



▶ 49TH ANNUAL
COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES



▶ LTC HONORS STUDENTS AND
STAFF



▶ PROCESS TECHNOLOGY
EDUCATION HIGHLY VALUED

LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE

LT Network



LTC BREAKS GROUND ON STATESMEN PARK

Lincoln Trail College launched its 50-year anniversary celebration with a groundbreaking ceremony for its new Statesmen Park complex. Once complete, Statesmen Park will be home to 2 NJCAA soccer fields for Men's & Women's Soccer, a softball complex and a training and conditioning facility for student-athletes. More than 250 guests, including alumni, current and retired faculty and staff, elected officials from local, county and state levels, and dozens of community members were on hand to talk about future plans for the growth of the college.

For LTC President Dr. Ryan Gower, Statesmen Park is a part of a broader vision for how the college will serve the local community over the next 50 years. "We all know that the most vibrant institutions of higher education are situated in places where people – whether they are from Crawford County, Indiana, or from further regions yet - can envision themselves coming to learn, live and work. We will continue to build on our history of academic excellence while also developing our capacity to enrich the quality of life for all residents of District 529."

It's a vision that area residents are getting excited about. "It's all beginning to take shape," says LTC Foundation Executive Director Rod Harmon. "All the things we have added to campus over the last few years have a purpose. Pre-kindergarten, the United Way and Twin Rivers on the north campus. Our community education courses on nights and weekends. Expanding our theater, expanding our athletic programs and adding the new recreation center. Soon we will be the place you come if you want to earn a degree, get healthier, appreciate culture, or learn just for learning sake."


**UPCOMING
JUNE
EVENTS**

- 1 SAT Exam**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 108
- 3-7 College for Kids: The Great Outdoors**
- 3 IECC Summer English Camp**
8 a.m., Student Union 207
- Auditions for Puffs**
6 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 4 Summer Semester Classes Begin**
- Auditions for Puffs**
6 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 6 CNA Exam**
4 p.m., Williams Hall 119
- Home Canning Series: Jams and Jellies**
5:30 p.m., Statesmen Grill
- 8 ACT Testing**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 108
- 10-14 College for Kids: Animal Adventures**
- 10-12 Basketball Camp**
- 11 LTC Foundation Annual Meeting**
6 p.m., Statesmen Grill
- 12 LTC Foundation Concert Series Presents:
Dance to the Music: The Original Sly and
the Family Stone Tribute**
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 15 Pearson Testing**
9 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- 17-21 College for Kids: Exploring STEAM**
- 20-21 Children's Summer Theater Presents:
101 Dalmatians**
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 22-23 Children's Summer Theater Presents:
Junie B. Jones**
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 22 Karate Testing**
11 a.m., Sports Center
- 25-27 Marathon BBS**
- 28 Summer Semester Midterm**

The decision to add men's and women's soccer was a response to growing community interest in the sport. "There is no question that the addition of new programs – academic or athletic – helps us reach new markets to meet enrollment and revenue targets," says Gower. "But this decision was born out of interest from our local community where soccer is growing in popularity. I hope some of this homegrown talent will choose to study and compete here, but I know that these fields and the athletes we recruit will be a valuable resource to area youth."

The plans for expanding athletic, wellness and performing arts facilities on campus is central to the college's mission of delivering exceptional education and improving the quality of life for local residents. The new spaces and programming give people of all ages and backgrounds a reason to be on campus. The additional traffic on campus will create an opportunity to raise awareness about the college while also creating new revenue streams that can be used to support academic or student services programming.

"You have to take a look at the long-range view to understand," says Gower. "As the college continues to innovate in our classrooms, and as we continue to pursue activities that improve the quality of life for residents, our relevance to our communities will only increase. The College already plays an integral role in developing a highly trained workforce that has the knowledge, skills, and abilities local employers need. But we can do better. As projects like Statesmen Park, Theater Renaissance and the Crawford County Recreation Center come together, it will be easier for our local industries to recruit and retain talent. It will also make it easier for us to keep the next generation of residents here at home working in the base jobs we are fortunate to have. It is not unrealistic or inappropriate to think about our college as a catalyst for this type of change."



LTC President Ryan Gower, Foundation President Sheila Mikeworth and Foundation Executive Director Rod Harmon break ground.

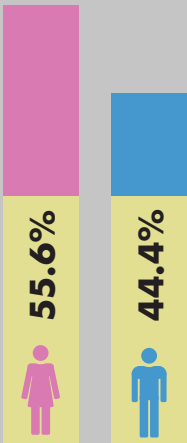


LTC student athletes helped kids enjoy free bounce houses during the ground breaking event.

