

# Monday Message

Feb. 7, 2022



## President's Message

Dear all,

It has been great to be back on campus! I was able to have energizing conversations with students during last week's Ask & Answer in the SUB, and connect with faculty and staff both in person and via our Tuesdays at Two Zoom. With the spring semester underway, I want to touch on some enrollment-related items in this week's message.

It is critical that we – meaning all of us, each of us, every day – take part in high touch / interpersonal enrollment **conversion** activities. The promising news is that we have 695 more applicants in the pipeline today versus a year ago at this time! Now, we need to convert admissions into enrollees and that's where the "we" in we comes in – especially over the next weeks. If we wait, thinking ... "Oh I'll have time to help once the semester ends to make a call, write a note, send a text, host a visit..." it will be too late. We have to be acting now.

Each week Cabinet members, VPs, deans, and division chairs are sent enrollment updates. These updates are shared so they can become part of our collective understanding of where we're at and the gap we need to close. We need all of us to be fully aware and to work together to adopt and embrace an active, engaged culture of recruitment/conversion/retention agency and ownership. While certainly the pandemic and Idaho's diminished high school to college go-on rate (recently reported by the State Board of Education as 37%) have had a significant impact on our enrollment, we cannot rest upon these challenges as excuses. The gap we need to close today is our immediate challenge, and is situated in a broader context that will without doubt impact higher education into the future. I ask that folks take 20 minutes over the course of this week to watch the presentation (which was part of this year's legislative orientation) found here: [IBE Legislative Academy presentation](#). The urgency with which we must successfully engage new and renewed recruitment/conversion/retention efforts, could not be more clear; and to be sure the message is daunting – but daunting does not mean insurmountable.

I know you and we are tired, often frustrated and even exasperated by all we have had to navigate and endure these last few years. From budget cuts to the pandemic our lived experience has been anything but easy, and through it all we have continued to deliver on our education mission, meaningfully serving students, our community, region and state. I sincerely wish the only thing I needed to say was "thank you." Please know, I do thank you. You are valued, appreciated, and I am incredibly proud of the work we do and the difference we make. That said, moving into tomorrow and meeting the enrollment challenges facing higher education locally and broadly, requires us – all of us – to play an increasingly active role. It has to be all hands in, every day...

Cynthia Pemberton, Ed.D.  
President

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## Events

- **Feb. 8 – Tuesday at Two** – President Pemberton's Tuesdays at Two continue through Zoom (<https://lcsc.zoom.us/j/861031866>). All are welcome to join the conversation. Due to President Pemberton's travel schedule there will not be a Tuesday at Two on Feb. 15.

- **Feb. 15 – LC Leadership Spotlight** – “Leading through Common Sense” with Mark Alexander will be Feb. 15 from 12-1 p.m. in the Williams Conference Center or [online](#). Alexander has held positions as CEO, property developer, and philanthropist. Hear about his education, experiences, and what he has learned about leadership through his journey.
  - **March 24 – Ask & Answer** – Ask & Answer is Thursday, March 24, in the SUB from noon-1 p.m. This is a live, in-person opportunity to visit with President Pemberton, ask questions and share information. President Pemberton will treat the first 10 students in attendance to a free lunch that day.
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## Announcements

