



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Lincoln Land Community College Foundation

SUMMER 2019

Donors Strengthen Medical Technology Programs Summer Radiology Students Utilize Donated Portable X-Ray Machine

Radiology students at Lincoln Land Community College will practice operating a portable X-ray machine thanks to a donation from Memorial Medical Center in Springfield and Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

“The donation allows the students to get experience with the portable machine before

moving to the hospital for clinical classes,” said Janelle Murphy, director of the LLCC radiography program.

Marjorie King, director of imaging at Memorial, secured the portable machine for LLCC. King serves on an advisory committee that ensures the radiology program has relevant curriculum and equipment.

Portable X-ray

units are needed for patients who are too sick to move to stationary radiology equipment while in the emergency room or intensive care unit. “Our students will have hands-on experience with this technology and be better prepared for their role as X-ray students at the clinical sites they attend,” Murphy said.



Radiography classes for the two-year program begin this summer. Murphy

said 100 percent of the students who graduate in radiography find jobs.

Respiratory Care Students Practice With Donated Ventilators and Mannequin

“A donation of a ventilator by Draeger, Inc., as well as a second ventilator and a child-size mannequin were welcome additions to LLCC’s respiratory care program,” Jan Szoke, program director, said.

LLCC students had been practicing on ventilators at St. John’s Hospital and Memorial Medical Center in Springfield. “The winter is so busy, area hospitals use all their ventilators on patients and even had

to rent some in order to meet patient needs. When this happens we do not have ventilators we can borrow for student practice,” Szoke said.

Draeger donates ventilators to respiratory care programs after conducting ventilation studies on patients. The purchase of the second ventilator and a mannequin of a 5-year-old, were made possible by donations from LLCC faculty and staff.

LLCC student Jeff Vinyard said practicing the procedures on a ventilator in class before working with patients during clinicals at the hospital will make a difference for success in the program. “I’m a hands-on learner,” Vinyard said. “I have to touch and feel.” Vinyard, 42, was operations manager at a health club for more than 10 years before he decided to change careers. Eventually, he says he would like



to teach respiratory therapy.

Szoke said a focus on respiratory health and therapy in hospital and out-patient centers has created a

significant demand for respiratory therapy graduates. “There are more job openings than there are graduates,” she said.

LLCC Students Make Foundation Gala Extraordinary

Sixty Lincoln Land Community College culinary students planned, cooked and served more than 250 guests May 4 at the LLCC Foundation's 13th annual Gala.

"Student involvement is what makes the Foundation Gala a unique and spectacular event," said Marsha Narmont, executive vice president of United Community Bank. UCB has been a sponsor of the Gala since its beginnings 13 years ago. "We enjoy the talents and hard work of the students," she said. "It is a special feeling to know that our contributions are making a difference in many of their lives."

Narmont, who is a past chairman of the Foundation board of directors, said, "It is important to invest in students who will become our future employees. An investment in students creates a strong local economy."

Funds raised benefit the students and programs at LLCC.

Nancy Sweet, director of culinary programs at LLCC, said students from six classes were involved in the Gala and received a grade for participating. First-year students served while second-year students prepared the four-course gourmet dinner.

Scott Marshall, a second-year student, said the Gala allowed him the opportunity to use a sous-vide cooker to prep filet mignon steaks for a large crowd. Marshall, a 36-year-old former truck driver, said he is looking forward to working as a chef after he completes an internship.

The LLCC Big Band provided the entertainment. Gus Gordon was the master of ceremonies and alum Damien Kaplan carried out the gala theme "Singing in the Rain" by performing the song made famous by Gene Kelley in the 1952 movie "Singin' in the Rain."



Top left: Bryce Ruffner, first year student, culinary arts
Top right: Student speaker Rashawn Jones, computer science major from Springfield
Bottom: United Community Bank sponsor table

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Biology Professor Earns Master Teacher Award

Jennifer O'Malley, Ph.D., professor of biology, was honored with the Drs. Raymond and Ann Pearson Master Teacher Award May 16 at the Lincoln Land Community College faculty and staff recognition ceremony. "This professor is available and focused on helping students learn," one of several

nominators said. "She uses so many different learning methods and encourages students to use them all, providing a positive learning environment."

Another nominator said, "She structures class and assignments to best meet the needs of the students." O'Malley will receive a \$2,500 stipend which may be used

to enhance teaching and learning. Drs. Raymond and Ann Pearson established the award. "Their passion for learning and giving back lives on through this award, and our gracious recipients who have earned the title, Master Teacher," LLCC Foundation Chair Todd Wise said.



Dr. Jennifer O'Malley, 2019 Drs. Raymond and Ann Pearson Master Teacher
Todd Wise, LLCC Foundation Board Chair

Illinois Historian Recognized With Honored Alum Award

Samuel Wheeler, Ph.D., became a part of Lincoln Land Community College history at commencement May 17. Wheeler, who is the 10th Illinois state historian, was honored with the 2019 LLCC Honored Alum Award.

As state historian, Wheeler serves as the director of research and collections at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM). He is the

historian of record for the 56 historic sites in Illinois.

The nominator said Wheeler is dedicated to excellence and brings out details that "inspire others to not only care about history but to become history seekers themselves."

Wheeler, who lives in Springfield with his young son, has worked for ALPLM since 2013. He began his career at LLCC after history Professor John Squibb

encouraged him to consider a career in history. Wheeler received an associate degree from LLCC in 1998. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from Illinois State University, a master's degree from the University of Illinois at Springfield and a Ph.D. in history from Southern Illinois University.



Samuel Wheeler, Ph.D.

Tasty Italia

Two Springfield business executives traded their business attire for chef's jackets and raised \$10,000 for Lincoln Land Community College culinary students at the annual Tasty Italia event.

Sergio "Satch" Pecori, chairman and chief executive officer,

of Hanson Professional Services Inc., and Mike Aiello, president of Troxell, prepared their favorite Italian dishes for more than 50 enthusiastic diners at LLCC's Bistro Verde.

Pecori and Aiello, who are long-time friends and LLCC scholarship donors, donated all the

food for the event, allowing proceeds to help LLCC culinary students. Sean Keeley, LLCC culinary specialist, assisted the guest chefs.



Mike Aiello, Sean Keeley and Satch Pecori



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LEAGUE

“I’m continually inspired by the generosity of LLCC faculty and staff who contribute to the annual faculty and staff giving campaign (LEAGUE),” Karen Sanders, LLCC Foundation executive director, said.

LEAGUE funds are used to support internal grants, scholarships and other funds, including the “Pay It Forward” fund which helps students with emergent needs. Usually more than 40 percent of the faculty and staff contribute. In 2018, faculty and staff donated more than

\$50,000.

LEAGUE Awards were announced at the LEAGUE kickoff on March 26. The following departments received awards from funds donated to the 2018 LEAGUE campaign:

- Community Education/Youth Enrichment Services - Equipment and curriculum for the STEM program, “Ready, Set, Drone! at LLCC”
- EMS Program - Trainer for infant airway management
- Health Professions - Mass disaster training simulation
- Adult Education - 100 GED Ready Practice vouchers and GED test vouchers
- Financial Aid - Two iPads, screen protectors and cases for the FAFSA mobile application
- LLCC-Jacksonville/ CAS - Laptop for virtual interpreter services
- Math and Sciences - New models for anatomy and physiology room
- Nursing - Updated iPads for the nursing simulation lab

