Welcome to our most recent edition of The Talon. Like our past publications, I am sure you will find this one to be interesting, enjoyable, and inspiring as you learn more about the people and happenings here at Laramie County Community College.

In 2013 LCCC launched an aggressive strategic plan. It is difficult to believe that we are nearly six years into that plan. The goals are simple yet substantial:

1. **Increase** the number of students earning high-value credentials;
2. **Strengthen** relationships and connections with key community partners to improve student transitions between educational entities and into the workforce;
3. **Build** an organizational capacity to thrive in the future; and
4. **Transform** the college’s physical environment into a vibrant, and appealing place conducive to the engagement of students and community.

This eight-year strategic plan has catalyzed a change agenda for the college. An agenda that's grounded in both needs and desires—the need for LCCC to move beyond a turbulent past, to heal, to rebuild its culture, and the desire to transform the institution into an innovator and leader in the 21st century student success campaign. All one has to do is look around and witness what we have accomplished to see that our planning, and our work, is paying off for our students and the community. Whether it is a major transformation to our physical campus, our innovative services, or our excellent programming, they all are making an impact.

LCCC has made monumental strides toward achieving the goals set forth in the original plan. Even more has been completed since the update was released. Most importantly though, this work has led to the desired outcomes of cultural change and improved student success.

Now, with just two years left under this plan, it is time for LCCC to focus. Focus on the work that needs to be completed to bring the original plan to close. We will focus on three key areas that the college will emphasize in the final years of its strategic vision:

1. **Student Success**
2. **Inside LCCC**
3. **Campus Transformation**

LCCC has come so far in such a short timeframe. However, our success over the past few years cannot entice us to ease up. On the contrary, it is time to double down on our efforts to achieve our goals, for their benefactors—our students and our communities—are far too important. Look for more information on our FOCUS efforts in the months to come.

LCCC is your community college. It is successful because of the support of our community, the dedication of our faculty and staff, and the deep commitment we have to helping our students succeed in their educational journey. We are fortunate to be part of this great enterprise.

Warm regards,

Dr. Joe Schaffer
President
The Grass is Greener
To say this business-minded student is a go-getter is an understatement.

Bailey Nowak not only graduated from Laramie County Community College with her associate degree in business and finance this spring, but she’s also a thriving business owner.

Bailey runs her own lawn care company, something she’s been doing since she was 12. What began as a way to earn money using the family lawn mower, Bailey has grown into a full-fledged business serving numerous customers with her own equipment. The process has been a valuable learning experience: a few years ago, her customer base was not as large as she wanted. Bailey explored different ways of marketing her business and now operates at almost full capacity. The weekly process of maintaining numerous lawns involved building a sustainable schedule and mapping the locations to minimize driving. She worked with clients to develop payment schedules and invoices, and she knows that the work is a direct reflection on her.

“I hope I’m doing the best I can,” she said.

LCCC accounting instructor Carla Ostic says, “Bailey thrives on being in charge of her own earning potential, setting her own schedule and being her own boss. She understands that the more she puts into the business, the more she gets out.”

What does Bailey do in her spare time? Why, serve the community while developing her leadership skills as the president of the LCCC Rotaract Club. As a freshman, she participated in Rotaract, but this year, she and some friends wanted to take a larger role and ran for officer positions. Bailey thought her organizational skills would help her lead the club, and she was elected president.

According to Bailey, it’s been an amazing opportunity. The club has done projects with the local foster grandparent program, led teams building for other groups, and helped with the campus “giving tree” program. She is making connections locally with individuals and businesses, as well as nationally and internationally. Last summer, Bailey traveled to a conference in Atlanta, where she met Rotaract students from around the world to discuss ideas for making a bigger global impact. She’s also learning about motivating people and even took psychology to help her better understand how to manage people.

“People are the business,” she says.

Bailey believes that if you really want something bad enough, you’ll make the time. Not only does that apply to the Rotaract Club, but also to her life. She is a first-generation college student and was always told growing up that paying for the “extras” was her responsibility. College was one of those extras. “I either had to work or get scholarships,” she said.

So she applied for three or four scholarships a week her senior year of high school, and it paid off. She had enough scholarships to cover the costs of her education.

