Monday Message



April 8, 2024

Dear all,

This message shares a collage of information tidbits.

First let's talk about tulips. While a good portion of our campus community was party to our campus tulip planting in the fall of 2020, there are likely a number of folks who don't know the story behind why we have 2021-plus red tulips blooming all over campus (and, in fact, at all our LC State locations: downtown Lewiston, the Schweitzer Career & Technical Education Center, CDA, Grangeville and Orofino). As we moved through the first (and at the time we hoped perhaps only) fall semester of the pandemic, we — meaning employees across our campus community — coordinated with Physical Plant and planted 2021 red tulip bulbs. The idea was that as we emerged from the pandemic in spring 2021, we would commemorate and celebrate with red tulips popping up across campus. Well... although the pandemic didn't really end as we had hoped, the tulips did emerge and each spring as we prepare to celebrate with and for our students, our grounds erupt in LC red and serve as an annual reminder of what it means to persevere and be Warrior strong!

Second, as we continue to work for and with our students to achieve their education goals, I want to share some highlights of the creative ways faculty and staff are engaging enrollment-related efforts and activities. A thank you to the deans for forwarding the information that appears below.

- English and creative writing faculty, in collaboration with Student Affairs staff, hosted Region 2
 high school students as part of LC State's first annual BFA Student for a Day Writing Contest.
 The day's events included a campus tour, introduction to LC State's student-run creative writing
 journal, Talking River Review, writing exercises, workshops, lunch at the SUB, and swag/awards.
 Faculty followed up the visit by sending handwritten notecards to each student that attended.
- Biology faculty hosted student groups from Walla Walla Community College and St. Maries High School in March. Activities included a tour of the Anatomy & Physiology Lab, introducing them to our cadaver program. They also learned about undergraduate research opportunities and the work that our students do in chemistry and biomedical labs.
- The Social Sciences Division sponsored a pre-advising pizza party for students on March 20. The
 purpose of the event was to have fun, get students prepared for April 8 advance registration, and
 to promote retention of social science majors.
- On April 19, humanities, social sciences and teacher education faculty will be in Couer d'Alene
 hosting a conference at the DeArmond Building. The aim is to introduce current and future LC
 State students to secondary education teaching careers. High school juniors and seniors, NIC
 students, current teacher education candidates, and area paraprofessionals have all been invited
 to attend.

Third, it bears repeating that: (a) priority registration begins today, and (b) Federal FAFSA uncertainties, errors, and complications persist – all associated with processes and interfaces from the federal level (not LC State). Communicating, supporting and assisting our students is paramount.

Fourth, <u>Warrior Giving Day</u> is just a day away! Starting tomorrow at 9 a.m., we will launch 1,893 minutes of giving. Participation is key, and all gifts make an impact! Please check out the website and consider offering your support.

Cynthia Pemberton, Ed.D. President

P.S. It's time to <u>take the quiz</u> for our <u>March shared reading</u>. April's shared reading is a couple of reports from the Center on Education regarding how levels of learning relate to earning. You can find these in the <u>Shared Readings</u> April folder on the Intranet.

Events

Keep up on events and activities through the new Campus Calendar.

