



LCCC Offers Assistance to Displaced Students

LCCC is encouraging students who have been displaced by recent closings of higher education institutions to reach out for assistance to ensure their education is minimally disrupted.

Students from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, which is closing effective Friday, June 7, and from Triangle Tech with a campus in Bethlehem, which announced its closure recently, are encouraged to reach out to LCCC for assistance with their education and career pathway.

Students from both institutions can make immediate appointments with admissions representatives and be prepared to register for either online courses this summer (five-week session starts July 8) or any of the range of courses in the fall semester, which starts Aug. 26.

For University of the Arts students, a range of general education courses are offered in an online format during the summer session, which could be used for transfer to a four-year college or university. In addition, the fall semester features a variety of arts-related courses, including graphic design, art, drawing, painting, theory courses, ceramics and metalsmithing. Students interested in arts education also have a number of course options. Students should contact the Office of Admissions at Admissions@lccc.edu or 610-799-1575.

For Triangle Tech students, a variety of technology courses are offered in the fall semester, including construction technology, drafting and design, and a range of electronics and electrical programs, which can keep students on the path to their career in a high demand occupation. Students from Triangle Tech can contact Genesis Reyes at GReyes@lccc.edu for further information about transferring credits to LCCC.

For students interested in continuing on with their education, the college offers more than 600 transfer agreements with more than 60 regional and national institutions. Credits can also be accrued through the prior learning credits program.

For general information, contact the LCCC Office of Admissions at Admissions@lccc.edu or 610-799-1575.

LCCC Hosts Services Fair to Prep Students for Fall Semester

Students who need to complete their application or registration process for the fall semester will have the opportunity to complete multiple steps at the LCCC Student Services Fair set for Thursday, Aug. 8, at Building 21 High School, 256 Lehigh Street in Allentown. The fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot of the school, with additional services available inside the building.

Prospective students are invited to join LCCC staff for food, fun and to register for one of the 90+ programs that suits their interests and goals. Discover the many programs the college offers, including associate degrees, diplomas and certificates; workforce job training programs; English as a Second Language or high school equivalency classes; and CDL truck driver training, to name a few.

Incoming students will be able to finalize steps such as review of their transcript, placement testing or signing up for a new student orientation. In addition, representatives from community based organizations and members of the community are invited to attend to see how the college could help their clients with an educational pathway.

Student services will be on hand to assist with:

- Academic advising
- Application completion
- Transcript review (for placement testing purposes)
- Placement testing
- Registration for new student orientation session
- Athletics
- Financial aid
- Food pantry and community resources
- Career resources
- Information about student life, clubs and organizations

There will also be refreshments and activities.

Students who have applied to LCCC will receive an email with a registration link for the fair. Otherwise, no pre-registration is required. For more information, contact Admissions at Admissions@LCCC.edu or 610-799-1575.

LCCC Awards Students of the Year at Commencement Ceremony

Each year, the Student of the Year award is granted to one traditional student and one Early College student who have exemplified academic excellence, hard work and a passion for learning. Students are nominated by instructors, and the winners are chosen by the LCCC Faculty Association. For 2024, Margaret Rodriguez Sanchez was named Student of the Year, and Diana Moussa was named Early College Student of the Year.

Margaret Rodriguez Sanchez started college like many others: not knowing what she wanted to do with her life. Needing a change in career, she returned to school with hopes of finding a field of study that called to her. It was in her Abnormal Psychology course that something clicked. "Abnormal psychology is more modern in its research," she says. "I really want to get hands-on with people who may be [struggling] with mental illness."

Her newfound verve for learning all she could about her field eventually led her to applying to the one-year Honors Scholars program. The one-year program offers students an intensive and enriching academic experience. Rodriguez Sanchez found the living and learning events and activities required by the program to be especially beneficial. "The one-year program helped with equitable access to Honors," she says, "because some people, like me, might come into college not knowing what they're capable of."

Rodriguez Sanchez learned just how capable she was when she participated in the Bucknell University Community College Scholars Program in 2023. The program allowed her to push her academic boundaries while learning new skills and connecting with fellow scholars. As a successful program scholar and high-achieving student, she was selected to receive the Bucknell Community College Scholars Scholarship, which provides tuition funding to complete a bachelor's degree at Bucknell.

"LCCC has really helped me develop from someone who didn't ever want to go back to school," Rodriguez Sanchez says. "They helped me gain direction when I was completely lost." In looking toward the future, she strives to make the most out of her time at Bucknell and utilize what she's learned to help those in need.

To future generations of LCCC students, Rodriguez Sanchez says, "Don't settle for what you think you can only do because there is so much more you might not even know you can do."