Another aspect that helped her feel comfortable at LCCC was being part of a business cohort, a group of students in the same degree program who take the same classes. Bailey felt this helped her get to know others and have peers to study with and ask questions.

Now that she’s graduated, Bailey is considering continuing via the outreach program or the transfer agreement with the University of Wyoming. Upon completion of a bachelor’s degree in business with a minor in marketing (and a master’s degree), she plans to work in the business field, perhaps as a stockbroker.

“The path wasn’t perfectly paved for Bailey,” Ostic said. “She has persevered in business ownership and in continuing her education. Bailey’s future is bright. And one thing is for sure, she isn’t going to let any grass grow under her feet.”
Ard, wide-open Laramie County bears little resemblance to California’s lush, green Silicon Valley.

Just the same, southeast Wyoming now has its own role in high technology thanks to Microsoft’s data center located in a business park west of Cheyenne.

And now Microsoft has partnered with Laramie County Community College in an effort to up-skill Wyoming’s workforce to keep up with the tech giant through a program called Microsoft TechSpark, which introduces digital initiatives in smaller communities to diversify both the local economy and workforce.

That could put LCCC on the map—drawing thousands of degree-seekers and career-changers to the campus—virtually or physically.

“LCCC—a destination? Absolutely,” said computer information systems instructor Roger Findley. “Even internationally through online courses, our IT programs are all offered completely online as an alternative, and offered on the ground at the Cheyenne campus as well.”

“This breathes new life into our programs.”

In 2012, Microsoft announced it would establish a data center in Cheyenne at the North Range Business Park, creating scores of jobs in a high-tech industry.

Local officials and residents insisted those jobs should go to local workers, but few at that time had the skills such jobs entailed. Who would run the servers? Who would handle the technical aspects of keeping a center up and running 24 hours a day? Who would write the code to keep the center processing data? Who would perform maintenance on these facilities?

More than a half-decade later, it turns out other communities faced the same thing—diversifying their economies in the face of changing economic circumstances.

Two other TechSpark locations, Appleton, Wisconsin, lost a lot of its meatpacking industry, as did Fargo, North Dakota. Changes in the energy and agriculture sectors made it mandatory for Wyoming to change its workforce to a technologically driven one.

Microsoft president Brad Smith mentioned those three areas when he announced the TechSpark initiative in October 2017, with Royston, Virginia; Quincy, Washington; and El Paso, Texas serving as the other initial destinations. A month later, Wyoming entrepreneur Dennis Ellis came on board to spearhead efforts in the Cowboy State as TechSpark manager for Wyoming. And in March, Microsoft announced its partnership with LCCC, meaning the college will have a significant role in TechSpark’s five-armed initiatives.

Ellis said those initiatives come down to a basic mission for Microsoft in each of the communities.

“The main thing we’re trying to do is partner with the communities we’re in, learn about their challenges, and solve them through technology,” he said. “It’s a lofty goal but [Governor Matt] Mead has said we have to have technology as the fourth leg of the Wyoming economy—along with energy, agriculture and tourism—so we can create good jobs for the future.”

Ellis has firsthand experience, as he spent years with oil company Anadarko in their external affairs department. Now he’ll help smooth the transition from an energy-driven to tech-driven economy—LCCC playing a critical role.

He said that as meetings went on to establish TechSpark’s mission within the aforementioned communities, LCCC emerged as a logical partner for the Wyoming mission.

“When a community college is highly functioning, a company will seek out employees from the community,” he said. “LCCC has been that to a T.”

Sure, LCCC’s partnership with Microsoft will help the college develop programs to feed this tech giant’s local workforce. More and more, however, we know it’s critical for prospective students to have a leg up in technology before even choosing any course of post-secondary study.

Adam Keizer heads up LCCC’s GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) program, which helps local youngsters graduate from high school, investigate possible careers, and get ready to attend college.

He said the name recognition of Microsoft goes a long way toward getting prospective tech workers interested. More than that, though, Keizer said Microsoft’s vision of a tech-driven future merges well with LCCC’s duty to educate the future workforce.

And that future involves more than coding, a recent point of emphasis at every level of education.

