



LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE *Network*

MARCH 2018

UPCOMING APRIL EVENTS

- 2 **Marathon Conference**
Intro to Gardening
6 p.m., Greenhouse
- 5 **CNA Exam**
4 p.m., Williams Hall 108
LTC Foundation Concert Series: Cody Ray Slaughter
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 7 **Food & Sanitation Class**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 116
- 8 **Food & Sanitation Class**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 116
- 10 **Intro to Gardening**
6 p.m., Greenhouse
- 14 **Food & Sanitation Class**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 116
ACT Exam
8 a.m., Williams Hall 108
International Food Fair
11-1, Statesmen Grill
Spring Band Concert
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center
- 17 **Spring Nutrition Series: Healthy Desserts**
5 p.m., Library
- 18 **Nurse Testing**
10 a.m., Williams Hall 119
Broadband Telecom Job Fair
11:30-1, Lincoln Room
- 19 **CNA Exam**
4 p.m., Williams Hall 110
- 21 **Food & Sanitation Class**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 116
- 22 **Youth Recitals**
1:30 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 24 **Intro to Gardening**
6 p.m., Greenhouse
- 26 **LTC Foundation Meeting**
12 p.m., Lincoln Room
Nurse Testing
1 p.m., Williams Hall 119
- 29 **Spring Choral Concert**
3 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 30 **Job Fair**
10-2, Sports Center

Network is a joint project of Lincoln Trail College & Lincoln Trail College Foundation

ENROLLMENT GROWTH AT LTC IN TOP 8% IN ILLINOIS



LTC'S ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT TEAM. FRONT (LEFT TO RIGHT): JULIE HIGGINBOTHAM, AMBER MALONE, FELICIA STUCKEY. BACK (LEFT TO RIGHT): CHRIS FORDE, DESTINY STAMBAUGH, ERIN VOLK, HANNAH TEUMLER

The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) just released its annual report detailing Spring enrollment numbers for the state's 48 community colleges. The report shows that Lincoln Trail College is growing. Only three other community colleges, Malcolm X, Wilbur-Wright, and McHenry, posted higher enrollment gains than Lincoln Trail College this Spring. "Thanks to the hard work of our enrollment management team, we have experienced a 5.3% increase in our headcount," says LTC President Dr. Ryan Gower. "We generated 3% more hours in the fall term and are on track to repeat this performance again in the spring."

The growth at LTC is bucking a statewide trend. Higher education across the state of Illinois - including four-year institutions - has steadily declined as more and more college-aged students are choosing to pursue their studies in surrounding states. Gower says the outmigration of talent will have a profound impact on smaller rural communities if it is not addressed. "When our youth leave the state to attend college there are impacts on our local economies - both in the short and long term. The vast majority of these students do not return to our communities which results in population decline. Population decline, in turn, forces small rural communities to make difficult decisions about taxes, schools, sports and other social services. It is the biggest issue facing most counties in southern Illinois right now."

Gower says the gains at LTC may sound modest, but when you consider the

Enrollment declines (by percent) over a four-year period at other area colleges.



statewide average is a 4.3% decrease, the growth in enrollment is significant. Over a four-year period, other area community colleges have seen dramatic decreases in their enrollment with Lake Land College being down 22.1%, Rend Lake (-18.4%), and Shawnee (-13%).

“Community Colleges exist to strengthen local economies and enrich the local community,” says Gower. “Our focus on enrollment management is not purely driven by internal budget concerns. We are recruiting students, from Indiana as well as our local talent, because we know we have a quality educational product for them. We feel good about the fact that students can enroll in our classes and get a great education while saving thousands of

dollars.” Gower says the College can play a role in battling outmigration in two ways. “First, we develop a workforce that is ready and able to meet the needs of area employers. We have great base jobs in Crawford County and we want to help local businesses be as competitive as they can. If they are doing well, our local economies are doing well. Second, our young people need to see our communities addressing the quality of life issues that matter most to them. They need to have places to socialize, recreate, learn and grow. If LTC is doing what it should be doing, we can play a big role in providing these opportunities for area residents.”

Gower says Lincoln Trail College is working on several key initiatives to help continue to drive enrollment. “Next year our goal is to begin offering more opportunities for continuing education, professional development, and community interest classes. Beyond that, we are exploring the feasibility of a large-scale county recreation complex, expanding our soccer fields, and actively pursuing the Technology Building approved by the state several years ago.”

LTC HIGHLIGHTS WELDING, PROCESS TECH PROGRAMS



Lincoln Trail College showcased two programs to prospective students at an open house on February 16. The prospective students had the opportunity to learn about the Welding and Process Technology programs offered by the College.

“This was a very successful event,” says Recruitment and Special Events Coordinator Hannah Tuemler. “It attracted a variety of individuals, including high school age, non-traditional, employees looking to start different careers, and those just looking for a new trade to learn.”



