



# **BUILDING OUR FUTURE INSPIRED BY THE PAST**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2022-2023**

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## MESSAGE FROM DR. THOMAS JOHNSON *College President*

Winston Churchill said, “The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see.” And, as I close my fifth year as President of Lamar State College Orange, I am excited to lead the future of this college through the inspirations of such a marvelous past. Several symbolic pieces of Orange’s rich and time-honored history will be used to pave the way for exciting and cutting-edge facilities to beautifully serve the students who come to our beautiful college on the Sabine.

Over forty years ago at the corner of Green and First Streets in Orange were the headquarters of the Procell Brothers Performance Center and Procell Machine and Parts. The Machine and Parts Shop grew into Procell Brothers Performance Center which became internationally known for building racecar engines that were placed in cars that won 23 National Hot Rod Association world records. After purchasing the Procell property and vacant buildings in 2021, LSCO has taken great care to renovate them and create state-of-the-art facilities that train Electromechanical Technology students.

The former First Baptist Church of Orange, completed in 1915, was donated to the College by the Nelda C. and H.J. Lutcher Stark Foundation. After suffering significant flooding in the basement from Hurricane Harvey, the Foundation restored the historic sanctuary in 2013 and then donated it to LSCO in 2021. The College is currently in the planning phase to renovate the beautiful domed Greek revival brick facility into a magnificent Student Welcome Center. LSCO is committed to preserving this historic site’s exterior beauty and interior character. The expected project completion date is fall 2024.

Standing on the grounds where the old Capital One building once stood, local and statewide leaders attended the spring 2023 groundbreaking ceremony that kicked off construction for the College’s new 55,000-square-foot Academic Center. Through funds made possible by the 87th Legislative Session, the new facility will house academic classrooms, science labs, and the Information Technology department, all of which currently reside in the current Academic Center that was originally constructed in 1908 and has served as a warehouse and bowling alley before being refurbished to its current state. The anticipated opening of the new Academic Center is fall 2024.

During the 2022-2023 academic year, Lamar State College Orange also made history through many impressive and hallmark achievements. A record number of 767 degrees and certificates were awarded between fall 2022 and summer 2023. This represents a 20% increase in the number of degrees and certificates awarded from the 2021-2022 academic year.

Lamar State College Orange and local industry partners announced a partnership to create a chapter of the national Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education Program (FAME). The chapter is only the fourth FAME Chapter in Texas.

Golden Triangle Polymers Company presented a check to Lamar State College Orange (LSCO) in the amount of \$1.3 million at a ceremonial groundbreaking event in Orange, Texas. The donation will facilitate the purchase of a Polaris Hands-on-Training 3 Glycol Distillation Trainer, from which LSCO Industrial Systems students can train.

LSCO reported 2,629 students enrolled for its fall 2022 semester, an 11.7% increase over its fall 2021 enrollment. This represents the highest enrollment in over a decade.

As Lamar State College Orange continues to be inspired by the past, we will build a solid future that commits to transform the lives of our students and community.

## MISSION: Transforming Lives

Lamar State College Orange transforms lives and communities through the continual pursuit of academic, professional, and personal excellence. We provide new and unique opportunities for growth and success. We are the bridge connecting those we serve to a bright, Orange future.

## VISION: Where Hope Meets Opportunity

Lamar State College Orange will be the college of choice serving Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana. As an exemplary place of learning, Lamar State College Orange will prepare the workforce of tomorrow. Our students will arrive with the hope of a productive future and leave with the knowledge and opportunities for success that a Lamar State College Orange education provides.

## VALUES

Quality: Providing excellence through education

Growth: Building a shared vision of opportunity and advancement

Service: Meeting the needs of the communities we serve

Innovation: Creating an array of unique educational opportunities

Success: Achieving personal and professional goals

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Robert Dominguez



# STUDENT SUCCESS »»»

# STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Keeping students engaged with campus fun.

## SILENT DISCO

Our Gators danced the night away with their headphones on at the silent disco. LSCO Student Activities hosted a silent disco inside the Student Center Gym serving pizza and light refreshments to all students who attended.



## DENA HUGHES SPEAKS ON HEALTHCARE

LSCO partnered with the NAACP for a Black History Month Speakers series featuring four quest speakers focusing on the history of the NAACP, service, education, and healthcare. Dena Hughes, Triangle Area Network (TAN) Healthcare CEO, visited the campus to share extensive knowledge on healthcare.



## THINK FAST TRIVIA SHOW

Do you know what a group of islands is called? How many chromosomes does a human have? The answers to both of these questions and many more awarded two LSCO students with a total of \$100 in cash at our Think Fast Trivia Game Show.

## NIA LEWIS SPEAKS ON SERVICE

A wonderful time was had listening to author and LSCO alumni, Nia Lewis, speak about self-love at the second installment of our Black History Month Speaker Series. Nia's book covers the in-depth steps and means to practice becoming the person of your dreams.



## ARRIVE ALIVE TOUR

LSCO partnered with the Arrive Alive Tour and Granger Chevrolet to host the Arrive Alive event that educates students on practicing safe driving and warns them of the dangers that come with drinking and driving as well as texting while driving.



## CHRISTIAN ANDERSON ON EDUCATION

LSCO was proud to welcome the president of the Epsilon Lambda Chapter of the National Sorotiy of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., Christian Anderson. Anderson spoke to students and faculty about the importance of education for the third installment of the Black History Month Speaker Series.

# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Achieving greatness with the help of peers.

## QUIZ BOWL TEAM

The LSCO Quiz Bowl Team competed in the NAQT Community College Sectional Championship Tournament at Murray State College in Tishomingo, Oklahoma. The team finished the competition with a 7-3 win/loss record qualifying them for the National Championship Tournament in Chicago. Robert Simpson finished as the #2 overall scorer with an average of 61 points per game.

The Team traveled to compete in the NAQT 2023 Community College Championship Tournament in Chicago, Illinois. The team of Chris Perkins and Robert Simpson finished 15th in the nation. Robert was the #6 overall scorer and was named a tournament All-Star. The Quiz Bowl team is sponsored by assistant professors, Eric Owens and George Scarborough.