“Microsoft has a vision that technology will completely change the way we work in the future,” Keizer said. “We need to create opportunities for everyone to transform their skills and best adapt to the new ways of work.”

“Not everybody interested in technology will be a coder, but there is technology in everything we do. There are things happening in Wyoming that people might not realize are technology-based.”
Ellis had an example of a semi-automated brick-laying machine used in the creation of the new Laramie High School (near LCCC’s Albany County Campus). Someone has to know how to calibrate the machine to lay bricks at the right intervals, and someone will need to know how to maintain it. Those “someones” could come from a program born of this partnership, from a program off the beaten path of coding and programming.

Keizer also cited opportunities in calibrating GPS systems to work with contractors, a massive opportunity in a growing region such as the Mountain West.

“‘Our partners in the Wyoming Contractors Association are big on GPS in their machinery,’” he explained. “‘They can take people with no experience in surveying or anything and teach them to work on GPS so the surveyor can do their job. GPS technicians make sure the plans are right, and then people can go out and do their jobs. Basically, I introduce people to Roger so they can see the kind of education it takes to get those cool jobs.”

For Keizer, working with youngsters just assessing careers involves making technology appealing in all of its forms.

“That’s what we’re trying to do—make the tech industry cool so it’s not just programming and coding,” Keizer said. “All these things are happening that you don’t know about. Junior high students wouldn’t know about the HVAC system around the data center that requires maintenance. There are a lot of things happening like that.

“Obviously, having an organization like Microsoft backing programs for young people is exciting for the college and the kids. It’s something they recognize, something that’s cool. On our side, it’s been absolutely fantastic.”

In fact, LCCC has updated its curriculum with two new programs coming online in 2018—one for a data center technician and another focused on cybersecurity, as well as programs for new Microsoft employees focused on server administration.

The bottom line, Findley said, is job placement. Already LCCC’s computer-related programs have placed students in corporations around the area, and Findley wants to see LCCC graduates in the tech industry throughout the region.

“Job placement—to me, that’s it. That’s what this program is all about,” he said. “We are also currently establishing internships and apprenticeships within the local information technology community. Students can move from the classroom, to on-the-job training, to full-time positions. They will be well-positioned in the IT business."

As does Ellis.

He agrees that job placement is key; but also that Cheyenne—along with the other five TechSpark cities—successfully transform their economies to keep up with the modern world and maybe keep their young and educated populace closer to home.

“I think folks are very excited,” Ellis said. “I hosted a roundtable on what the workplace of the future might look like, and a half-dozen LCCC reps were there. We’re all focused on the exact same space. What are skills workers will need for the new jobs coming, and how can we recruit companies to diversify the economy?“

“In this newer area of how to garner a certificate and skills, not necessarily a degree, students want to stay here if jobs exist, and hopefully TechSpark is part of that solution.”
LCCC rodeo team member Austin Hurlburt leaps onto a calf during the steer wrestling competition at LCCC’s Shawn Dubie Memorial Rodeo in March. Hurlburt proved that hard work and the desire to win is the combination that he needed to make it down the long road to the College National Finals Rodeo. Competing against student-athletes from both two-year and four-year schools, the freshman will represent LCCC at the CNFR this June in tie-down roping and steer wrestling.
Take Flight is more than a slogan for Golden Eagle athletics at Laramie County Community College. It’s an embodiment of what’s taking place across campus for these student-athletes: the ability to ascend to new heights, overcome challenges, and soar ahead.

This past season, the LCCC women’s volleyball and soccer teams made it to their respective National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) tournaments. They are the only two teams to accomplish this at LCCC since athletics was reinstated in 2002. While this was not the first time the women’s soccer team soared to such heights, this was a breakthrough year for volleyball, finishing with a 34-8 record—the best ever for an LCCC volleyball team—and winning the Region IX tournament for the first time.

“The great thing about this year’s team is that we were just too young and dumb to be scared of anything,” Austin Albers, fourth-year head volleyball coach, said. “We had seven freshman on the team and it was awesome. We were just fearless. ”

“We had beaten the best team at LCCC since athletics was reinstated in 2002. While this was not the first time the women’s soccer team soared to such heights, this was a breakthrough year for volleyball, finishing with a 34-8 record—the best ever for an LCCC volleyball team—and winning the Region IX tournament for the first time.