- April 9-10 Warrior Giving Day Warrior Giving Day starts tomorrow! Join us at 9 a.m. for 1,893-minutes of giving. Check out the matches and challenges to make your donation go farther. Join us at www.lcsc.edu/warriorgivingday.
 - First gift of WGD gets an extra \$500 added to their gift
 - First staff gift of WGD gets an extra \$125 added to their gift
 - First faculty gift of WGD gets an extra \$125 added to their gift
 - First student gift of WGD gets an extra \$250 added to their gift
- April 10 Wake Up with the Warriors In conjunction with Warrior Giving Day, join the Warrior Athletic Association, athletics staff, coaches, and students-athletes for breakfast on April 10 at 7 a.m. The WAA will honor Dick and the late Barbara Riggs with the Lifetime Warrior Award. Visit www.lcwarriors.com/waa to register for the event or email sfmalinich@lcsc.edu.
- April 10 National Student Employee Appreciation Celebration Join the Student
 Employment & Career Readiness Center in recognizing the contributions of our student workforce
 during the designated week by the National Student Employment Association. The Student
 Employment & Career Readiness Center will host a celebration event to honor our student
 employees across campus. It will be collecting "kudos" from supervisors to display on its
 celebratory wall, and each office will be invited to host a table to network and promote the oncampus job opportunities. Additionally, employers will have the opportunity to network with
 students and discuss potential work opportunities for the fall semester.
- April 11 Wellness & Health Screening Health Fair The Nursing & Health Sciences Division, in collaboration with the Physical, Life, Movement & Sport Sciences Division, will hold the health fair on Thursday, April 11, at 10 a.m.-1 p.m. outside the main entrance to the SUB. Vendors from both the community and LC State student groups will be in attendance. This event is free and open to both the public and students.
- April 11-14 Home Athletic Events Warrior baseball will host a four-game series against LSU Shreveport on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The men's tennis team will play the University of Idaho at the LC State Tennis Center on Thursday at 6 p.m. For more info visit www.lcwarriors.com.
 - Alumni Day: Saturday, April 13, will be Alumni Day at Harris Field. During the Warrior baseball game, LC State alumni can stop by the Alumni Tent for swag. In addition, alumni are encouraged to submit photos to be displayed on the video board during the game. Photos can be sent to www.lcsc.edu/alumni/events/alumni-photo-submission.
- April 12 Trauma and Resilience Symposium The LC State teacher education and social
 work programs will present their yearly symposium, with the addition of the nursing program this
 year, to offer professional development related to trauma and resilience and working with diverse
 populations to program interns. All LC State students, faculty, and staff are welcome to attend.

Please RSVP to Christina Brando-Subis, elementary program coordinator, at cjbrando-subis@lcsc.edu. The symposium will be on Friday, April 12, from 8:45 a.m. (first session begins promptly at 9 a.m.) to 4:30 p.m. with an hour lunch on your own, in ACW 133 and/or 134. For more information visit this website: 2024 Trauma and Resilience Symposium (google.com).

- April 18 Business After Hours LC State will host the LC Valley Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours on Thursday, April 18, from 5-7 p.m. at the Williams Conference Center. The event will provide the college an opportunity to share information about its many services and partnership opportunities with community members. Faculty and staff are welcome to attend.
- April 19-21 Art Under the Elms and Family Weekend Art Under the Elms and Family Weekend will be held on April 19-21. Please add the dates to your calendar and help spread the word. More information coming soon.
- April 30 Tuesday @ Two President Pemberton will host Tuesday @ Two on April 30 at 2 p.m. at the Schweitzer Career & Technical Education Center, Room 302. Stop by and join the conversation.

Announcements

- Center for Arts & History: Kristi Brown joins LC State today as the new director for the Center for Arts & History. Kristi comes to LC State with over 20 years of experience in a variety higher education, community, and event positions. Welcome, Kristi.
- CTO/Director of IT: LC State administrators recently learned that Tony Regan will be unable to join the college as chief technology officer and director of Information Technology as previously announced. Mr. Regan had high hopes of taking the position and LC State was excited to welcome him, but unexpected personal circumstances prevent him from joining. Interim IT leadership will continue to support the needs of campus and next steps will be reassessed into the next fiscal year.
- **Employee Awards:** Congratulations to the <u>award winners</u> announced at the Employee Recognition Event on Friday. A sincere thank you to the Office of the Provost for organizing the event and to the LC State Foundation for its sponsorship.
- Open Enrollment: The FY25 Open Enrollment period is April 22-May 10, 2024. This is the only
 opportunity to enroll in a flexible spending account or make changes to a medical plan without a
 qualifying event. Employees who have a <u>qualifying event</u> will have 30 days from the event to
 enroll or cancel coverage. Changes and enrollment in the FSA will be made in Luma.
 - In FY25, LC State's healthcare plan is changing from Blue Cross of Idaho to Regence Blue Shield. Dental will remain with Blue Cross of Idaho
 - Customer service is available starting April 1 to answer any questions you may have. Regence Blue Shield customer representatives request an employee identification number. LC State employees are new to the network and will not have an employee identification number yet. Please provide the State of Idaho group number (10060598) with your inquiry. Call 1-800-854-5585 or email stateofidaho@regence.com for assistance. New identification numbers will be sent to employees in June 2024.
 - The <u>Office of Group Insurance</u> provides "Important Regence Benefit Information" (click on the green button).
 - The OGI Open Enrollment website provides employees with a helpful guide with highlights of the FY25 new plan year.
 - The OGI FY2025 Premiums website provides employees with an overview of premium changes. A helpful document to review is the FY25 Bi-Weekly Medical & Dental Premiums, found in the left-hand corner (gray box) of the website.