## FISHING CLUB

Our Fishing Club fished in the 2022 Abu Garcia Major League Fishing tournament at Lake of the Pines on Friday, November 11, 2022. Jack Tindell III and Brett Fregia completed the tournament in 14th place with 15lbs 14 oz. Trent Buchholz and Dakota Posey finished 57th with 10lbs 12oz. These scores were enough to qualify both duos for the National Championship.

Upon their first stop in the 2023 Strike King Bassmaster College Serie, the duo of Trent Buchholz and Dakota Posey ended the day in 105th place weighing in at 11lbs 9oz. The next day, the duo moved up to 28th place weighing in at 20lbs 12oz for a two day total of 32lbs 5oz. The LSCO Fishing Club is sponsored by staff member, Thera Celestine.



## CHESS CLUB

The newest student organization at LSCO is the Chess Club. Students of any skill level are welcome to join the club and teach others new to the game how to play chess. The club along with their advisor, Raul Martin, have participated in campus events such as Student Orientation and Spring Day. The club is looking to host it's first ever chess tournament in the upcoming Fall 2023 semester.



## SPONSORS

### TOP LEVEL SPONSOR

Top Deck, Inc.

### CLUB SPONSORS

The Dingo Group  
 Rambo Outdoors  
 Roberts Ford  
 Jersey Sponsorship  
 JT Construction  
 Orange County Marine

### CLUB SPONSORS

Tip Off II  
 Sabine Federal Credit Union  
 Texas Southern Plumbing, LLC  
 Orange County Economic Development Corporation  
 Exceptional Emergency Center - Orange  
 Granger Chevrolet  
 Judge John Gothia  
 Venture Global  
 Gina Simar

# AWARD CEREMONIES

Rewarding students for their accomplishments.

## STUDENT AMBASSADORS

In May of 2023, LSCO held its annual Student Ambassador Banquet at the Brown Estate to thank our outgoing 2021-2022 Student Ambassadors and welcome our 2023-2024 Student Ambassadors. Current Student Ambassadors, Kate Ernst and Angie Hernandez, received service awards for the highest service hours.

The LSCO Student Ambassador scholarship covers a full year's worth of tuition and fees for incoming freshman. The program provides these new students with a variety of service and networking opportunities to aid in developing their leadership skills on campus and out in our community.



## 2023-2024 STUDENT AMBASSADORS

**From Left to Right:**

Christian Salinas.....	Home School
Makenna Carey.....	Bridge City
Jeanna Ingram.....	Orangefield
Paige Rains.....	Vidor
Paislee Byrd.....	Evadale
Carolyn Wilhite.....	Bridge City
Dawson Sandlin.....	Home School
Bryan Cano.....	West Orange-Stark

**Not Pictured:**

Jamey Flores.....	Vidor
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## STOLE & PINNING CEREMONIES

Throughout the 2022-2023 academic year, LSCO has hosted numerous stole and pinning ceremonies to celebrate our graduates. The stole ceremony awards students their program specific stole to be worn at graduation. In contrast, a pinning ceremony awards students a program specific stole and a custom LSCO pin to mark the completion of education and

initiation into the profession. Pinning ceremonies are reserved to Registered Nursing, Vocational Nursing, Pharmacy Technology, and Dental Assisting programs.

This year, LSCO hosted its first Court Reporting stole ceremony for our first graduating Court Reporting cohort.





# COMMENCEMENT

The 2022-2023 academic year at Lamar State College Orange completed in August with a commencement ceremony at the West Orange-Stark High School Event Center. A total of 530 graduates across three commencement ceremonies walked across the stage to receive their diploma for Fall 2022, Spring 2023, and Summer 2023. LSCO President, Dr. Thomas Johnson, delivered the commencement address to the graduates at each of the three ceremonies.

LSCO witnessed a record-breaking number of graduates for the Spring 2023 Commencement Ceremony. This ceremony hosted total of 240 graduates making it the largest Spring ceremony.

The Summer 2023 commencement also holds record-breaking numbers with 82% of the graduating class being first generation college students along with the youngest associate degree graduate in LSCO history at 17 years old.

Our graduates were not only a testament to their own hard work but also a reflection of the institution's dedication to fostering resilience, growth, and achievement. Their stories will continue to inspire others to overcome challenges and embrace the limitless possibilities that lie ahead. We wish each of our newest LSCO alumni the best in their upcoming ventures and look forward to the great things they will accomplish next.



## FALL 2022 - SUMMER 2023 GRADUATION STATISTICS

# 530

TOTAL UNDUPLICATED  
GRADUATES

# 63%

OF GRADUATES ARE FROM  
ORANGE COUNTY

# 16

AGE OF YOUNGEST  
GRADUATE

# 767

TOTAL DEGREES  
CONFERRED

# 3.11

GPA AVERAGE

# 71%

OF GRADUATES ARE FIRST  
GENERATION STUDENTS

# STUDENT AWARDS

Celebrating those going above and beyond.



## TRUSTMARK WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SCHOLAR

Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for two-year colleges, selected Lamar State College Orange Licensed Vocational Nursing student, Abhijett Joyce, as a 2022 Trustmark Workforce Development Scholar.

Ms. Joyce received a \$200 scholarship designed to assist active Phi Theta Kappa members in navigating the transition from college to the workforce. Abhijett is from Silsbee, TX, and is in the process of applying to LSCO's Transition to Registered Nursing Program.



## ALL-TEXAS ACADEMIC TEAM 2023

Lamar State College Orange student, JoAnna Osburn, a communication major from Kirbyville, Texas, was chosen as a member of the Phi Theta Kappa 2023 All-Texas Academic Team.

Nearly 200 outstanding community college students were selected from across fifty different community college districts in the state of Texas to be honored. Students were awarded based on their involvement in academics, leadership, and service.



## STUDENT OF THE SEMESTER

The Greater Orange-Area Chamber of Commerce, along with its Ambassadors and the staff of Lamar State College Orange, named LSCO's Student of the Semester, Dawson Doiron, of Orange, TX.

Dawson received a \$500 scholarship as a reward for being selected Student of the Semester. Dawson is President of both the Student Government Association (SGA) and LSCO's Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) chapter.



# GATOR TRADITIONS »»»

# OCTOBERFEST

Our annual Octoberfest was an absolute success! The LSCO campus was filled with many great activities such as pumpkin decorating, face painting, bounce houses, a haunted house, and a costume contest. An overall amazing night filled with plenty of Halloween fun for all in attendance!





