

Monday Message

Feb. 12, 2024



Dear all,

You probably have heard about the issues associated with the 2024-25 Free Application For Student Aid (FAFSA). First, the U.S. Department of Education did not release the FAFSA form until late December – three months after the normal release date. This means that contrary to past practice, students and their families have been unable to complete the FAFSA in a timely way. Just two weeks ago we learned another federal error is resulting in institutions having to wait at least until the end of February (possibly mid-March) to receive financial aid information for next year's students. These are BIG delays, with potentially BIG consequences!

We are navigating this problem as best we can, but the campus community should know that these are not insignificant issues with respect to the potential to impact enrollment. Our admissions and financial aid folks have been communicating with high school counselors, and they have told us that the delayed release date has led to more students delaying admissions application processes (We are seeing some evidence of this in our year-to-date admissions application numbers).

In terms of financial aid awarding, delays in receiving student FAFSA information will result in delayed notifications about need-based scholarships, Pell Grants, student loan eligibility, and college work-study. Likewise, the Idaho State Board of Education recently sent out a communication indicating that notifications regarding the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship would also be delayed. It is relevant to note that 80+% of LC State students receive some kind of financial aid – so A LOT of our students will potentially be impacted by these delays. We WILL however be able to notify students about merit scholarships (e.g., President's Scholarship for in-state students) in March as planned. This translates into the need for multiple financial aid communications between LC State and students/potential students over the next months.

The Financial Aid and the Admissions offices are issuing notices and reassurances to current and future students about the situation. Both are offering guidance. The offices will also host a virtual event on Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 5:30 p.m. to answer questions people have in real time. This will be a Facebook Live event. Go to the [LC State Admissions](#) Facebook page to participate. I encourage folks to consider attending so we can all be better informed and thereby better able to communicate and help.

Though these issues are not of our doing, we are addressing them. Personal communication, connection, encouragement and support, will be critical.

Cynthia Pemberton, Ed.D.
President

Events

Keep up on events and activities through the new [Campus Calendar](#).

- **Feb. 13 – Tuesday @ Two** – President Pemberton will host Tuesday @ Two on the dates and locations listed below. Stop by and join the conversation.
 - Feb. 13, Sacajawea Hall, Room 144. Attendance is also possible via [Zoom](#).
 - March 5, Mechanical Technical Building, Room 203
 - April 2, College Place first floor lounge area
 - April 30, Schweitzer Career & Technical Education Center, Room 302

- **Feb. 13-16 – Black History Experience** – A series of educational events celebrating black history are taking place this month at Lewis-Clark State College. This week, on Wednesday will be the Douglass Day Transcribe-a-thon, held in Sacajawea Hall, Room 115, from 3-5 p.m., and special men's and women's basketball games will be held on Friday. Information about the basketball games and other upcoming events is available [here](#).
- **Feb. 15-18 – Athletics Home Events** – This week the Warrior men's and women's tennis teams face Colorado College, Community Colleges of Spokane, and the College of Idaho at the LC State Tennis Center. The women's and men's basketball teams host Multnomah University on Friday and Warner Pacific University on Saturday at the P1FCU Activity Center. For more info visit www.lcwarriors.com.
- **March 14 – Ask & Answer** – Ask & Answer with President Pemberton will be held in the SUB cafeteria over the noon lunch hour on Thursday, March 14. All are invited.

Announcements

- **Food Service:** Dining Services will be transitioning from the WCC back to the SUB/CSL, with service beginning on Friday morning, Feb. 16, in the lower level near the solarium. Jitterz coffee shop hours will remain the same.
- **Information Technology:** Big changes are coming for our students! We are excited to announce the kickoff of a Single Sign-On project which will simplify system access for our students with just one login. Say goodbye to multiple passwords for Canvas, WarriorWeb, LCMail and hello to a smoother, more efficient digital experience. Students will receive a new email account through Microsoft which will allow for seamless collaboration between students and faculty. With the transition away from Google's LCMail, faculty will no longer need to manage two email addresses. These are just a few of the changes that will occur. [Learn more about the project and impact to campus](#). We would like to welcome everyone to come to our informational gathering sessions where we can answer questions and gather feedback about these changes. We have scheduled four sessions, listed below, and will add more in the coming weeks. We'd also be happy to come to your division/departmental team meetings and answer questions. For questions or to schedule an informational session with your department, please reach out to [Courtney Toth](#).
 - Feb. 12, Monday, from 3-4 p.m. in MLH 100
 - Feb. 21, Wednesday, from 10-11 a.m. in SAC 208
 - March 1, Friday, from 9-10 a.m. in MLH 100
- **Law School Advising:** The LC State Student Employment & Career Readiness Center and the Social Sciences Division are co-sponsoring a free advising session for students interested in going to law school. It takes place on Feb. 13 from 3-4 p.m. in ACW 133. [Registration](#) is optional but recommended. Questions may be directed to Makenzie Hollingsworth (mrhollingsworth@lcsc.edu) or Chris Riggs (ckriggs@lcsc.edu).
- **Parking:** The City of Lewiston has increased personnel to monitor and enforce existing city parking rules. College employees and students who opt to park on the streets adjacent to campus or in downtown Lewiston should be mindful of residential parking permit requirements or time restrictions associated with parking in certain areas along city streets. Streets on which special residential parking permits are required for daytime parking adjacent to campus have signage to indicate when the special permits are required.
- **PERSI:** Effective July 1, contribution rates for PERSI members will change. The PERSI Board has approved the following contribution rate adjustment: The employer contribution rate adjustment will increase by 0.78% from 11.18% to 11.96%. The employee contribution rate

adjustment will increase by 0.47% from 6.71% to 7.18%.

- **Where are the Warriors?** Every week, LC State recruiters are traveling to high schools, junior colleges, fairs, corrections facilities, etc., spreading the word about all LC State has to offer. Here's a quick look at [Where the Warriors are this Week](#).
- **Song for the Week:** "[Crazy](#)" by Bettye LaVette

