOOTH TRANSITION





Students who take business courses at Laramie County Community College now have the assurance that those courses will meet requirements for two specific bachelor's degrees in business at the University of Wyoming, as a result of new articulation agreements between the two institutions.

The agreements between LCCC and the UW College of Business are the first of many program-level plans they expect to be struck as part of a concerted statewide effort to ease the transition for students moving from community colleges to the university.

"Faculty members at both our institution and the university are working diligently to keep students first," said Dr. Jose Fierro, LCCC's vice president for academic affairs.

The two new agreements are for UW bachelor's degrees in accounting and business administration, though UW College of Business Interim Dean Dr. John Mittelstaedt says LCCC transfers pursuing degrees in management, marketing and finance also will benefit.

"For a student transferring from LCCC to UW, it will cut anywhere from a semester to a year from what it has been taking to complete a bachelor's degree," Mittelstaedt said.

The new agreements "level the playing field," Fierro said, as students taking prescribed courses at LCCC now will see those courses count toward UW degree requirements.

"Our transfer students will finish at the same time as UW native students for years one through four," said Fierro.

"It truly is a collaborative effort, and LCCC is a great partner to work with," Mittelstaedt said. "Their faculty had been revising their curriculum, and it lined up really nicely with us."

Fierro says UW and LCCC are just scratching the surface with the new agreements on two business degrees. He notes that faculty members from both institutions are working closely to move additional agreements forward.

"This is an important thing to do for students, the state and our economy," he said. 🐾

-Thank you to the University of Wyoming for help with the content of this article



An LCCC student at the wind ensemble concert at the Cheyenne Civic Center.



SMILE

It's hard to find someone who enjoys going to the dentist. But the talents of the LCCC dental hygiene program are working hard to change that mentality.

Since 1991, the fully accredited program has been turning out some of the strongest dental hygiene students in the region. These students are so well trained and prepared that they have a 95 percent first-time pass rate for their professional examination, with nearly a 100 percent placement rate within the first nine months of completing the program.

Val Rodekohr, program director, said that only 20 students are accepted each year into

the intensive 16-month program. In that time, students are immersed in dental hygiene science, radiology theory, instrumentation, pathology, public health and more. Students also must have 800 hours of clinical practice. These clinic clients receive comprehensive dental hygiene services provided by students supervised and evaluated by licensed dental professionals and faculty.

The efforts of the students and the program extend beyond the walls of the classroom. During the fall, 16 students volunteered for the Mission of Mercy project in Denver, where they actively helped people unable to afford proper dental care elsewhere. Organizers said the event provided about \$1 million worth of care during the two-day period.

And that really is something to make you smile. 🐾

STUDENT PROGRESS AWARD

UP TO **\$1000** YEARLY AWARD
RENEWABLE FOR 2 YEARS



— CRITERIA —

2ND YEAR
STUDENT



NO PREVIOUS
DEGREE

FULL
TIME
STUDENT

FILED
FAFSA

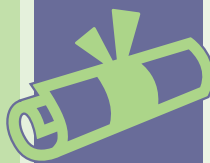
24
CREDITS
COMPLETED

67%
CLASSES
PASSED

NO PREVIOUS
LCCC
AID RECEIVED

2.00
GPA

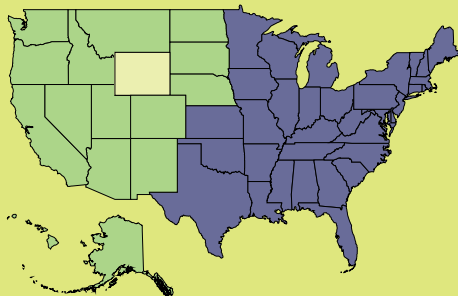
45 STUDENTS
AWARDED
2014



NO APPLICATION NEEDED

TUITION

FULL TIME FOR A YEAR



\$2,832

RESIDENT

\$6,816

OUT-OF-STATE

\$3,816

WESTERN
UNDERGRADUATE
EXCHANGE

REWARDING PROGRESS

Success should be rewarded! To encourage degree completion and recognize students' hard work, the college is primed to reward second year LCCC students who have already invested in their first year of college without any LCCC financial aid or Hathaway assistance, took a full load of classes, and passed. While LCCC prides itself in having a great value for higher education, sometimes a student's circumstances can make it difficult to afford pursuing a degree, like being nontraditional, a parent or low-income student. This award is meant to give those students a boost and credit their efforts. 🐦

"THIS AWARD IS MORE OF A REWARD TO STUDENTS THAT ARE AGAINST THE ODDS, COME HERE AND DO EXCEPTIONALLY WELL. WE ARE HOPING THAT THIS SUPPORTS AND ENCOURAGES THEM TO CONTINUE TO DO WELL AND WORK TOWARD COMPLETION AT LCCC."