## GATOR WINTER JAM

LSCO Student Activities hosted its annual Gator Winter Jam inside the Student Center Gym to celebrate the holiday season before students take their finals. The event had many holiday themed activities for both students and faculty to join in the winter fun. These activities included painting, cooking decorating, pinning the heart on the Grinch, karaoke, taking pictures inside a snow globe, and participating in an ugly sweater contest.



## DENIM DAY

To recognize Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, LSCO hosted its third annual Denim Day speaker event featuring Izzy Moore and special guest speaker, Dr. Lavinia Masters.

Several local organizations and community resources for sexual assault victims spoke about their services and provided brochures and branded items for attendees.

Dr. Lavinia Masters is a survivor of sexual assault, a life/trauma coach, and an advocate & empowerment speaker for Lavinia Speaks. Lavinia is also the first living African American and woman to have a law in her namesake in not only Texas, but also the United States. Since 2005, Lavinia has fought tirelessly to raise awareness and demand change on the rape kit backlog.

The community organizations in attendance were Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeast Texas, Child Abuse Forensic Services, Inc., Crisis Center of Southeast Texas, Garth House, Mickey Mehaffy Children's Advocacy Program, Inc., CHRISTUS Southeast Texas Health System, CASA of Southeast Texas, Inc., and Family Services of Southeast Texas.





# SPRING DAY



Our sponsors, student organizations, community partners, and campus programs, services, and committees put on a wonderful event for our students this year. Students in attendance enjoyed free food, massages, cartoon caricatures, an inflatable obstacle course, a volleyball tournament, and more. There could not have been a more perfect Spring Day!



# CTE SIGNING DAY

Lamar State College Orange held its third annual Career and Technical Education (CTE) Signing Day on April 25, 2023. The Career and Technical Education Signing Day has become an annual event for current and incoming students to declare their intent to begin or further their college education with Lamar State College Orange for the upcoming Fall semester.

Recipients of the CTE scholarships consist of students who are currently pursuing or are planning to pursue an education in a technical program. These technical programs include Process Technology, Nursing, Electromechanical Technology, Instrumentation, Dental Assisting, and many more.

This year, over \$53,000 was awarded in scholarships to 29 students by our local industry and foundation partners: Chevron Phillips Chemical Company, the Donald T. Boumans Foundation, Invista Orange, Cloeren Incorporated, the Nelda C. and H. J. Lucher Stark Foundation, and the LSCO Orange Memorial Hospital Corporation Foundation.

We are grateful to host such a wonderful event for showcasing the generous and continued support by our industry and foundation partners, staff, and faculty who wish to celebrate our students achievements with their families.



## CTE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

**\$7,500**

AWARDED BY CHEVRON  
PHILLIPS CHEMICAL COMPANY

**\$3,000**

AWARDED BY DONALD T.  
BOUMANS FOUNDATION

**\$5,000**

AWARDED BY INVISTA ORANGE

**\$15,000**

AWARDED BY CLOEREN  
INCORPORATED

**\$12,000**

AWARDED BY NELDA C. AND H. J.  
LUTCHER STARK FOUNDATION

**\$10,000**

AWARDED BY LSCO FOUNDATION  
ORANGE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
CORPORATION

# SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Pursuing education in the technical industry.

## Chevron Phillips Chemical Company

Recipient	Program
Blaze Compton	Process Technology
Charid Hutchinson	Process Technology
Eric Pierce	Process Technology
Preston Sullivan	Process Technology
Lauren Woods	Welding

## Invista Orange

Recipient	Program
Wayne Fontenot	Information Technology
Angie Hernandez	Vocational Nursing
Ella Roy	Process Technology
Angela Sifuentes	Instrumentation
Tremaine Wilson	Process Technology

## Cloeren Incorporated

Recipient	Program
Aubrey Bickham	Electromechanical Technology
Jackson Humplick	Electromechanical Technology
Lane Jacobs	Electromechanical Technology
Kevin Shae Low, Jr.	Electromechanical Technology
Nathan Miller	Electromechanical Technology

## Donald T. Boumans Foundation

Recipient	Program
Brendon Brones	Process Technology
Daniela Garcia	Business Management
Jackson Heider	Process Technology

## Nelda C. and H.J. Lutcher Stark Foundation

Recipient	Program
Carlin Bailey	Process Technology
Kelsey Brandon	Vocational Nursing
Paislee Byrd	Instrumentation
Perry Ferguson	Maritime
Mandy Lagrappe	Court Reporting
Brynn Wilkinson	Vocational Nursing

## LSCO Foundation Orange Memorial Hospital Corporation

Recipient	Program
Hunter Beard	Vocational Nursing
Krista Edwards	Dental Assisting
Kate Ernst	Vocational Nursing
Marcie Jacobs	Dental Assisting
Heather Sloan	Registered Nursing

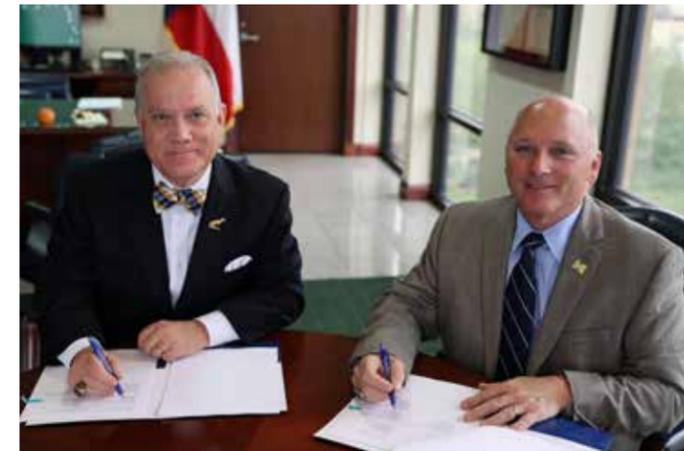


**BUILDING OUR FUTURE »»»**



# PARTNERS & DONORS

Collaborating to expand higher education.



## MCNEESE UNIVERSITY AGREEMENT

Lamar State College Orange is proud to pave the way for our current and future students to experience a smoother transition between LSCO and McNeese State University. By signing the business agreement, we are expanding on our existing articulation agreement with McNeese State University that provide more seamless transfer experiences.