- **Coronavirus Updates & Risk Level:** For the latest coronavirus updates and information visit [www.lcsc.edu/coronavirus](http://www.lcsc.edu/coronavirus). In accordance with its [Operational Levels Matrix](#), LC State’s current risk level is: Moderate.
  - **Cases Update:** Currently there are **12** active cases and **1** student in isolation in campus housing.
  - **Vaccine Availability:** To schedule an appointment with Public Health - Idaho North Central District visit [www.idahoprepmo.com](http://www.idahoprepmo.com) or call 208-799-3100.
  - **On-Campus Vaccination Clinics:** CHAS Health will host vaccination clinics on the Lewiston campus during the early part of the spring 2022 semester. Each clinic will be held in the Student Union Building/Center for Student Leadership, Room 143. CHAS is prepared to offer both the primary and booster doses as needed.
    - Feb. 8 from 12-3 p.m.
    - Feb. 10 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
  - **Infection Rates:** LC State continues to monitor infection rates, healthcare capacities, and evolving public health and CDC guidelines. It appears infection rates from the omicron surge are starting to decline. As we continue to monitor this apparent decline, face coverings will continue to be required a bit longer. **We will reevaluate weekly and update folks via the Monday Message.** Please note, as we begin to consider timing for a safe transition to mask optional, a number of things are very different now than they were a year ago: (a) We know that vaccines and boosters are safe and highly preventative in terms of severe illness associated with COVID-19. Vaccines and boosters are widely available, including at our own on-campus clinics, as well as free; (b) We know that N95 masks are broadly available and per the Biden administration, will be accessible via local pharmacies in the not too distant future; and (c) We know that not only do we have PCR (Vault) tests available on campus, but that free rapid tests can be ordered via [COVIDtests.gov](http://COVIDtests.gov); as well as insurance reimbursement for individuals who purchase tests (note: we are also in the process of ordering rapid tests for campus use – more on this soon). Increasingly, individuals have the tools needed to keep themselves, their loved ones and each other safe. We are getting close to a time when some sense of a new “normal” can become our reality. *Stay strong, Warriors. Stay strong and be patient a bit longer*; and to that end, enjoy our song of the week ☺.
- **Feedback about Classrooms:** The Information Technology and Physical Plant departments would like your feedback on the technology and physical space of instructional classrooms. Please [fill out this quick survey](#) if you utilize instructional classrooms.

- **Update from HR:** You asked, and we listened! We have updated the Request to Hire and Affirmative Action documents into one convenient form. We believe it will be a quick, efficient, and consistent process for those who complete the form and those who review and approve it. Please review the link to the newly updated [Open Position and Affirmative Action Packet](#). We will begin piloting this new form immediately and would appreciate any feedback you have emailed to [hr@lcsc.edu](mailto:hr@lcsc.edu). Please begin using this form in place of the Request to Hire and Affirmative Action Forms for all classified, professional, and faculty searches. Thank you! The updates are as follows:
  - We combined the Request to Hire with the Affirmative Action Packet to eliminate duplication and redundancy within the forms
  - We “hard-coded” language for the required application documents to eliminate confusion
  - We updated the closing date requirement(s) for faculty and classified positions
- **Nominate a Peer Mentor:** Send your quick email recommendation (student name and email) to [fye@lcsc.edu](mailto:fye@lcsc.edu) and we will invite this student to apply. Faculty/staff nominations are due by Feb. 11.
- **Kayak Pool Sessions:** On these four Tuesday evenings – Feb. 8 and 22, and March 8 and 22 – there will be kayak sessions at the Aquatic Center in Clarkston at 7-8:30 p.m. for students, faculty and staff. This is a chance for kayakers to practice skills in the safety of a pool. Both first timers or seasoned pros welcome. [Register online](#) to reserve your spot, or contact [outdooradventures@lcsc.edu](mailto:outdooradventures@lcsc.edu) or call 208-792-2670.
- **Seeding Our Tomorrows 1:** Social Sciences faculty have been hard at work promoting their programs. This spring, targeted digital marketing campaigns are taking place throughout Idaho promoting the Psychology, Justice Studies, Social Work, and General Studies: Social Science majors. In addition, Dr. Chris Riggs will be making a trip to the Treasure Valley Community College transfer fair in Ontario, Ore., and to the College of Western Idaho later in February. He'll be emphasizing transfer possibilities in online programs with special attention to recent co-enrollment agreements.
- **Seeding Our Tomorrows 2:** Thanks to our Graphic Communications program, LC State was recently highlighted as the “Featured School of the Week” by the Print and Graphics Scholarship Foundation (PGSF). Founded in 1956, the PGSF is a private not-for-profit, industry-directed organization providing undergraduate college and technical school scholarships to students pursuing graphic communications careers. Congrats to the instructors and students in our Graphic Communications program!
- **Seeding Our Tomorrows 3:** In case you missed it, the attached shares highlights from the higher education statewide economic impact study commissioned by the President's Leadership Council and State Board of Education. It is a powerful testimony to the important and tremendous impact of higher education on individuals, our communities and state: [Fact Sheet](#).
- **Campus Song for the Week:** “[Give Me Just a Little More Time](#)” by Chairmen of the Board.