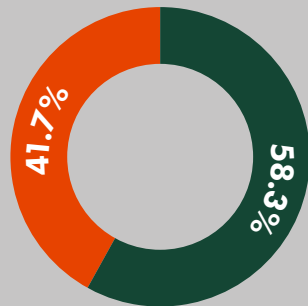


49th ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT BY THE NUMBERS...

230 DEGREES & CERTIFICATES AWARDED



CTE DEGREES
TRANSFER DEGREES



LTC HONORS STUDENTS AND STAFF



Jeremy Corbin (left), Madison Moore (center), and Hillary Huddleston (right) received student awards at the College's Recognition Banquet

Lincoln Trail college honored students, faculty, and staff at the College's 40th Annual Service Recognition Banquet.

Hillary Huddleston was presented with the Joseph C. Piland Excellence in Scholarship Award. The award is presented to a student who has demonstrated outstanding academic merit and sustained excellence in the classroom. The award is given to honor Joseph C. Piland who was the first President of Lincoln Trail College. His vision and passion for education were instrumental in the development of a comprehensive community college for Crawford County.

Huddleston is a pre-nursing student at LTC and was recognized for her success in Dr. An Roy's Human Anatomy and Physiology course, where she had perfect scores on her tests, something no other student has done. In addition to her academic record, she was also recognized for her participation, character, and willingness to help other students succeed.

Jeremy Corbin was presented the J. Rod Harmon Excellence in Service Award. The award is given to a student who has demonstrated outstanding service to the college or the community. Rod Harmon served as a faculty member at Lincoln Trail College for 27 years and has been the Executive Director of the Lincoln Trail College Foundation since 2005. He is well known for his rich sense of humor, dedication to his wife Diana, and commitment to creating opportunities for all residents of Crawford County to have access to a high-quality education.

Corbin serves as the Vice President of LTC's Alpha Delta Nu Honor Society and is also a member of the Student Nurse Association and the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. He was also recognized for his willingness to help other students in the Nursing Program.

Madison Moore was presented with the Bev L. Turkal Excellence in Leadership Award. The award is given to a student who has shown great leadership qualities and skills. This award is given to honor Bev L. Turkal, a true leader in education, whose passion was to make a difference and change the lives of children, teens, adults and lifelong learners. Bev believed to be a strong leader one must live life, care and show empathy, must have high energy and be competitive to accomplish the goals set to make things happen.

Moore serves as the President of Phi Theta Kappa and the Vice President of Student Senate in addition to being a member of LTC's women's basketball team. Her work to ensure that the LTC maintained its five-star Phi Theta Kappa Chapter rating was noted and she was described as an excellent role model and the kind of student the College loves to have. Moore was an All-State Academic Team Award recipient for Phi Theta Kappa, a FFA American Degree recipient and a Coca-Cola Academic Team Bronze Scholar.



Judy Young (left) and An Roy (right)

Judy Young received the College's Staff Excellence Award. It is presented to a faculty or staff member who has an established record of contributing to the goals and mission of the College.

Young has been with the College for more than 20 years and serves as the Manager of Food Services. She was recognized not only for her great food, but her attention to detail in maintaining the cleanliness of the kitchen. She was also recognized for her dedication to the College over her career.

Dr. An Roy was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award. It is presented to faculty members who have demonstrated sustained excellence and have adopted innovative or highly effective practices to aid student learning.

Roy has been with LTC since 1982. She was recognized for her compassion and her great passion for teaching. Her willingness to look for new ways to be creative and innovative in the classroom was also noted. Roy regularly uses new teaching models and incorporates new technology into her classes to help students learn.

Barbara Shimer and Larry Quick each received Presidential Awards for their dedication and commitment to the College, specifically in the performing arts. Both announced their retirement from Lincoln Trail College Theater after the College's performances of *Beauty and the Beast*. Shimer directed numerous shows for LTC while Quick oversaw the technical aspects of many shows.

The annual banquet also honored faculty and staff for their years of service to the College. This year's honorees were Tyler Browning, Kyrrah Buchanan, Rikki Callaway, Rebecca Carmack, Charity Clark, Julie Courtney, Chris Ellington, Carole Fusco, Dana Goodwin, Ryan Gower, Pauletta Gullett, Jamie Henry, Dan Leggitt, Travis Matthews, Sharon Ochs, Gary Rodgers, Jackie Shambart, Luke Stuckey, Phil Thorsen, Lynda Vuaghn, John Watson, and Lynn Williams.



Barbara Shimer (left) and Larry Quick (right)

DUAL CREDIT WELDING STUDENT WINS FFA COMPETITION



Lincoln Trail College dual credit welding student Ezekiel Nave recently won a welding competition put on by the Future Farmers of America.

Nave, who attends Hutsonville High School, competed in the event in Newton, where there were five schools participating. Students participating in the welding competition had several different welds to complete and they were tasked with cutting metal with a torch.