Margaret Rodriguez Sanchez
A.S. in Psychology

When Diana Moussa's Allen High School guidance counselor told her about the Early College program at LCCC, she recognized it as an opportunity too good to pass up. "I got to figure out how things worked early," she says. "Otherwise, I would've been stepping out of high school not really knowing where I'm headed." With aspirations to become a marketing director, she utilized her time in the program to earn an A.A. in Business Administration.

Moussa's business classes had a great impact on her career trajectory. "I had a Macroeconomics class with Professor Selvakumari Rajaram," she says. "She presented the class materials straightforward, and I don't feel as scared venturing into the business world now." The knowledgeable and personable faculty at LCCC helped her realize that business and marketing was a vast industry that she could easily see herself innovating.

While Moussa plans to continue her education at Penn State's Lehigh Valley campus in the fall, there are many skills she learned at LCCC that will benefit her moving forward. Above concepts like time-management and prioritization skills, she values her newfound ability to communicate with a diverse array of peers and colleagues, something that she says allows her confidence in venturing into a variety of positions.

Though her coursework was instrumental in her college experience, Moussa also holds dear the memories she made along the way. From hosting an Early College picnic to hanging out in the Design Den, she made the most of her community college education. "A lot of people have been really helpful along the way," she says, "and have shown me that college can be fun."

Moussa wants incoming students to know that it's okay to not box oneself into one field of study. "You're probably going to change your major at least twice," she says, "but LCCC is going to help you make those big decisions." ■



Diana Moussa
A.A. in Business Administration

Alumna Earns PAB Award for Journalistic Excellence

After graduating from LCCC in 2021 with her A.A. in Communication, Makenzie Christman transferred to Penn State Lehigh Valley to earn her B.A. in Journalism. Currently working as a digital content producer for LehighValleyNews.com, she's making her mark in the world of investigative journalism. She earned an award last month from the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters for her work as a part of WPSU Penn State radio station. Most recently, a piece she worked on at Penn State placed sixth among 72 other entries from 43 schools for the 2023-2024 Hearst Investigative Reporting Journalism Awards Program.

While Christman got her initial start in reporting in high school, her experience as writer and editor for The Paw Print, LCCC's student newspaper, solidified her aspirations of writing as a career. At Penn State, she heavily participated in writing for The News Lab as a health reporter. After graduation, she worked as a general assignment reporter, commuting far distances around Schuylkill County to cover a wide variety of stories. "I was passionate about my work...my passion for what I do is what stood out to our managing content producer," she says.

Working with LehighValleyNews.com allows for shorter commutes, but Christman has the same amount of love for her work. "I'm essentially the last set of eyes a story goes through," she says. "I input modules to stories, optimize SEO, actually publish or schedule the stories, write our newsletter on Sundays, schedule or post stories to social media and write my own stories."

Christman credits LCCC's affordability as a central factor for her success. Because she didn't have to worry so much about affording her first two years of school, she "could actually focus on getting experience at LCCC and outside of it by freelancing." She urges prospective students to value the worth of starting at LCCC. "Community college is an excellent place to feel unsure of what you want to do with your career—you can explore plenty of classes to find your interests for a reduced price." ■



Makenzie Christman

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Important Dates for July 2024

- July 4** College Closed
- July 8** Summer Session II Begins
- July 12** Winter 2024 Registration for Veteran and Military Students Begins
- July 15** Winter 2024 Registration for All Students Begins
- Aug. 8** Student Services Fair, Building 21, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

College Receives Grant for "Community in the Classroom"

The college and the LCCC Foundation recently received a \$75,000 grant from the Trexler Trust for "Community in the Classroom." This was part of a total of \$5.4 million in 83 grants the trust awarded to a variety of Lehigh Valley nonprofit organizations.

LCCC's program will serve as a pathway for English language learners to pursue a career in education by blending traditional credit ESL coursework and the paraprofessional Quickstart. The college will partner with Lehigh County school districts to address employment gaps for instructional support staff and the challenge to recruit and hire teachers. Academic advisors will work with students as they complete the program to help them connect with employment opportunities and educate them on pathways to earning their associate and bachelor's degrees in education.

The grant will provide scholarships, funds for books and supplies, as well as staffing for a study lab for ESL students. ■

Alumni IronPigs Game

The LCCC Alumni night at the IronPigs is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 29. This year's seats will be in the Dugout Suites. Watch the Lehigh Valley IronPigs take on the Syracuse Mets! First pitch is at 6:45 p.m. with the gates opening at 5:15 p.m. Each ticket includes access to an all-you-can-eat buffet plus soft drinks. The buffet is open from 5:45-8:15 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person, with only 30 tickets available. Tickets may be purchased [here](#). ■