# POLYMERS DONATION

Golden Triangle Polymers Company presented a check to Lamar State College Orange (LSCO) in the amount of \$1.3 million at a ceremonial groundbreaking event in Orange, Texas. The donation will facilitate the purchase of a Polaris Hands-on-Training 3 Glycol Distillation Trainer, from which LSCO Industrial Systems students can train. The unit will be 24 feet long, 35 feet high, and 11 feet wide. The training unit includes differential pressure transmitters, temperature transmitters, and industrial process instruments, which accommodate the control system installed on the unit.

Golden Triangle Polymers Company is a joint venture between Chevron Phillips Chemical and Qatar Energy. The plant, expected to begin operations in 2026, will include a 2,080 KTA ethane cracker and two 1,000 KTA high-density polyethylene units. The total installed cost of the project is expected to be \$8.5 billion, and it is projected to create more than 500 permanent jobs, approximately 4,500 construction jobs, and generate an estimated \$50 billion for the community in economic impacts over 20 years.



## LSCO FOUNDATION DONATION

The LSCO Foundation Treasurer, Shane Johns, presented a \$25,000 check on behalf of the LSCO Foundation to Dean of Student Services, Brian Hull, and LSCO President, Dr. Thomas Johnson. The money from the foundation will be put towards workforce education scholarships for future students entering our workforce program.



## VECTOR GROUP DONATION

Vector Controls and Automation Group visited our campus during the summer semester to donate to our scholarship fund. The amount of \$5,000 was donated to the Lamar State College Orange Scholarship Fund to award to students in Industrial and Manufacturing programs.

# ACADEMIC ***GROUND BREAKING***



Helping LSCO President Dr. Tom Johnson break ground were as follows (Left to Right): Mary Wickland (LSCO), John Gothia (Orange County Judge), Gisela Houseman (LSCO Foundation), John Mixon (Durotech Contracting), Dr. Thomas Johnson (LSCO), Dr. Wendy Elmore (LSCO), Jennifer Harris (State Senator Nichols's Office), Cole Michalk (Speaker Phelan's Office), Stephen Lee (TSUS Regent).

Lamar State College Orange broke ground on its new, state-of-the-art academic building. When finished, the nearly \$38 million building will house academic classrooms, labs, and the Information Technology department. The 87th Legislative session approved the funding and Governor Greg Abbott signed Senate Bill 52 into law in October 2021, officially granting Lamar State College Orange \$37,435,695 to construct the new building.

Members of the community, elected and city officials, and staff and students gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking. The building is the largest single capital investment that the Texas Legislature has granted Lamar State College Orange. It is expected to open in time for the Fall 2024 semester.

**“We are thrilled to break ground on this incredible new building that will provide a much-needed space for our students to learn the skills and concepts needed to meet their educational goals, whether that helps them begin work immediately or transfer to a four-year institution.”**

— Dr. Thomas Johnson, President





# STATISTICS

## DEGREES & CERTIFICATES AWARDED

LARGEST NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES & DEGREES AWARDED IN LSCO HISTORY (2022-2023)



## ENROLLMENT TOTAL (AY 2022-2023)

**3,231** TOTAL  
UNDUPLICATED  
ENROLLMENT

## ENROLLMENT GROWTH (FALL 2022)

**#2** OUT OF THE 53 TEXAS PUBLIC TWO-YEAR COLLEGES IN PERCENTAGE GROWTH (11.73%) FOR ACADEMIC AND TECHNICAL/CREDIT STUDENTS

**#3** OUT OF THE 53 TEXAS PUBLIC TWO-YEAR COLLEGES IN PERCENTAGE GROWTH (260.56%) FOR WORKFORCE/ NON-CREDIT STUDENTS

THECB - FALL 2022 DATA

## ENROLLMENT BY RESIDENCY

1	Orange.....60%	5	Louisiana.....5%
2	Hardin.....15%	6	Newton.....1%
3	Jefferson.....9%	7	Tyler.....1%
4	Jasper.....7%	8	Harris.....1%

## LSCO BY THE NUMBERS

**15** AVERAGE  
CLASS SIZE



**71%** OF STUDENTS ARE FIRST  
GENERATION GRADUATES

## GRADE POINT AVERAGE

**3.11** AVERAGE  
GRADUATE  
GPA

## GRADUATE AGE

**28** AVERAGE  
GRADUATE AGE  
(AY 2022-2023)

**\$2.5 +** MILLION

OUTSIDE PUBLIC & PRIVATE  
DONATIONS AND GRANTS

**\$1,770**

IN-STATE TUITION & FEES  
(15 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS)

## PROGRAM OF STUDY

**52%** OF STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED  
IN ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

**48%** OF STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED  
IN TECHNICAL PROGRAMS



# FAME CHAPTER

## Partnering together to provide for our students.

Lamar State College Orange partnered with local industry partners to announce the creation of a new chapter for the national Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education Program (FAME). The Golden Triangle FAME Chapter will allow students to achieve a specialized education in the skills needed for rapidly evolving industry positions while earning two-year associate degrees with potentially zero student-loan debt.

Students supported by Core Member industry partners will simultaneously undergo on-the-job training. The chapter is only the fourth FAME Chapter in Texas. Core Members include employers of technical talent which intend to sponsor students in

LSCO's Electromechanical Technology Program and upcoming FAME cohort. Supporting Members include any public or private sector organization which provides critical support to Core Member companies in utilizing and gaining the greatest beneficial impact from the program.

Associate Members include members who have an interest in membership and/or who bring value to the chapter. Employers who will actively sponsor students through the program starting in Fall 2023 include International Paper, Cloeren Incorporated, ISS/Buna Electric Motor Service, and United Rentals.

### HISTORY OF FAME

FAME was created by Toyota and then moved to the Manufacturing Institute, part of the National Association of Manufacturers, to scale the program nationally in 2019. FAME USA now has 38 chapters supported by more than 400 company partners across 14 states. More than 1,500 students have graduated from the program nationally since 2012. The Fall 2022 graduating class was the largest ever.

**“It’s been an honor working with this dedicated group to bring FAME to Southeast Texas. FAME will be an incredible asset to our region as it helps to build a locally skilled workforce pipeline in an effort to retain our homegrown talent.”**

said Stacey Nichols, Golden Triangle FAME board president and Global Manufacturing Training Coordinator for International Paper, who has worked over a year to bring the program to the area.