“It was a great opportunity for me,” says Nave. “I’m so happy that I was able to win.”

Students had to complete a T-weld in the downhand position and a lap weld in the vertical down position in arc welding, a lap weld in the vertical down position and a T-weld in the horizontal position in MIG welding. They also had to use an oxy torch to cut a piece of steel following a stencil.

Lincoln Trail College gave Nave his first chance to weld. “This class has taught me everything. It has great instructors that show you how to do things and how to fix problems.”

Nave says he plans to attend Lincoln Trail College after he finishes high school so he can earn his certification. From there, he would like to pursue a career in welding.

PROCESS TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION HIGHLY VALUED

A study published in the Journal of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering found that each year of Process Technology education is worth 5.3 years of job experience.

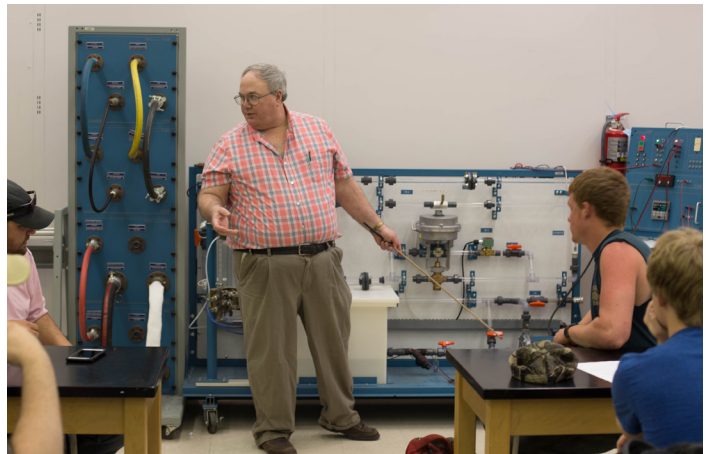
The authors of the study, Glenn E. Johnson and Dr. Robert A. Bartsch, examined records of 157 potential employees for their work experience, education, and job preparedness. The goal of their study was to examine the effects of on-the-job experience and job preparation provided by the Associate of Applied Science degree in Process Technology.

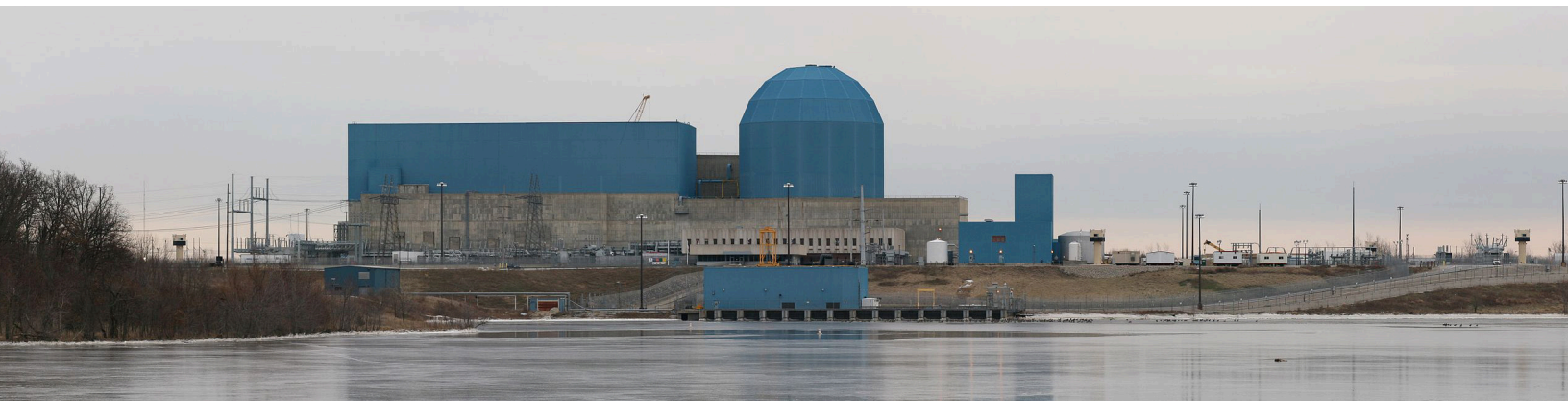
“Employers want to know if job experience should be held above education or vice versa, and technical education institutions want to prove their worth by showing that their programs prepare students for the workforce in a way that the work environment cannot,” says Lincoln Trail College Dean of Instruction Brent Todd. “The duo examined records of potential employees for their work experience, education, and job preparedness. What they found is that both years of experience as an operator and years of process technology education showed strong positive correlations to pre-hire test scores.”