“First thing we had to do was change our culture: change the type of students that we recruited and change the idea of what LCCC volleyball was going to be about,” Albers said. “If we can get those kids to buy into our program then we’re not really wavering.”

The soccer team made fast work in building a program that became synonymous with winning. In 2005, Gardner’s third season, his team made its first national appearance and took third place. The success continued with eight more NJCAA tournament appearances including the past three years. They’ve created an expectation of making it to the big tournament and continue to seek that elusive championship game appearance. On three separate occasions, they’ve missed that opportunity by just one win.

In Gardner’s second season at LCCC, his team lost to the defending national champs Dixie State College in a shootout. In that moment, he realized how close he was to having a team ready to break through to the next level. The following season, they beat Dixie State and made it to the national tournament.

“That directly had to do with who we played,” Gardner said. “We had beaten the best team in the country.”

Both coaches credit playing top-tier competition as crucial to building successful programs.

Whether they win or lose, the teams learn and grow from those matchups. The 2016 volleyball season had one of those learning moments from a heartbreaking loss in the Region IX championship.

“We had beaten [the Region IX champions] Dixie State in the opening round and then not really wavering. ”

Both coaches credit playing top-tier competition as crucial to building successful programs.

Jim Gardner’s team is more than a group, as students and athletes. I never had to worry about them working hard.”

When Albers took the reins of volleyball in 2014, he turned things around quickly, taking over a losing program and leading the Golden Eagles to four straight 25-win seasons.

“First thing we had to do was change our culture: change the type of students that we recruited and change the idea of what LCCC volleyball was going to be about,” Albers said. “Setting those big unrealistic goals early, and then not really wavering.”

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I’ve taken the discipline away from me and we leave it to chance and use a deck of cards. I let the cards dictate how many exercises they have to do and how much they have to run. If they pull an ace they have to do 20 sets and if they pull a two they have to do two,” Gardner said.

And the method worked.

“Even though it was really annoying to watch that clip over and over again, it really motivated me to work harder,” Kyra Brandt, graduating sophomore and team setter, said. “[Coach Albers] is hard on you, but for a good reason. He knows what you’re capable of, even if you think you’re not capable of this. He’ll push you until you get there.”

The coaching styles of Albers and Gardner certainly have their differences, but the core of what they do is quite similar. Both talked about bringing in players that have great work ethic and character, not just raw talent. This includes the efforts outside their sports: when it comes to their GPAs, women’s soccer has a 3.2 and volleyball has a 3.1. They instill a family-like atmosphere that creates expectations of helping each other and holding one another accountable.

Expectations and accountability don’t come without discipline, which Gardner takes an interesting approach to when it comes to minor offenses like being late to practice or not following instructions.

"One of the quotes he always says is ‘failure to prepare is preparing to fail.’" Morillon shared. “He loves the game, but he also knows that it’s not just about the game. And that’s what makes us play harder for each other.”

Albers encourages his players to approach volleyball at LCCC as a business deal. Some are receiving a scholarship to play, so he wants them to treat it like a job.

“We try to really separate business from personal. For example, I have a freshman right now that came in and said, ‘In practice, you’re intense and you’re on us. Then five minutes after practice you’re in a great mood’—Trying to get
them to understand and buy in to flipping that same switch,” Albers commented.

As for differences between these coaches, one is their approach to recruiting.

“I don’t recruit. I call people or they call me, or I watch video. That’s pretty much it,” Gardner said. “I’ve been fortunate enough to know a lot of people across the country from my high school and college experience that I can call and get a name and video sent to me, and I’m able to work those kids into my team.”

Gardner said that his high school coaching experience gives him an inside track on bringing in some of the top local talent. Albers, even without those sorts of connections, also focuses on the players within driving distance.

“You recruit a little bit more from your own backyard, and that’s a philosophy that I’ve always kind of had. I wanted to try and do it regionally and with local kids as much as possible,” Albers said.

Looking ahead, finishing even better next year isn’t just a goal, but a realistic expectation for both programs.