Students filled the Process Technology classroom to hear about that program and more than 40 people visited the Red McCoy Welding Center to learn about the College’s Welding program.

The prospective students heard from instructors about the programs and students also shared their experiences. The prospective students also had the opportunity to see and experience some of the equipment that they would learn on if they enrolled in the program.

Tuemler says she’s planning to offer similar open houses for other programs at LTC.

LTC HOSTS CAREER DAY, CELEBRATE ART!



DR. RYAN GOWER GIVES THE KEYNOTE SPEECH AT TWIN RIVERS CAREER DAY

Lincoln Trail College welcomed hundreds of junior high and high school students to campus on back-to-back days with the Twin Rivers Career Day and the Celebrate Art! Event.

About 500 students from Crawford and Lawrence Counties attended the Twin Rivers Career Day on March 7. The eighth-grade and sophomore students first heard from LTC President Dr. Ryan Gower, who talked about the value of education. He talked about how students' perceived purpose of higher education has changed through the years. He says while many students now believe higher education is about gaining skills to get a job, employers see that as an incomplete picture.



LTC'S CHRIS ELLINGTON SPEAKS TO STUDENTS ABOUT CAREERS

"When employers are surveyed about the skills and values they most need in the workforce," says Gower. "They report needing employees that demonstrate professionalism, are adaptable and open to change, demonstrate superior problem-solving skills, and have excellent communication skills."

The students then chose two separate career fields and heard from experts in those fields.

The Celebrate Art! Event brought together high school art students who submitted works to be on display in the LTC Library.



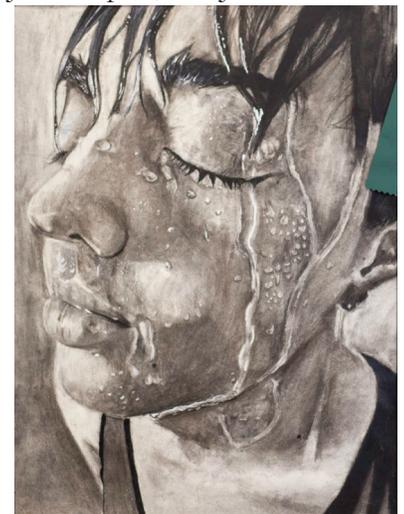
BERNARD HAGEDORN SHOWS STUDENTS SMALL-SCALE VERSIONS OF HIS MONUMENTAL WORKS

The students heard from artist Bernard Hagedorn. Hagedorn retired in 2016 as an Art and Design Professor at Vincennes University. After receiving his MFA in Sculpture from Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of the Arts in 1983, Hagedorn fabricated more than 25 monumental sculptures designed by prominent international artists such as Melvin Edwards, Herk Van Tongeren, Joel Shapiro, and Julian Schabel.

He also designed three monumental works of his own. In 1988, he built the Bill Schroeder Memorial in Jasper, Ind. He built the Living Well in 2005 in Ferdinand, Ind. and in 2006, he built

Dusk and Dawn of the Twenty-First Century at the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center in Vincennes, Ind., which is dedicated to the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The event culminated with an awards ceremony to honor the artists that submitted the 53 works on display in the LTC Library. Mason Dunlap and Kinley Ledermann of Hutsonville and Chassey Lingafelter, Maura Davis-Shelton, and Maddi Patterson of Oblong all earned Outstanding Artist Awards. Oblong's Ethan Quinlan was the recipient of the Best of Show award. Their artwork will be on display through April 27th.



ETHAN QUINLAN'S BEST IN SHOW "HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THE RAIN"

FORDE EARNS ROBINSON CHAMBER SERVICE AWARD



Lincoln Trail College Coordinator of Marketing and Public Information Chris Forde was honored by the Robinson Chamber of Commerce at their 2018 banquet. Forde received the Chamber's Outstanding Service Award. The annual award is given to a person who has demonstrated a willingness to perform services for the community and endeavored to make Crawford County a better place to live, work and play.

"This is a tremendous honor," says Forde. "When I came to Robinson in 1999, I didn't know much about the town and I didn't know anyone here. I started to get involved in the community and quickly learned how much this community gives back. That drove me to want to give back more."

Forde's service first started with his involvement in Crawford County Crimestoppers, where he started as a board member before eventually ascending to serve as the organization's president.

He joined a group of other citizens to form Leadership Crawford County, an organization that works to develop future leaders for the community. He served as the organization's initial vice president.

Forde has had a heavy involvement in the emergency services community in Crawford County. He's served on the Emergency Management Agency and is a former deputy coroner. He's been on the 911 board since 2010 and is currently the agency's chairman. He's also been a Police Commissioner for the City of Robinson since 2014.

