

DR. ANN D. BIEBER PRESIDENT'S DESK

MARCH 2022



Lehigh Carbon
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CELEBRATING
55
YEARS 1966-2021



Agreements Ensure LCCC Graduates Admission to Bloomsburg University



Leadership from LCCC and Bloomsburg gathered on campus Feb. 8 to sign two articulation agreements that streamline the path to a bachelor's degree for LCCC graduates. In the Guaranteed Transfer Agreement, students who are interested in continuing their college education and who earn their degree from LCCC will be guaranteed admission to Bloomsburg University, with at least junior standing. They are also guaranteed a renewable transfer scholarship based on their academic performance. Depending on the student's grade point average, these transfer scholarships are valued between \$1,500 and \$3,000 annually at Bloomsburg.

In addition, students who are interested in pursuing a career in the growing field of electronics engineering technology now have a streamlined path to earn their associate at LCCC and transfer to Bloomsburg's program for their bachelor's degree. A unique component of this articulation is that credits will also be accepted from Career and Technical Education centers, creating

a seamless pathway from Lehigh Career and Technical Institute, Carbon Career and Technical Institute and Schuylkill Technology Center to Bloomsburg University.

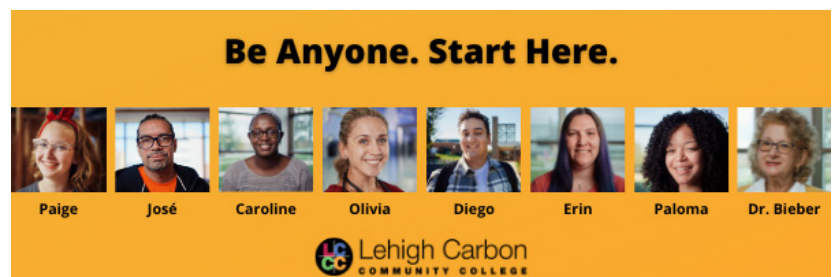
Pictured: BU Provost Dr. Diana Rogers-Adkinson, Dr. Bieber, BU President Dr. Bashar Hanna, Larissa Verta ■

Be Anyone. Start Here. Video Series

The Office of College Relations recently completed a large scale video series featuring seven students from varying backgrounds, with a goal of highlighting diversity, equity and inclusion at LCCC. The theme of the campaign is

"Be Anyone. Start Here." and the goal was to allow prospective and current students to see themselves when watching the videos, and realize that regardless of their circumstances or challenges faced, there is a place for them at LCCC.

[Be Anyone. Start Here. - YouTube](#)



LCCC Receives Grant to Streamline Noncredit and Credit Programs

With support from Educational Credit Management Corporation Foundation, Association of Community College Trustees and Education Strategy Group, the college will implement the Noncredit and Credit Alignment Lab, a two-year initiative that works to align noncredit and credit programs. The college is one of 14 community colleges nationally to participate. By the end of the initiative in August 2023, each participating college will develop new or improved pathways between non-credit and credit functions that address critical barriers to alignment related to program design, institutional policy, governance structures, administrative functions and student support. The \$4,500 grant will support consulting and professional advice. The initial focus will be on health care (Nursing) and technology (Manufacturing). ■

Xanadu Literary Magazine Wins Award

LCCC's literary magazine, Xanadu, has been selected to receive the rank of Superior in the 2021 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) [Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines](#) (REALM) program. The magazine helps to inspire a love of writing that students will remember for the rest of their lives. Advisor for Xanadu is Anney Ryan. Students Emma Steinmetz, Ashley Guava and Stella Rodriguez created the website and literary videos, reviewed and edited submissions, and posted them to the website and our Instagram page. They have worked on the magazine while balancing schoolwork, jobs and family obligations.