“It’s not easy to win a championship no matter how good a program you have,” Gardner stated.

Keep an eye on women’s basketball as well. That program is in its infancy, but head coach Brian Ortmeier is looking to grow it fast. He’s building a program from scratch after women’s basketball was brought back to LCCC just two years ago. They won 11 and 15 games respectively in those two seasons, and made the postseason both times. Next season, Ortmeier hopes to see his team win 20+ games and make a run in the playoffs.

“We’re right on the brink of being able to jump to that next step where you’re talking about conference championships and finishing in the top two or three of your division,” he said.

Ortmeier shared that the team averaged 70 points per game this year, and hopefully next year it’s up to 80. “We’re going to play fast, we’re going to be able to press more. It should be a fun style to watch.”

He hopes to build a program with the same credibility as the soccer and volleyball teams.

“Being able to bounce ideas off those coaches and ask them different things, it’s a great spot to take that feedback and use it for our program.”

With the competitive nature of these programs, the race is on to see which group will raise the first national championship banner for LCCC. Winning a title or not, watching these teams compete at such a high level is something special for the campus and the community.

They really are taking flight.
Allison Berard found herself working behind a desk, answering phones and filing paperwork for the first three years she lived in Cheyenne. It wasn’t that she was unhappy, but she knew she wasn’t living her passion.

“I’ve always loved cars, doing the body work and painting,” Allison said. “I started looking at LCCC, because I kept hearing good things about the auto body repair program there.”

Cars run wild in her heart and have since an early age. Instilled by her father, Brent Berard, it’s what she knows.

“My summers were spent going up and down California to Goodguys car shows,” Allison remembered, referencing one of the most recognizable events in the field. “My dad had a muscle car shop called South Valley Muscles. He was the gateway to the life of cars.”

At the age of ten, she recalls being able to tell her dad that she had picked out her top three rides—’72 Rally Nova ("fast car, underrated"), ’57 Bel Air ("the body lines, in the ‘50s they had big fins"), and a ’69 Charger ("that had a lot to do with The Dukes of Hazzard").

Her mother left the picture when she was only six months old, leaving Allison and her two older siblings to be raised solely by her dad.

“I don’t know how he had the energy to deal with all of us,” Allison said with a smile. “Even though we didn’t really grow up with a mom, we had a Mr. Mom who showed us the right path.”

“It was challenging raising daughters as a single dad,” Brent said. “Time management was the key to making sure their lives were fulfilled and letting them know to be strong in their desires to achieve anything they put their mind to.”

Part of that parenting was protecting Allison from working in the shop. She grew up with lung problems, and Brent’s previous career as a respiratory therapist encouraged him to divert her interest in painting cars with all the fumes involved—in addition to all the other potentially hazardous heavy equipment and dangers found in a vehicle repair garage.

“But Allison is incredibly strong-willed. When she puts her mind to what she wants, there’s no stopping her,” her dad commented. “If you told her ‘no,’ she would only try harder.”

Today, 24-year-old Allison is no longer a young girl begging to work in her father’s shop. She has left the desk jobs to pursue a career that truly interests her. The shop is no longer a perilous place to be, but a comfort zone where she can take control and thrive.

That comfort extends to the classroom as well.

“After a year of working at LCCC, I decided to enroll in the auto body repair program,” Allison said. “I was drawn to the hands-on aspect of the program.”

In May, she completed her associate degree in auto body repair from LCCC. Allison anticipates landing a job for a shop or dealership in town to gain some working experience. However, her ultimate goal is to open up a shop of her own.

“I couldn’t be more happy and supportive of Allison’s desire to follow in my footsteps,” her father said. “It makes me so proud when driving down the road and she can tell you what year, make and model of any classic muscle car she sees.”

Allison said her expanding knowledge of automobiles is strengthening the bond with her father even more.

“We talk a lot about cars now,” she said. “Every time we talk, he tells me how proud he is of me.”
Melchior and Maldonado

"I remember thinking ‘this is the weirdest person I’ve ever met’. And she actually turned out to be the kindest, most inclusive person I ever met."