Tony Davis, National Director of FAME USA, is excited for the newest chapter to positively change the lives of participants while filling critical shortages. With recruitment underway for the upcoming Fall 2023 semester, Davis says that “this program will make the area stronger economically while also building a lifelong foundation for success for every single student who participates. We appreciate the great local partners and look forward to supporting your continued growth.”



# MEMBERS

### CORE MEMBERS

International Paper  
Cloeren Incorporated  
ISS/Buna Electric Motor Service  
United Rentals

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Chevron Phillips Chemical Company  
Dow Sabine River Operations

### SUPPORTING MEMBERS

Lamar State College Orange  
Orange County Economic Development Corporation  
Workforce Solutions Southeast Texas



## SIGNING DAY

LSCO was honored to host the signing of 12 students to the Golden Triangle chapter of the Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education Program (FAME). Students committed to obtaining their two-year associate degree from LSCO while also working with one of four industry partners. Friends and family were on hand to celebrate the occasion.

The Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education, within the Manufacturing Institute, is the premier advanced manufacturing workforce education and development program. FAME will provide students the opportunities to become highly skilled, globally competitive, well-rounded and sought-after talent that can meet the unique needs and challenges of today's modern manufacturing workforce. Every year, FAME graduates transition into well-paying, diverse career pathways in critical disciplines across the manufacturing industry and across the country.

LSCO's FAME students will start a work/study program to earn an associate degree and certification as an Advanced Manufacturing Technician (AMT). FAME Students will attend LSCO classes two days a week (eight hours or more each day) and will work at least 24 hours a week (eight hours or more each day for three days) for a local partner – being paid a competitive wage.

The Golden Triangle FAME chapter's industry partners selected each student to be a part of FAME and to work in their business, affording each student the opportunity to engage in hands-on training while completing their education, with a goal to develop a well-rounded worker. Board members of the Golden Triangle FAME chapter were in attendance to celebrate these students along with the FAME chapter's supporting and business partners.



# CO-ENROLLMENT PARTNERSHIP

## Collaborating to expand higher education.

Three local educational institutions put their minds together to combat the teacher shortages by creating a pathway to success for paraprofessionals across the region of Southeast Texas.

Administrators from Vidor ISD, Lamar State College Orange, and Lamar University met to celebrate a co-enrollment partnership that aims to bridge the gap for paraprofessionals who are eager to further their education. Through the program, a group of paraprofessionals, employed by Vidor ISD, can enroll in Lamar State College Orange's Associate of Arts in Teaching program with courses taught at Vidor ISD.

The first cohort of Vidor ISD and Newton ISD employees began their LSCO courses in the Fall of 2022. In the Spring of 2024, these employees will take their Lamar University co-enrolled courses. This will allow them to then obtain a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from Lamar University.

**"As we all know, the demand for qualified teachers in our state is at an all-time high. We are thrilled to establish this partnership with Lamar University and Vidor ISD to produce more teachers to address this shortfall. These bright students will no doubt have a lasting impact in our community, and in making a vibrant, Talent Strong Texas, moving forward."**

– Dr. Thomas Johnson, President

Pictured below from left to right: Taryn Marks, Lamar State College Orange President, Dr. Thomas Johnson, Natalie Smith, Vidor ISD Superintendent, Dr. Jay Killgo, Brooklyn Bushelle, Lamar University President, Dr. Jaime Taylor, and Aaron Wright.



# UPDATES FROM TSUS

## Benefits from legislation and Board of Regents.



### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ORANGE

\$6,500,000 in funding was awarded to Lamar State College Orange for disaster mitigation to restore the historic former First Baptist Church of Orange to become LSCO's Welcome Center. The First Baptist Church of Orange was built in 1913 and has sustained heavy damage after several hurricanes. With plans to open in Fall of 2024, the Welcome Center will house the Department of Student Services, Financial Aid, and more, making it a central resource for students to obtain general information about the college as well as apply to attend classes at LSCO.



### TSUS 88TH LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

An increase of 96 cents per contact hour (from \$7.20 to \$8.16) was requested by LSCO President, Dr. Thomas Johnson, to the Instruction and Administration Formula Funding. This will enable LSCO to maintain reduced tuition rates for students without hampering the college's innovative and enhanced services that transform lives.

Formula: \$3.4 million (17%) Hazelwood Legacy Reimbursement: \$68k  
Health Insurance: \$700k Capital Funds: \$6.5 million



### LAMAR STATE COLLEGE ORANGE LUMBERTON

Functioning as an off-campus site, Lamar State College Orange acquired the Lumberton campus site to provide access to higher education to rural areas. The site will provide an array of courses that fulfill core curriculum, general education transfer requirements, as well as technical training to equip students for entry into the workplace. LSCO Lumberton plans to serve the Lumberton community and is located on 344 S Main Street in Lumberton, Texas.



# FACULTY & STAFF SUCCESS »»»



University of Texas at Arlington in 2019. She has taught as an instructor at Lamar State College Orange since 2008.

“Dean Tucker has committed her entire career to advancing students in the critical practice of nursing. Recently, Dean Tucker successfully navigated a Board of Nursing re-accreditation and added an additional Associate Degree in Nursing summer cohort in order to serve the immense healthcare needs of our area. We are grateful to Dean Tucker for her dedication to LSCO,” said Dr. Wendy Elmore, Provost and Executive Vice President of Lamar State College Orange.



## PROMOTED TO DEAN

Lamar State College Orange (LSCO) announced the promotion of Associate Dean of Nursing, Mande Tucker, RN, MSN, to Dean of Nursing and Health Professions. Dean Tucker now oversees the Vocational and Registered Nursing Transition, Dental Assisting, EMT/Paramedic, Massage Therapy, Medical Assisting, and Pharmacy Technology certificate and associate programs.

### BACKGROUND

Tucker began her nursing studies at LSCO when it was Lamar University-Orange. She earned her Certified Nursing Assistant certificate along with her Vocational Nursing degree in 1995. She earned her Associate Degree in Registered Nursing from Lamar University in 1997, her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Phoenix in 2014, and her Master of Science in Nursing from the

# REWARDING RESEARCH

Lamar State College Orange is proud of Biology/ Science Instructor, Dr. Matt McClure, for his recent research that was published in the Advances of Biological Chemistry Academic Journal. The research, done in partnership with Dr. Mark Merchant of McNeese State University, focused on the immune responses of dragonfly larva at Shangri La Botanical Gardens in Orange, TX.