— JULIE WILSON — DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL AID

CLASS NOTES

1981

Frederick Pillivant

retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1994 after a 20-year career. After 14 years of teaching, he retired again in 2012 from his career as a middle school science teacher. In 1982, he married Susan Pillivant, and they have two children.

1987

George Brown, III

went on to receive a bachelor's in psychology and a master's in adult education.

Charles Cory retired from United States Capitol Police in 2001.

2001

Regan (Allen) Wilson

received a bachelor's degree from the University of Wyoming. She moved to Colorado and taught school until having children.

2002

Mi Chelle McGee

worked at Cheyenne Radiology Group, University of Colorado Hospital, and Harmony Imaging Center in Fort Collins.

2003

Lanae (Koons) McDonald

attended Kansas State

University, then returned to LCCC as faculty and to coach the equestrian team.

2009

Kelsey Madigan

jumped right into the horse industry, working alongside well-known trainers in the country.

2011

Alexandria Barker

Received a Bachelor of Arts in social sciences from UW, then returned to LCCC where she works as an admissions representative.

Have a new job? Retired or moved to a new location? Planning a wedding or expecting a child? Received a special award or honor? Let us know! Visit lccc.wy.edu/alumni

The **LCCC Alumni and Friends** program is looking for you! If you are a graduate, former student or friend of LCCC, consider participating in our Alumni and Friends program. As we work to connect and reconnect with our former students, friends and supporters we are excited to introduce our new Alumni and Friends program.


By establishing an online profile, you will have access to update your

contact information at any time, search our online database of other alumni and friends, receive information about the college.

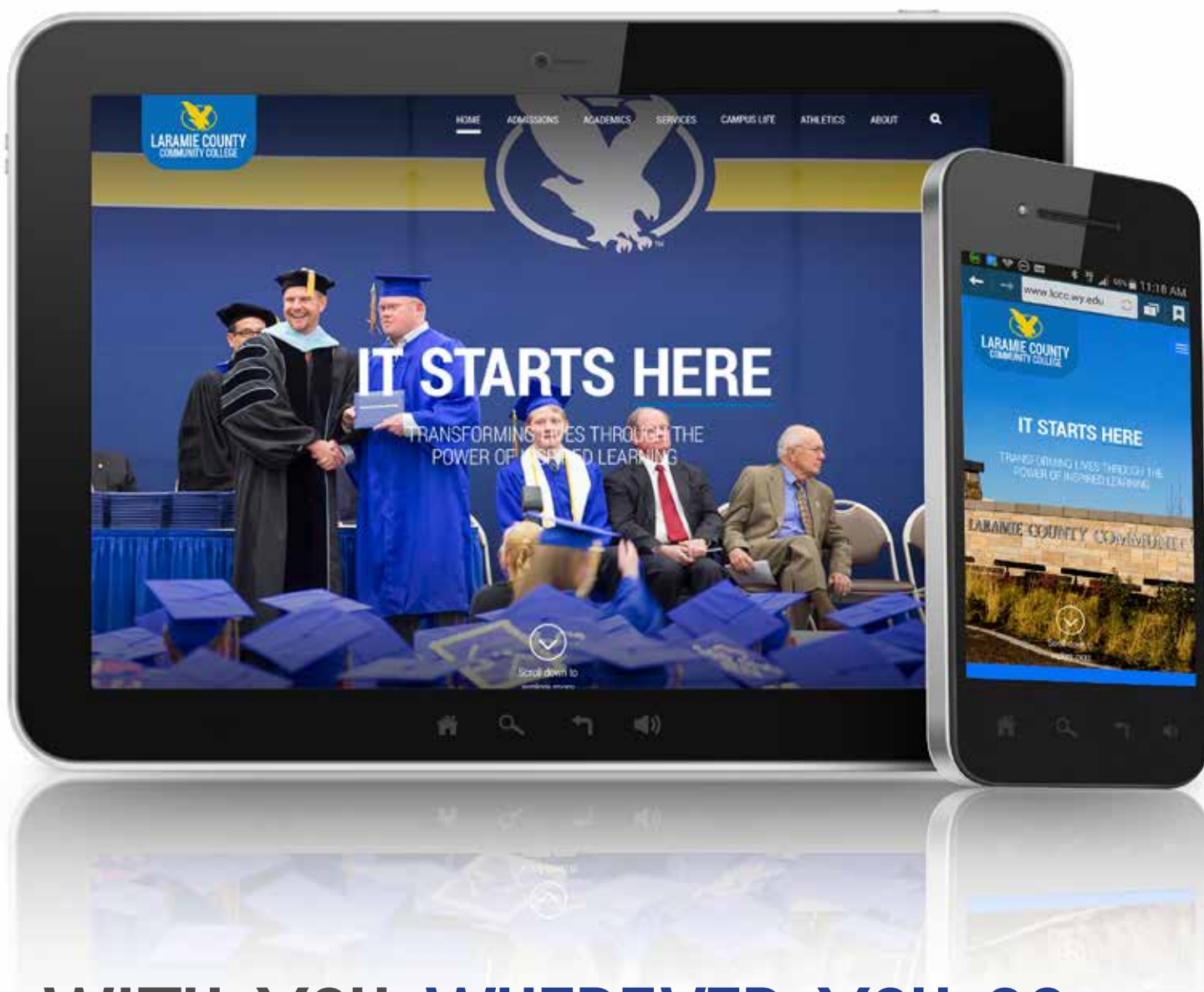
It's quick and easy: go to lccc.wy.edu/alumni and click the "Update My Record" link. You can also contact the LCCC Foundation at 307.432.1603, and we can help you over the phone.