The mission of NCTE's REALM program is to publicly recognize excellent literary magazines produced by students with the support of their teachers. REALM is designed to encourage all schools to develop literary magazines that celebrate the art and craft of writing. Xanadu is a fine example of this mission in action. ■

Nursing Accreditation Review Concludes

On Tuesday, Jan. 25, the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing Evaluation Review Panel concluded its review of the college's self-study, on-site review and additional documentation submissions. The review now goes forward to the ACEN Board of Commissioners for review and approval sometime in April. Final written outcome documentation is expected in late May/early June.

The panel reinforced the good work being done at the LPN Program Level by voting for "Continuing Accreditation" with no conditions or compliance issues. There are a few recommendations that the program is already working on and will continue to work towards improving between now and the next self-study/on-site visit. These were all minor fixes and Director Tina Van Buren and Dean Craig Koller will work to establish action plans to address these. Thanks to the Nursing faculty and team members of the LPN program for their work maintaining a successful program.

Equally recognized are the Nursing faculty and team members of the Associate Degree Nursing Program. The panel reviewing all documentation has voted for "Continuing Accreditation" with no conditions or compliance issues. There are a few recommendations that the program is already working on and will continue to work towards improving between now and the next self-study/on-site visit. ■

Course Receives Quality Matters Certification

Quality Matters, the national program focused on the instructional design of online/hybrid courses, has certified Lacey Gonzalez's BUS 248 - Essentials of Entrepreneurship. It takes time and dedication to design a course that meets the standards outlined in the Quality Matters Rubric - Sixth Edition.

For more information on the Quality Matters program, contact Jennifer Stephens at jstephens1@lccc.edu. ■

Fall Dean's List Announced

The college has announced the students named to the Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester. Students with an academic grade point average of at least 3.50 achieve Dean's List status. You can view the students and their hometowns [here](#). ■

LCCC Partners with Reading Area Community College to Offer Histotechnician Degree

Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC) and Reading Area Community College (RACC) have formed a partnership that provides an opportunity for students in Lehigh, Carbon and Schuylkill counties to complete an associate degree in histotechnology. In the agreement, students enroll in the Histotechnician Program at LCCC to complete their preclinical general education requirements with LCCC, then finish the program at RACC, paying in-county tuition rates. The program consists of online courses and three in-person practicums at clinical sites in surrounding counties.

Histotechnicians study the anatomy cells and tissue of plants and animals, under light microscopes and electron microscopes. They detect tissue abnormalities and appropriate testing for tissue samples to ensure proper diagnoses.

"Histotechnicians play a critical role in the health care arena as they are skilled professionals who prepare samples of body tissue to be examined under a microscope by a pathologist. The future for employment is excellent and there is a critical need for well-trained histotechnicians locally, as well as throughout the country," says RACC Professor/Program Director of Medical Laboratory Technician & Histotechnician Programs Alayne Fessler.

Histotechnicians can earn an average salary of over \$61,000. It is a promising and rapidly growing field in which graduates can enjoy a long and successful career. Today, there are more jobs for histologic technicians than there are well-trained, qualified professionals to fill those positions.

"Career opportunities in healthcare are growing in our area, and LCCC is honored to be able to provide this additional career path to our students," says LCCC president Dr. Ann D. Bieber. "This partnership among the three community colleges demonstrates our collective commitment to student success and provides trained healthcare professionals to our respective regions."

To learn more about the Histotechnician Program, contact Craig Koller, dean of Healthcare Sciences at ckoller@lccc.edu. ■

Early Childhood Educators Have Access to Funding

Early childhood educators who would like to advance their careers in this field have access to funding that will cover the cost of professional development coursework. For students who meet qualifying criteria, this funding support can help them earn 120 hours of training required for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

Classes began on Feb. 21 and run through Sept. 19. Sessions are designed to accommodate the schedules of working professionals and are offered fully online. The LCCC CDA Credential program consists of three noncredit classes: Fundamentals of Early Childhood Education, Children's Growth and Development, and Observation and Recording – all of which meet the Preschool CDA requirements.