“Aquatic insects are long regarded as indicators of environmental quality, and one of the ways that insects and other arthropods fight infection is by rapidly coating infectious agents with the dark pigment melanin, a process called melanization response,” Dr. McClure said.

Dr. McClure explained “Mark Merchant and I obtained hemolymph (“blood”) from aquatic larvae of green darner dragonflies (*Anax junius*) collected mostly from the wetland garden of Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center. Both melanization and phenoloxidase (the enzyme involved in the melanization pathway) were studied using hemolymph exposed to various temperatures and concentrations of *E. coli* bacteria, and results show that the melanization response was influenced by both temperature and bacterial concentration.”

The data presented in this study provides a reference point for future studies on human-caused impacts on green darner dragonfly immune systems.

### Explore the Findings

Read the article on Dr. McClure’s research on the immune responses of dragonfly larva at [scirp.org/pdf/abc\\_2022082914582456.pdf](https://scirp.org/pdf/abc_2022082914582456.pdf).





# YOUTH EXPO



Our faculty and staff participated in the Youth Career Expo at Ford Park in Beaumont, Texas. While there, faculty from our academic and technical programs interacted with more than 4,000 high school students. The expo is an annual event held in February hosted by Workforce Solutions Southeast Texas that introduces high school youth to the exciting career choices and pathways available in them in Southeast Texas.





# ANNUAL EMPLOYEE AWARDS

At Lamar State College Orange, we are beyond grateful for all of our wonderful faculty and staff who have worked and will continue to work tirelessly to help our students succeed. Every year the college hosts an annual celebration that recognizes our employees for the excellent job they do on and off campus as well as the completion of a milestone year of service.

## AWARDS LUNCHEON

In May 2023, Lamar State College Orange held its annual Employee Awards Luncheon at the J. Michael & Bridget Shahan Events Center. This luncheon honors the employees who have worked at LSCO through

milestone years. Each year the executive staff hosts the luncheon as a thank you to the faculty and staff for going above and beyond everyday for each and every student on campus.

President Johnson awarded the faculty and staff with their milestone awards for five, ten, fifteen, and thirty years of service at LSCO. In addition to the milestone awards, selected employees were awarded with the President's Faculty Merit Award, Staff Award for Customer Service, and Staff Award for Campus & Community Service Award. Each year on Spring Day, students vote to select one staff member and faculty member to receive the award for Favorite Staff and Favorite Faculty at the annual luncheon.



## 2023 SERVICE AWARDS

### FIVE YEARS

- Colleen Baker  
*Dental Assisting Program Director*
- Cheryl Byley  
*Human Resources Specialist*
- Stephen Cook  
*Facility Worker III*
- Karel Green  
*Payroll Manager*
- Dr. Thomas Johnson  
*President*
- Krystal Loft  
*Shahan Events Center Coordinator*
- Lindsey Minter  
*Administrative Assistant III*
- Brenna Wheatley  
*OIRE Specialist*

### TEN YEARS

- George Scarborough  
*Assistant Professor - Mathematics*
- Kayla Wilson  
*Transcript Evaluator*

### FIFTEEN YEARS

- Angela Cole  
*Vocational Nursing Clinical Instructor*
- Jennifer Petitjean  
*Web Administrator*
- Dr. Jongchul Kim  
*Assistant Professor - Mathematics*

### THIRTY YEARS

- Elias Jureidini  
*Assistant Professor - Mathematics*



# EMPLOYEE AWARDS

Awarding educators and staff for their hard work.



## TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Jessica Williams  
Instructor - English



## PRESIDENT'S STAFF AWARD FOR CAMPUS & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Kendra De La Fuente  
Career and Technical Studies  
Advisor/Recruiter



## PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Dr. Matt McClure  
Professor - Biology



## DISTANCE EDUCATION AWARD

Hank Ramsey  
Program Director & Instructor -  
Process Technology and  
Instrumentation



## PRESIDENT'S FACULTY MERIT AWARD

Andrew Preslar  
Instructor - English



## FAVORITE FACULTY AWARD

Andrew Moore  
Instructor - Developmental Math



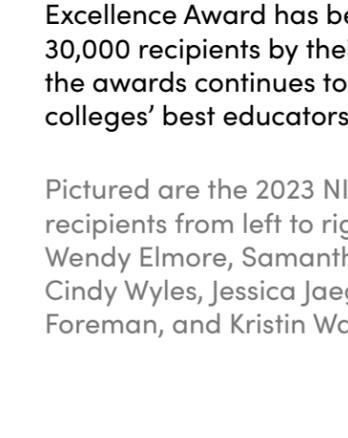
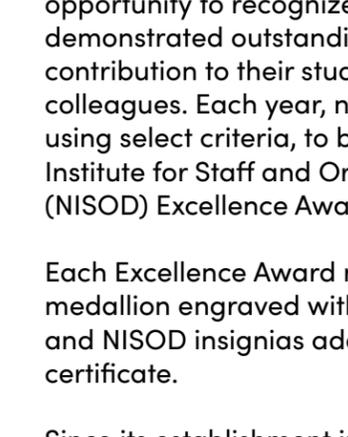
## PRESIDENT'S STAFF AWARD FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE

Jessica Jaeger  
Purchasing Coordinator



## FAVORITE STAFF AWARD

Ashley Guillory  
Assistant Coordinator of  
Campus Activities



# NISOD AWARDS

Lamar State College Orange does not waste the opportunity to recognize individuals who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and contribution to their students and fellow colleagues. Each year, names are submitted, using select criteria, to be recognized as National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award recipients.

Each Excellence Award recipient receives a silver medallion engraved with The University of Texas and NISOD insignias adorned with a ribbon and a certificate.

Since its establishment in 1991, the NISOD Excellence Award has been awarded to more than 30,000 recipients by their colleges. The tradition of the awards continues to recognize community colleges' best educators, staff, and administration.