In the last three years, Forde has worked with the Robinson Police Department to provide active shooter response training to schools, businesses, and churches. He teams up with Robinson Police Chief Chad Weaver and School Resource Officer Eric Schmidt to teach people about techniques they can use in the event they would ever need to react to a shooter coming into their building.

Most recently, Forde has joined a group of other individuals in an effort to bring a county-wide recreation to Crawford County. The group has visited other facilities in the area and has worked on developing plans for the local facility. The group has already secured donations and pledges from local industries that are supporting the project. The goal is to locate the facility on the campus of Lincoln Trail College.

Forde's other community service endeavors include serving as the vice president of membership for the Robinson Chamber of Commerce and serving on the Crawford County CEO Board, the Crawford Memorial Hospital Foundation Board, and the Crawford County Forest Preserve Foundation Board.

STUDENTS LEARN MARKETING AT LTC



HEATH SURRELLS

Two students have had the opportunity to learn about marketing while working with Lincoln Trail College Coordinator of Marketing and Public Information Chris Forde.

Sophomore Heath Surrells started with Forde in the Fall of his freshman year. He started as a work-study student and then transitioned to a student worker for his sophomore year. In that time, he's had the opportunity to work on numerous projects ranging from graphic design to videography.

"I've always been interested in the business and marketing field but working with videography and graphic design made me realize there were some passions I didn't know I had. My experiences have also reinforced my interest in business and marketing," says Surrells.



CAMERON IRELAND

Cameron Ireland joined the office in January 2018 as a work-study student. He also has an interest in marketing, with hopes of one day landing a job with either Marathon or Tesla.

"I'm approaching this as a way to help find my creative niche and hone in on that," says Ireland. "I want to consistently make quality stuff and this work-study position is huge to help me reach my professional goals."

Forde says whether he has work-study students or student workers, he wants to treat those students more like interns. "I want my students to be growing professionally when they're in my office. I want to give them projects that will help build their confidence while also helping Lincoln Trail College grow."

"It is pretty cool," says Surrells. "I didn't really think about the impact of some of the stuff I had on the college until this year. When I first started, I didn't really know what I was doing for a while, but as I got better, it really struck me how much of an impact of what I was doing really has."

"An opportunity like this is irreplaceable," says Ireland. "A large college would never offer an opportunity like this."

While both of the students have worked on general marketing projects for the College, they've also branched off into some of their own specialties. Surrells has taken on a number of projects for athletics, including helping build schedules and game day graphics. Ireland has helped LTC grow its presence on Snapchat. In one of his first projects, he helped build a custom Snapchat lens for the College featuring a dancing Statesmen mascot.

"I've learned a lot doing this too," says Forde. "Having two trusted students is invaluable. This is a way for my office to get a better idea of what our current and prospective students expect to see from a college. They've helped me hone in on ideas, designs, and concepts that will play well with their age group."



APRIL SPORTS CALENDAR

Baseball

3	at Southwestern	3:00
5	Frontier CC	3:00
7	at Frontier CC	12:00
10	Southwestern	1:00
12	at Kaskaskia	3:00
14	Kaskaskia	12:00
17	Lake Land	3:00
19	at Shawnee	3:00
21	Shawnee	12:00
24	at Lake Land	1:00
26	Olney Central	3:00
28	at Olney Central	12:00

Softball

3	at John A. Logan	2:00
5	Rend Lake	2:00
6	Frontier CC	6:00
7	John A. Logan	12:00
9	Southeastern	2:00
10	at Rend Lake	2:00
12	at Kaskaskia	2:00
14	at Southeastern	12:00
19	at Shawnee	2:00
21	Southwestern	12:00
23	at Wabash Valley	2:00

HOWE EARNS POSTSEASON HONORS



Lincoln Trail College Lady Statesmen guard Kaitlyn Howe earned first-team All-Region and All-Conference selections.

“We are proud of our team accomplishments this year,” says Lady Statesmen Coach Scott Sparks. “We’re also, obviously, proud of Kaitlyn. She had a really good year for us.”

The freshman guard from Rushville, Ind. started all 26 games for the Lady Statesmen and averaged 14 points per game to lead the team. Howe shot 49.4% from the field, 32.7% from three-point range, and 85.2% at the free throw line.

She also led the team with 70 assists. Howe added 30 steals and averaged 3.4 rebounds per game.

Despite her accomplishments on the court, Sparks says there’s room for Howe to grow. “The nice thing about her is she has so much room to improve. We’ve already talked about how she can improve for next year. We’re working on her mid-range game and being able to go as aggressively to her left hand as she is to her right.”

Sparks says Howe has a lot of upside and says she should have a key role for the Lady Statesmen. “With the talent that we’re bringing in next year, I think she’s going to be another big part of what this program is doing.”

He says he appreciates that she’s a hard worker in the classroom as well.

Follow the Statesmen at lccathletics.com