To that point, Maldonado had been educated in private schools and homeschooled before deciding to attend Cheyenne Central High School for her junior year. When Melchior got wind of this, she immediately befriended Maldonado.

"She found out I was going to Central, and said ‘you have a friend in me’,” Maldonado said.

No one could have guessed the friendship would span not only their shared time in high school, but also two years at Laramie County Community College, two more years of college in opposite time zones, and now more than a decade in journalism’s stratosphere.

Melchior writes editorials for The Wall Street Journal after a stint as a writer for The National Review and a few other stops reporting from around the world. Maldonado works a few floors away as the associate editorial page editor at the New York Post. The two best friends from Cheyenne have landed professionally at the News Corp Building at 1211 Avenue of the Americas in Manhattan.

"It’s been really cool,” Melchior said. "I love that we work in the same building. I’m lucky to have someone from high school to support and hang out with. We’ll have known each other basically half our lives."

The journalism part wouldn’t have happened without the rigorous education they received at LCCC, including now-retired journalism instructor Roz Schliske. She ran a tight ship and demanded a lot of her students, setting a high standard of excellence at the Wingspan, the LCCC student newspaper.

Melchior and Maldonado acknowledge Schliske’s role in preparing them more than adequately for the rigors of big city journalism.

"Roz really pushed me on investigative reporting as well, like how to write a public records request, how to cover a legislature, how to tear apart a budget,” Melchior said. "One thing she was extraordinarily good at was pushing us to have the right attitude. There’s no such thing as impertinent questions. I remember charging into meetings when we’d been shut out initially."

"At the same time, she was incredibly fair and kind. Not a day goes past where I don’t use something Roz taught me,” Maldonado said.

Melchior wanted to cover the LCCC men’s basketball team, so Schliske prepared her for what women faced in the male-dominated world of sports journalism.

"Elisha was a sports nut,” Schliske said. "She wanted to cover sports and you know that’s not easy for a woman to do. They were both just go-getters.”

The two continued their educations beyond LCCC, though Schliske said she tried to give her students all the tools they needed in two years. If students had to enter the
help edit his book. “I have been accused of—and I plead guilty to—cramming four years of journalism into two years,” Schliske said.

Melchior went on to Hillsdale College in Michigan, while Maldonado landed at San Jose State University in California, pioneering an investigative team at the campus daily newspaper. Maldonado said she received serious praise from day one thanks to what she learned at LCCC. “It was the best education I could have gotten,” Maldonado said. “It was the best education I could have gotten.”

“Jillian and I were very persistent,” Maldonado said. “We really knew we wanted to have great careers so we set up goals and markers for ourselves.”

“I started freelancing for the Heartland Institute, mostly on healthcare and education reform in addition to the college paper,” Jillian got a couple internships as well. She was so good, such a great journalist, always got what she went for. I talked my way into jobs. To get to the New York Post, Maldonado mined connections from that great American post-adolescent tradition—a road trip with your bestie. In 2008, their last year of college, they decided to go networking. “We were going to go to journalists we respected for advice,” Maldonado said. The pair traveled to New York, Detroit and Washington, D.C., meeting with, among others, former President George W. Bush speechwriter Bill McGurn, a member of the editorial board at the Journal. The chat yielded connections such that when McGurn had gone to the Post and had an opening, Maldonado had an “in.” This August, she’ll mark five years with the Post.

While serving an internship at the Detroit News, Melchior met James Taranto, a longtime Journal editor. Over a shared love of cigars, Melchior said winning one of nine fellowships in the Roy W. Howard National Collegiate Reporting Competition from the Scripps Howard Foundation in 2006 really launched her career, but only after her mentor strongly encouraged her to apply for it. “You get to go to Japan and South Korea and study newsrooms,” Melchior said. “Roz wouldn’t let me get away with not applying, and I got it. She wanted to turn out journalists that could compete with anyone anywhere.”

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The Journal’s cool in that the editorial page breaks news. Sometimes we scoop the news reporters. A lot of other places are reactive to the news and the Journal’s in the mix of things,” she said. “We also have heavy focus on reporting. The persuading is fact-based. It’s not uncommon to do public records requests, do a dozen interviews for a column. The investigative journalist in me is very happy with that.”