The study found that for workers without much job experience, one year of PTEC education provides more job relevant competence than the same amount of time gaining experience on the job. The authors of the study argue that industry should put a high priority on hiring candidates that have worked toward a PTEC degree. They also suggest people looking to enter the process technology workforce should consider a PTEC degree as their first step.

“For institutions like Lincoln Trail College, this information validates what we (anecdotally) already knew about the program,” says Todd. “Experience is important, but a process technology education provides knowledge and skills that it takes employees more than five years to gain on their own.”

Todd presented the study to the Process Technology Advisory Council and he says it was initially met with skepticism. “It was interesting because the Council clearly did not like what they were hearing at first, but the more we talked about the study, the more heads I saw shaking in the affirmative. The study isn’t saying that education is better than experience or vice versa, but the gist is that there are things you learn in a process technology program that employees may take several years to understand.”





PROCESS TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS VISIT NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

Lincoln Trail College took 17 students in the Process Technology program to the Exelon Nuclear Power Plant in Clinton, Ill. to give the students an opportunity to see another aspect of where their careers could take them in the future.

Instructor Keith Nash says the class had talked about the power industry and how it takes raw materials and turns them into a finished product, which is the basis of the process technology industry. They discussed how coal-fired plants use coal and water to make steam to make power. They also looked at how nuclear plants use a radioactive fuel like plutonium or uranium to turn water into steam to get power.

Nash says the students were interested in seeing a nuclear power plant because they wanted to see the technology involved. Before going to the Clinton facility, the students studied the accidents that happened at the nuclear plants in Fukushima and Chernobyl and debated whether nuclear fission plants are a safe alternative to fossil fuels.

“I wanted the students to see the safety and security precautions and see how the plant works,” says Nash. “It’s not magic and it’s not alien technology. The students learned that although most US nuclear plants are pressurized water reactors, Clinton is a boiling water reactor like Fukushima.”

The students learned about how the radioactive fuel is in pellets inside metal tubes in the reactor. Control rods, which absorb the radiation, sit between each pair of tubes. When the rods are moved in front of the tubes, there is a fission chain reaction and heat is created. Water circulates through the reaction to cool it. The water is heated to make steam and the steam turns a turbogenerator that makes high voltage electricity, which is transported through power lines to users.

Nash says the students learned about changes that have been made since Fukushima. They also learned about the safety and security of the plant. Before the students visited, they had to undergo background checks. Students also saw armed guards throughout the facility. Students saw the variety of scanners used in the plant like palm print identification, explosive sniffers, metal detectors, drug sniffers, and radiation detectors.

“All of us were very impressed with the size, power, technology, safety, and security of the plant,” says Nash.

Nash says the trip provided students a chance to talk about the future of energy in the United States. He says the students know there’s a growing demand for power in the country, but at the same time, new power plants are not being built. Nash says the students also used the opportunity to study other new ways of harnessing energy like hydrogen fusion reactors.



SPORT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM LEARNS IN THE FIELD

Students in Lincoln Trail College's Sport Management program took advantage of trips to Chicago and St. Louis to meet with and learn from employees in the Blackhawks and Cardinals organizations.

LTC students combined with students from the University of Illinois' Recreation, Sport, and Tourism program to attend a symposium by the United Center and the Chicago Blackhawks. Students met with a number of employees in the organization, including the team's Executive Vice President, Jay Blunk.

"First of all, we would like to thank the Blackhawks for their generosity and allowing our Sport Management students to get a close look at what their future could potentially look like," says LTC Sport Management Instructor Tyler Browning. "Listening to several Blackhawks employees talk about their journeys, as well as current events in the sport industry, is an invaluable asset to our students. Mr. Blunk has done some amazing things in his time with the Chicago Blackhawks, and the organization continues to reach out and support the community. Lincoln Trail College is thrilled to be a part of that community."

Students also traveled to Busch Stadium in St. Louis. LTC collaborates with the Cardinals so students can meet with team employees. The panel talked with the students about how they got started in the sport industry and gave students advice on getting started in the industry. Students also heard about the value of internships and how they can find the best internships.

"We're grateful to have a relationship with Lincoln Trail College, and we hope that it will continue to grow," says St. Louis Cardinals Program Coordinator of Community Relations Tim Woodrome. "The students that visited us at Busch Stadium the last two years have shown a great passion and interest in the business side of sports. We have really enjoyed getting to know the students and admire how intentionally the staff invests in them. Hopefully we'll have the pleasure of hosting a group again soon."

Browning says he places a high value on experiential learning with his students, so trips like this are very important. The trips give students the chance to not only learn from people working in the sport industry, it also gives LTC students the opportunity to build relationships with them through networking.

"These are the opportunities we take pride in presenting to our students, and they are able to experience venues that many other schools do not have the opportunity to experience," says Browning.

He says that these opportunities give students a chance to build contacts that could help open doors for them when they are looking for internships and jobs.