Funding is available through the Early Childhood Education Professional Development Organization at PASSHE (ECEPDO@PASSHE), a grant-funded educational collaboration of colleges, universities and programs statewide that support early childhood educators.

LCCC is an ECEPDO partnership school, which enables students to earn credits that can be seamlessly transferred to any other ECEPDO partner school. To be eligible for tuition assistance, students must be Pennsylvania residents; be a current employee at a certified child care program for three months or more or demonstrate employment history of six months in child care if newly hired (participants actively enrolled in PDO activities will not be impacted by change of employer as long as the new employer is a certified child care program); work a minimum of 25 hours per week directly in a certified child care program; and be interested in pursuing coursework at a participating ECEPDO partner college toward an AA or BA degree or a CDA credential.

To learn more about the ECEPDO@PASSHE and how it benefits early childhood educators, visit eepdo.org or contact Doni Binczak, Program Manager, LCCC Center for Leadership & Workforce Development, at dbinczak@lccc.edu or 610-799-1950. ■

College Announces Winter Graduates

Lehigh Carbon Community College's (LCCC) President Ann D. Bieber announced the December 2021 graduates, including those with honors. View the list of graduates [here](#). ■

Lehigh Carbon Community College President

Dr. Ann D. Bieber

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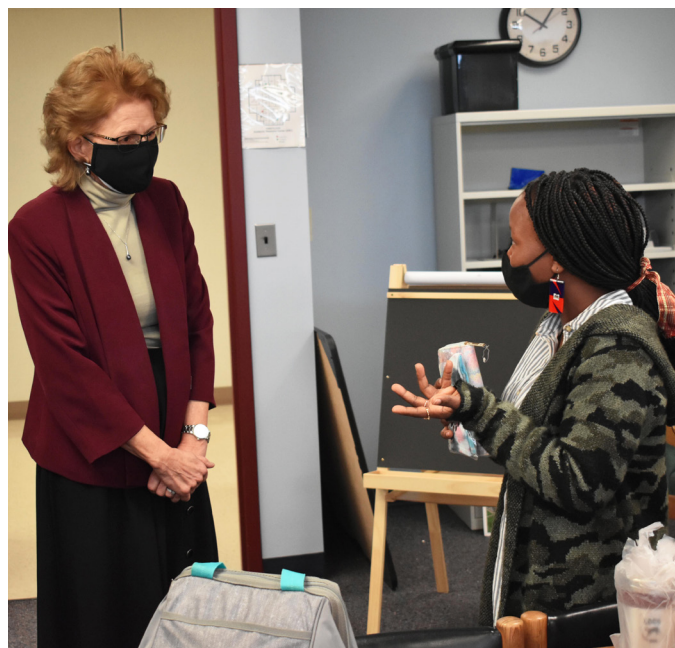
Silvia Vargas
Executive Director, LCCC Foundation

Important Dates for March 2022

- March 3** 3-5 p.m., Admissions Information Session and Tour, LCCC Schnecksville
- March 4** Deadline for SEED applications
- March 7** 4-5 p.m., Admissions Virtual Info Session
- March 7-12** Spring Break
- March 11** Pre-registration opens for fall 2022 semester for military
- March 14** Pre-registration opens for fall 2022 semester for all students
- March 15** Deadline for applications to Honors Program
- March 25** LCCC Tamaqua hosts blood drive, Miller-Keystone Blood Center, Fairlane Village Mall. Call 800-223-6667.
- March 29** 6-8 p.m., Aviation Virtual Info Session

Equity Center Opens

The Equity Center, located in room 305 of the Academic Resource Center, opened on Tuesday, Jan. 25. The remodeled space is a safe place for all students, providing support in their journey to connect with greater ideals of inclusion, diversity, equity and social change. The space is designed to create a culturally and empowering space for all students. The office of Aspira coordinator Leslie Cogorno is also located within the Equity Center to provide students support and validation as she works to bring forward initiatives for equitable education to Hispanic and Latino students. Pictured with Dr. Bieber is student Marie Victoire Alexis. ■



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