Pictured are the 2023 NISOD Excellence Awards recipients from left to right: Tammy Davis, Dr. Wendy Elmore, Samantha Smith, Stephanie Jones, Cindy Wyles, Jessica Jaeger, Angela Cole, Sherri Foreman, and Kristin Walker.



# OPEN HOUSE



We had a great time meeting all of our future Gators at our Fall and Spring Open Houses! A wonderful time was had by all with the help of the Advising and Recruiting Team, Student Ambassadors, SGA members, and Academic and Technical programs. More than 200 students from local high schools were in attendance at these events. We congratulate our faculty and staff on another successful year for Open Houses.





## COUNCIL APPOINTMENT

Speaker of the Texas House, Dade Phelan has appointed Lamar State College Orange Provost and Executive Vice President Dr. Wendy Elmore to the statewide Industry-Based Certification Advisory Council. The Advisory Council advises the Texas Workforce Commission on aligning public high school's career and technical education programs with the current and future workforce needs of the community, region, and state.

### THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Texas House Bill 3938 established the Advisory Council during the 87th Legislature, Regular Session. The Industry-Based Certification Advisory Council is comprised of appointed representatives, as follows: three members representing industry in this state, one each appointed by the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of



the House of Representatives; three members representing public school teachers who teach career and technology education courses or public school administrators, one each appointed by the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and three members representing a public junior college, public state college, or public technical institute, one each appointed by the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The members of the advisory council serve staggered four-year terms, with the terms of either four or five members expiring February 1st of each odd-numbered year.

**"Our Provost, Dr. Wendy Elmore, is a huge asset to our beautiful college on the Sabine and to our System. I am thrilled that the Speaker recognizes how valuable her expertise is in the area of certifications and workforce demands and needs. She will prove invaluable to this committee and I applaud her appointment,"**

— Dr. Thomas Johnson, President

# IN MEMORIAM

## Dr. Joe Ben Welch (1940-2023)

Dr. Joe Ben Welch, who passed away September 12 at his home, will forever be tied to the to the history of Lamar State College Orange. As our founding leader, he guided the college through its first 20 years and said it best, "the very creation of this institution is a direct consequence of this community's efforts." Without the overwhelming support of the community, the school would not exist today.

The college began in the former Tilley Elementary School in the fall of 1969 under Dr. Welch's direction with 345 students. After Tilley Elementary burned down in 1971, Dr. Welch was instrumental in leading the community to raise \$250,000 to rebuild the campus. As the college continued to grow, LSCO received monetary, land and building donations from the State of Texas, the U.S. Navy and local companies to build a stable and enduring campus for the community.

As president from 1969-1989, he laid the foundation for this wonderful college we enjoy today. Dr. Welch was universally loved and had overwhelming support from the Orange community during his long tenure.

His memory will continue to live on with each student who attends our beautiful college on the Sabine. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Dr. Welch.



# FACULTY & STAFF AWARDS

Celebrating those going above and beyond.



## SOUTHEAST TEXAS 40 UNDER 40

Emily Mellen was selected by the Southeast Texas Young Professionals Organization, the Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, and the Beaumont Enterprise as a 40 Under 40 awardee.

Forty individuals are chosen from Jefferson, Orange, and Hardin counties who represent “the best and brightest young professionals” in Southeast Texas. In Orange, Mellen holds leadership positions and membership in United Way, the Rotary Club, the Service League, Greater Orange Area Literacy Services, Salvation Army, and Orange County Texas Exes.



## TEXAS SUCCESS CENTER LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Robyn Burdette was selected to participate in the 2023-2024 Texas Success Center Leadership Academy. The Leadership Academy works to develop college leadership capacity to advance the student success agenda and support implementation of Talent Strong Texas Pathways reforms.

Burdette was recently promoted to Associate Dean of Student Services, with her additional responsibilities as Director of Advising, Recruiting, and Testing. She also oversees the operations of the LSCO Lumberton campus expected to be fully operational for Spring registration in November.



## EMPLOYEE OF THE SEMESTER

The Greater Orange-Area Chamber of Commerce, along with its Ambassadors and the staff of Lamar State College Orange, named LSCO’s Staff of the Semester. Jessica Williams was named the Greater Orange-Area Chamber of Commerce Employee of the Semester.

Williams has worked as an english instructor at Lamar State College Orange for nearly 18 months and has jumped into campus life and service as a member of the Accreditation Research Team and Phi Theta Kappa Sponsor.



HELPING THE COMMUNITY »»»

# SERVICE PROJECTS

How Gators are transforming the community.

## GATOR FOOD PANTRY

Lamar State College Orange was proud to officially open our Gator Food Pantry this year, in conjunction with the Salvation Army of Orange County, Texas, the Southeast Texas Food Bank and United Way of Orange County. The goal of the food pantry is to serve our students, family members, and the community who may be in need of food and

hygiene products. The pantry is a free grocery store that is open for all LSCO students, faculty, and staff with a campus ID. Operating hours for the food pantry are every Tuesday from 11:30am to 2:30pm, it is located on the second floor of the Student Center inside Room 221.

## UNITED WAY DAY OF CARING

A team from LSCO volunteered at the United Way of Orange County's Day of Caring. The team were tasked with removing old sand bags and filling new sand bags at Recovery Council of Southeast Texas in Beaumont. The director and workers at Recovery Council were thrilled to see the team strong in their commitment to showing what it meant to serve

others in and around their local community. The group of students were accompanied by two LSCO staff members, Cindy Wyles, Director of Print and Design services, and Brenna Wheatley, OIRE Specialist.



# BACK TO SCHOOL ORANGE COUNTY



LSCO was excited to sponsor and host this year's Back to School Orange County event on our campus. More than 42 businesses and local community partners provided school supplies to more than six hundred students in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade to help them start the school year off right. Best of luck to all our Orange County students starting school this upcoming 2023-2024 school year.



# COMMUNITY VISITORS

Welcoming visitors to our beautiful campus.

Lamar State College Orange was thrilled to welcome a numerous amount of visitors to our campus throughout the school year. Many of which include presidents and provosts from surrounding colleges, the state Senator and their representatives, the Speaker of the House, and more. From meeting with LSCO President, Dr. Thomas Johnson, to visiting our campus facilities, we appreciate each of our visitors for visiting our community and stopping by our beautiful campus on the Sabine.