- HRS staff will offer learning sessions to inform employees of benefit and premium updates for the FY25 Open Enrollment cycle. These dates will be published in future Monday messages and on the PDT website.
- Phishing Alert: Boise State IT notified LC State IT of a phishing email targeting users concerning
 open enrollment. The email came from a legitimate (but compromised) account; contained the
 school name in multiple places including the subject and attachments; had the target's name in
 the body; was timed to coincide with open enrollment; and used two separate layers of
 attachments to get around the scanners. Reminder regarding email best practices:
 - 1. **Think Before You Click:** Always verify the authenticity of emails, especially if they request sensitive information or contain suspicious links or attachments.
 - Check the Sender's Email Address: Pay close attention to the sender's email address.
 Phishing emails often use addresses that mimic legitimate organizations but may have slight variations or misspellings. Even legitimate email addresses can be phishes if the account is compromised.
 - 3. **Hover Over Links:** Before clicking on any links in an email, hover your mouse over them to preview the URL. If the link looks suspicious or unfamiliar, do not click on it.
 - 4. **Report Suspicious Emails:** If you receive a phishing email, report it immediately to phish@lcsc.edu so that appropriate action can be taken.
- **Recycling:** KinderCollege is teaming up with Pacific Steel & Recycling and will be an aluminum can drop zone from March 25-April 19 to celebrate Earth Day, April 22. Please start collecting your cans and bring them by KinderCollege throughout the month.
- Student Employment & Career Readiness Center: At the conclusion of a national search, Makenzie Hollingsworth has been named director of the Student Employment & Career Readiness Center. Makenzie earned her master's degree from Idaho State University in 2022 and has worked at LC State, including service as assistant director of the Student Employment and Career Center & Work Scholars, since 2016. Work Scholars has been moved to Student Financial Services. Makenzie has been serving as interim director of the department since the end of October and will start work as director on Monday, April 15.
- Volunteer for Art Under the Elms: Art Under the Elms will be held April 19-21 and volunteers
 are needed to help with information booth staffing, selling t-shirts, taking film festival tickets,
 serving as ushers, and serving as crowd management/navigation. With supervisor approval, LC
 State employees can volunteer for up to two hours during designated work hours, or a supervisor
 can approve comp time if shifts are worked after hours. Sign up now or for more information
 email aue@lcsc.edu
- Week of the Young Child: President Pemberton has declared April 6-12 to be the Week of the Young Child at Lewis-Clark State College. Read the full proclamation here. KinderCollege is teaming up with the Early Childhood Development program to promote and celebrate Week of the Young Child. Each day has a different theme with Wednesday being "Work Together Wednesday." Faculty and staff are invited to join in at the KinderCollege Garden on the east side of Expedition Hall at 4 p.m. on April 10 to clean up the space and prepare for this year's garden.
- Song for the Week: In honor of Week of the Young Child: "Wake Up Everybody" by Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes

