

Happy Holidays!!

Lewis-Clark State College

First Friday Letter

December, 2011



Dr. Tony Fernandez



Dear Friends,

With leaves blanketing our beautiful campus and the weather quickly turning colder, fall is nearing its end and it is a good time to pause and remember the many accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff-accomplishments that make Lewis-Clark State College the strong, vibrant, and growing institution that it is. So before we turn the page from November to December, let me share with you a few of the highlights from our last full month of the autumn season.

It seems as if Community Programs puts the college in the news every month and November certainly was no exception because LCSC's **Chinese Remembering Project** was named the 2011 Best Non-Credit Program by the Western Association of Summer Session Administrators. Spearheaded by area history enthusiasts Lyle Wirtanen and Garry Bush, the Chinese Remembering Project was started in 2008 and highlights the influence and contributions of the Chinese to the history of Idaho and the Inland Northwest. I'd like to commend the Dean of Community Programs, **Kathy Martin**, the Director of Summer School and Special Programs, **Jack Peasley**, and the Director of the LCSC Center for Arts and History, **Lisa Jones**, for doing such a great job facilitating this important program.

Speaking of awards, two of our faculty members were recognized recently for their contributions to our students and to the state of Idaho. First, **Professor Marika Botha** of our Education Division was named the College/University Educator of the Year by the Idaho Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. This is the latest of numerous awards and grants that she has received for developing courses that highlight practical, hands-on experiences for our students. Second, **Professor Michele D'Arcy-Evans** of our Nursing and Health Sciences Division was selected as a recipient of the March of Dimes Idaho Nursing Excellence Award for 2011. This program

recognizes nurses whose leadership and contributions make positive impacts on their community and the profession of nursing. Both awards are certainly well deserved and serve to highlight our excellent faculty and their many contributions.

I'm also pleased to note that LCSC received high marks in the **National Survey of Student Engagement** report released in November. Based upon a survey of over 400 students, the report confirms that the interaction between students and faculty at LCSC is very strong and that the overall campus environment is very supportive. More evidence that our faculty and staff continue to make the student experience at LCSC the best it can be.

In athletics, year after year our **cross country programs** have qualified for the NAIA National Championships, but last week in Vancouver, Wash., the teams took it a step further. The men's team finished in 4th place overall, the best finish ever for the program, and the women rose to the occasion by claiming 11th place. Congratulations to **Mike Collins** for his teams' successes and also for being named the Frontier Conference Men's Coach of the Year-for the fifth straight season.

Our **volleyball team** has enjoyed a very strong year as well. The Warriors won the regular-season conference title for the 5th year in a row and earned their 12th consecutive trip to the NAIA National Tournament. First-year coach **LaToya Harris** led the Warriors to a 13-1 conference record and finished the regular season ranked eighth in the nation. She was named the Frontier Conference's Coach of the Year and senior Lauryn Herrick was chosen as the league's Player of the Year.

Lewis-Clark State College will leave 2011 stronger in so many ways and Diane and I wish you and your family all the best for the holidays and new year.

Sincerely,

J. Anthony Fernández

President

To see what else is happening on campus, check out our website:

www.lcsc.edu

Mr. Logan Fowler, Editor