As we look toward LCCC's 50th anniversary celebration,

this is a great time to stay connected so we can keep you informed of all the great activities and events happening at the college.

For more information about Alumni and Friends, contact Lisa Trimble at lisatrimble@lcccfoundation.edu. 





WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO

LCCC debuted a redesigned, mobile-friendly website at the start of the fall semester to help recruit prospective students and modernize the college's Web presence.

With the understanding that prospective students are the main audience and current students are the next critical users, the goal was to grab attention and get them to look at the different programs, athletics and services.

The responsive design also incorporates more video, photos and other multimedia features with rich

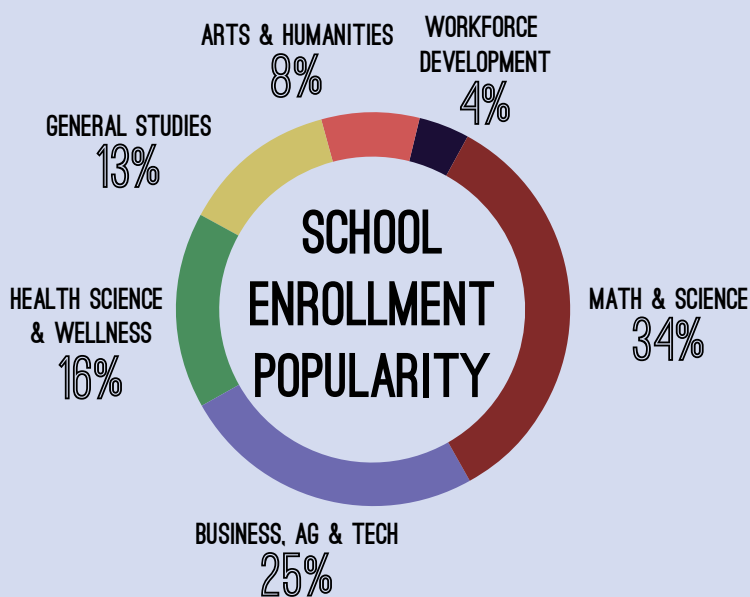
content about the college. The front page features a continuous-playing video along with the latest news, events and photos from around campus.

The website also has an improved top navigation system based on input and web analytics that determined what prospective and current students use the most. Students and faculty are still able to find EaglesEye and other important links at the bottom of every webpage.

Want to see the changes? Visit lccc.wy.edu. 

2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

AT A GLANCE.....



DEGREES & CERTIFICATES

AWARDED

277	ASSOCIATE OF ARTS
116	ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE
249	ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE
198	CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION



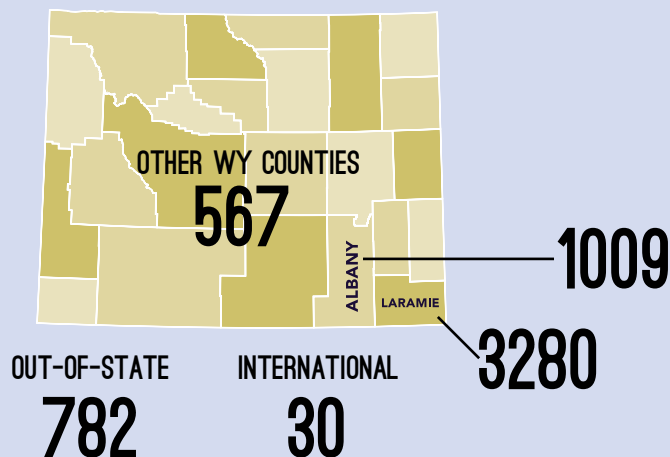
840

ANNUALIZED
ENROLLMENT
5668

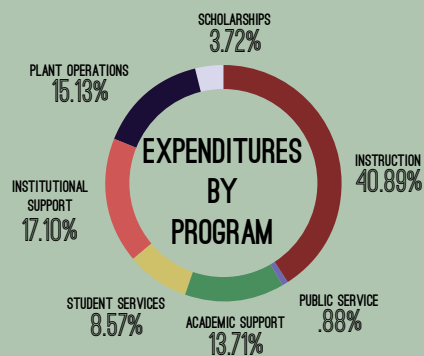
60 / 40

UNDER 17	256	40-49	360
17-24	3226	50-59	199
25-29	765	60+	145
30-39	703	UNKNOWN	14

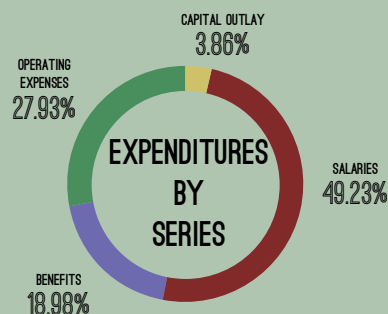
FROM WHERE?



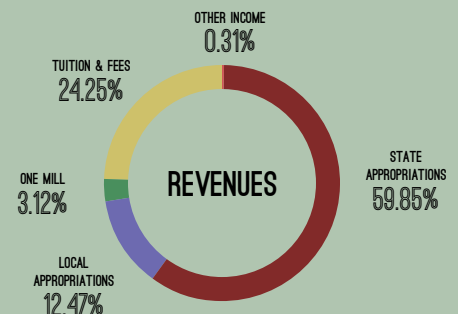
FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN



\$43,654,517



\$43,654,517



\$42,020,367

FOR FY2013-2014, EXPENDITURES EXCEED REVENUE. FUNDS FROM THE RESERVE WERE USED TO MAKE SEVERAL INVESTMENTS ON CAMPUS.

MORE NUMBERS

68 ACADEMIC PROGRAMS



24 CAREER PROGRAMS

OFFER CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION

111 FULL-TIME FACULTY



277 PART-TIME FACULTY

352 BENEFITED EMPLOYEES



55 CLUBS & TEAMS

INCLUDING NJCAA SPORTS

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS REPORT OVERALL GRADE

2012-2013

C

2013-2014

C

KEY EFFECTIVENESS INDICATORS

STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND ACHIEVEMENT

C

C

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

C

C

TRANSFER PREPARATION

B

B

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

B

B

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

B

B

KEY EFFICIENCY INDICATORS

INSTRUCTIONAL PRODUCTIVITY

B

B

FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

D

C

COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY

B

B

CAMPUS CLIMATE

B

B

Laramie County Community College is committed to continuous improvement and the evaluation of institutional performance. This commitment is reflected through an assortment of activities and processes emanating from the college's mission, vision and strategic plan. Each indicator has multiple performance measures. The results of these measures are analyzed and assigned grades, which are averaged to determine the grade for each indicator and an overall grade for the college's annual performance.



STRATEGIC GOALS

With an eye to the future, a strong desire for excellence and a staunch dedication to student success, LCCC has embraced the following strategic goals to guide our work through 2020. We will continue to provide updates regarding the targeted outcomes that will be used to evaluate our success.

1. Completion Agenda for the 21st Century
2. Connections that Improve Student Transitions
3. An Organizational Culture to Thrive in the Future
4. A Physically Transformed College

For more complete information, visit lccc.wy.edu and search for "report card" and "strategic planning."



Laramie County Community College
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POSTAL CUSTOMER