Given that two of her star pupils have hit a pinnacle of journalism, Schliske looks on like a proud parent. “There’s a point when they’re always in contact with me, they need my advice about stuff, then they don’t call me so much about advice, they just call to visit,” Schliske said. “Then I know I’ve done my job when they don’t need my advice.”

Both women said they use daily the advice they learned at the Wingspan. They credit Schliske heavily for having risen through the ranks and view their time under her tutelage with great affection. “I don’t think Elisha or I would be where we are if it weren’t for that experience.”

“Jill and I support each other’s careers,” Maldonado said. “We’re in the same building four or five floors apart. It’s like, we did it, old girl.”

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world of work right away, they were ready; if they transferred to a four-year college, they were over-prepared.

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Melchior went on to Hillsdale College in Michigan, while Maldonado landed at San Jose State University in California, pioneering an investigative team at the campus daily newspaper. Maldonado said she received serious praise from day one thanks to what she learned at LCCC. “It was the best education I could have gotten,” Maldonado said. “It was the best education I could have gotten.”

“Jillian and I were very persistent,” Maldonado said. “We really knew we wanted to have great careers so we set up goals and markers for ourselves.”

“I started freelancing for the Heartland Institute, mostly on healthcare and education reform in addition to the college paper,” Jillian got a couple internships as well. She was so good, such a great journalist, always got what she went for. I talked my way into jobs. To get to the New York Post, Maldonado mined connections from that great American post-adolescent tradition—a road trip with your bestie. In 2008, their last year of college, they decided to go networking. “We were going to go to journalists we respected for advice,” Maldonado said. The pair traveled to New York, Detroit and Washington, D.C., meeting with, among others, former President George W. Bush speechwriter Bill McGurn, a member of the editorial board at the Journal. The chat yielded connections such that when McGurn had gone to the Post and had an opening, Maldonado had an “in.” This August, she’ll mark five years with the Post.

While serving an internship at the Detroit News, Melchior met James Taranto, a longtime Journal editor. Over a shared love of cigars, Taranto encouraged her to apply for the Bartley Fellowship on the editorial page of the Journal. The chat yielded connections such that when McGurn had gone to the Post and had an opening, Maldonado had an “in.” This August, she’ll mark five years with the Post.

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"I wanted to help develop and implement an innovative plan for the future to keep LCCC on the forefront of higher education and to keep providing quality services to the community as a whole. Everyone at LCCC is working towards the goal of providing a quality education in all realms so that employers can find employable candidates to help fill needed positions in the community workforce."

"I wanted to be a part of LCCC’s future in a meaningful way. LCCC is the center for higher learning in Laramie County. We have programs for current students, seniors and children. The campus also offers space to different organizations and clubs."

"I believe in contributing more than I take and hope to be able to make a difference addressing the strategic focus and challenges of the college. LCCC is a hidden gem for many in the community, but for many who have been students, parents of students, and employee contributors, LCCC has been vital in providing the programs, services and education."

Bob Salazar

REAL ESTATE OWNER & MANAGER

Elected in 2010

"I have been a supporter of LCCC since its beginning, and advancing higher education in Cheyenne has been a special interest of mine. LCCC means a lot to our community. Not only educationally, but economically as well. It’s an affordable means to a degree or career valued credential. LCCC is an essential economic engine. I am delighted to be a part of this fine institution."

Bradley Barker III

HATHAWAY SCHOLARSHIP CONSULTANT, WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Elected in 2014

"LCCC helped me change my life. Because of the college’s education and support, I earned a degree and the self-confidence to believe my life—and the lives of my children—could be better. For 50 years, LCCC has provided opportunity: for education, training, life enrichment, employment and much more. It’s a safe place to explore academics and job training, to make lifelong friends, to find the future."

Don Erickson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WYOMING COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT & ETHICS

Elected in 2016

"I wanted to support LCCC in the community. I’ve taken classes at LCCC and been involved in their arts programs. I wanted to be a community voice in supporting and growing the college. LCCC brings young people and vibrancy into our community. LCCC supports jobs and careers. It brings learning, technology, sports and arts into our culture. LCCC is our shining gem on the plains."