## Visitors from Left to Right:

Dr. Betty Reynard  
*Lamar State College Port Arthur President*

Dr. Sidney Valentine  
*Lamar Institute of Technology President*

Robert Nichols  
*Texas State Senator: District 3*

Dr. Steve Westbrook  
*Stephen F. Austin State University President*

Dr. Dann Brown  
*Lamar University Provost*

Dr. Jamie Taylor  
*Lamar University President*

Dr. Harrison Keller  
*Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Commissioner*

Dr. Brian McCall  
*Texas State University System Chancellor*

Dade Phelan  
*Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives*



INSPIRED BY THE PAST »»»

# HIGHLIGHT EVENTS

Remarkable events during the school year.

## OCTOBER 2022: TACRAO COLLEGE FAIR

LSCO had an amazing turnout for the TACRAO Orange County College Fair. The event was a huge success with close to 300 high school students in attendance from Evadale, Little Cypress Mauriceville, Deweyville, and Orangefield high schools. LSCO's Advising and Recruiting Team did an outstanding job of hosting such a wonderful event. We are grateful for all the students and colleges who attended.



## MARCH 2023: WOMEN IN INDUSTRY LUNCHEON

The Process Technology program enjoyed a Women in Industry Luncheon hosted by Chevron Phillips Chemical Company at the Brown Estate. Employees from Chevron Phillips Chemical Company, Dow, BASF, Entergy, and G&G Enterprises attended the luncheon to share their experiences in the industrial field and give their words of encouragement to our students.



## NOVEMBER 2022: FIRST GENERATION DAY

Many of our LSCO students, staff, and faculty are the first in their family to attend college. LSCO's Student Activities hosted a First-Gen Celebration to recognize and honor our First-Gen Gators. The Celebration featured an informative panel given by LSCO First-Gen Students, Faculty, and Staff. Our President Dr. Thomas Johnson, a first-generation college student himself was a featured guest speaker for the luncheon.



## APRIL 2023: REVERSE CAREER FAIR

LSCO co-hosted a "Reverse Career Fair" with Opportunity Now, a program that provides work readiness training, promotes self-sufficiency, and gives guidance on positive life choices to high school students. Students from West Orange-Stark, Vidor, Beaumont United, Port Arthur, and Lumberton high schools presented their future career goals to employers and answered questions about their plans.



## DECEMBER 2022: PHARMACY DAY

The Pharmacy Technology Program held a "Pharmacy Day" event and provided education on the proper disposal of medication and how to help end opioid overdosing. They also informed the campus about the group's item donation drive for the Garth House. We appreciate our Pharmacy Technology students for their help in educating the local community.



## AUGUST 2023: MOBILE TRAINING UNIT

After 5-months of production, LSCO received the customized "mobile training unit" that was purchased with Texas Reskilling and Upskilling Through Education (TRUE) grant funds. The \$500,000 mobile simulation unit was designed in conjunction with industry recommendations and will be certified by the U.S. Coast Guard for training students enrolled in Electromechanical, Instrumentation, Logistics, and Maritime programs.

# LSCO STRATEGIC PLAN

## Plan of action for 2020 through 2024.

### GOAL ONE: ENGAGE

Lamar State College Orange will provide programs and services that meet the highest standards of excellence.

- All faculty and staff will engage in professional development activities.
- Conduct institutional and locally developed research to determine student needs and challenges, and use results to improve services.
- Conduct surveys and other evaluations to determine the needs of our campus and community.
- Maintain accreditation in programs regulated or monitored by outside agencies.
- Attract, hire, and retain excellent faculty, staff, and administrators.

### GOAL TWO: INCLUDE

Lamar State College Orange will engage our students and a wide circle of partners to build and realize a shared vision of opportunity and advancement for a bright Orange future.

- LSCO faculty and staff will meet with leaders from local industry to identify their workforce training needs and learn how LSCO can partner to help fill them; review ACGM/WECEM and/or workforce training guides to determine outcomes and review LSCO's course and program inventory; and create new programs or restructure existing programs to provide opportunities for students to successfully pursue academic transfer or compete for high-paying jobs upon graduation.
- Grow the community's college-bound culture and increase the college's enrollment by communicating with potential students regarding the advantages of earning a college degree, the opportunities for employment or advancement that college could open to graduates, and the local businesses or industries where graduates will be eligible to apply and work.
- Collaborate with local school districts to determine academic educational goals that their dual credit students wish to pursue.
- Review academic requirements at transfer institutions for meeting those goals; create or repackage courses and programs to meet student needs.
- Facilitate efficient admission, advising, and registration services at LSCO.

### GOAL THREE: SUPPORT

Lamar State College Orange will continually strive to meet the growing and changing needs of our students, local business and industry partners, and area school districts.

- Engage civic, workforce, and school district partners to determine the needs of the community and develop plans in response.
- Host, support, and participate in local nonprofit and community initiatives and projects.
- Provide continually improving support services to students.
- Provide continually improving customer support services interdepartmentally.
- Maintain transparency and facilitate public access to information pertaining to college policies, programs, and practices.

### GOAL FOUR: ADAPT

Lamar State College Orange will create and continually adapt a broad array of educational opportunities to help our students and community respond to the challenges posed by an ever-changing world.

- Regularly review data sources to identify emerging careers and new fields of study and experts who lead or study them, and reach out to collaborate with those experts or study their publications.
- Use results of ongoing research into emerging careers and fields to design new courses and programs.
- Periodically redesign courses and realign programs in fields of study where rapid advance is occurring.
- Adapt courses and programs to use Open Educational Resources or texts and instructional materials created by faculty and available at low or no cost to students.
- Encourage faculty to systematically incorporate emerging research, facilitated by library services, into course and program development to assure that curricula are current and that faculty are adhering to best practices in teaching and student engagement.

### GOAL FIVE: SUSTAIN

Lamar State College Orange will lead our students and the members of our community to achieving their personal and professional goals.

- Identify and remove barriers or obstacles to completion, graduation, and/or transfer.
- Lower cost of textbooks and other instructional materials.
- Increase tuition assistance and scholarships.
- Research student scheduling needs and redesign course schedules to meet them.
- Create and maintain learning and support environments to promote course and program completion.

LAMAR STATE COLLEGES

# *COMING SOON TO LIVINGSTON*