Wendy Soto

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Elected in 2014

"LCCC has a special place in my heart. They gave me my first job out of college and really helped drive my passion for higher education. This is an opportunity to give back to the institution and the community. LCCC offers the opportunity to receive an incredible education at an affordable price. LCCC continues to forge ahead in innovation and helping students succeed not only in the classroom but beyond."

Brenda Lyttle

ATTORNEY, LYTTEL LAW GROUP, LLC

Elected in 2006

WE ALSO ASKED EACH TRUSTEE: DESCRIBE LCCC IN ONE WORD

INSPIRATIONAL INNOVATIVE UNITY OPPORTUNITY TRAILBLAZER LIFEBOLOOD AMAZING

For more information, visit lccc wy.edu/about/board

"I wanted to be a part of LCCC’s future in a meaningful way. LCCC is the center for higher learning in Laramie County. We have programs for current students, seniors and children. The campus also offers space to different organizations and clubs."

Carol Merrell

REAL ESTATE OWNER & MANAGER

Elected in 2010

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KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Overall Grade

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>2013-14</th>
<th>2014-15</th>
<th>2015-16</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
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<td>C</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
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A. Student Participation and Achievement
B. Academic Preparation
C. Transfer Preparation
D. Workforce Development
E. Community Development
F. Instructional Productivity
G. Fiscal Stewardship
H. College Affordability
I. Campus Climate

6,099 Unduplicated Credit
3,428 Unduplicated Non-Credit

FROM WHERE?

- Laramie County: 3,572
- Albany County: 1,456
- Other WY Counties: 633
- Out-Of-State: 748
- International: 42

Source: All information/data provided by LCCC unless otherwise noted.

The total above may be more than the total unduplicated credit enrollment since some students move during the academic year.
Expenditures by series $43,201,928

- Salaries: 50.36%
- Benefits: 21.55%
- Operating expenses: 26.65%
- Capital outlay: 1.44%
- Instruction: 40.27%
- Public service: 1.01%
- Academic support: 11.93%
- Student services: 9.79%
- Institutional support: 19.02%
- Plant operations: 13.79%
- Scholarships: 4.19%
- State appropriations: 57.04%
- Local appropriation: 15.37%
- One mill: 3.86%
- Tuition and fees: 23.41%
- Other income sources: 0.32%

Expenditures by program $43,201,928

Revenues $44,092,205

As part of the Completion Agenda for the 21st Century, LCCC has a goal to increase the number of students earning high-value credentials by 5% annually.

The percent of students who earn a passing grade (A, B, C, or S) out of those who officially enrolled.
improving the quality of education for our students and community. whose philanthropic contributions exemplify outstanding commitment to recognizing the individuals, corporations, foundations and organizations The Laramie County Community College Foundation honors our donors by 2015. The open area is a campus gathering spot and will be a featured is named after Mary and her husband, George, who passed away in McIlvaine Plaza, just south of the Clay Pathfinder Building. The area Mary McIlvaine and Dr. Joe Schaffer celebrate the unveiling of 2018 SUMMER 31
**Lifetime Heritage**
Award Recipients

Randall W. and Yvonne D. Ludden 2018
Brenda Laird 2016
Dr. Robert Prentice and Dr. Sandra Surbrugg 2014
Carol and Earl Kubinecman 2012
George and Mary McIlvaine 2010
Jan and W.M. Stalcup Jr. 2008
Matching the Spirit Contributors 2004-2007
John and Dana Metzke 2006
William and Marietta Dunneen 2005
James C. “Jim” Lamprecht 2004
Randy and Jan Dandliff 2003
Anthony G. and Barbara F. Andrikopoulos 2002
Helen Miller 2001
Dr. William Penney 1999
Mrs. Jessie Chambers 1999
Union Pacific 1998
Esther L. and John C. Clay 1997
Peter S. Cook II 1996

**Legacy Society**
The following individuals have generously included LCCC in their long-range estate plans.

Billie Addleman and Brandi Monger
Anthony G. and Barbara F. Andrikopoulos
Ms. Delby F. Baker
Mary C. Bledsoe
Charles H. and Kay Bohlen
Alicia Brown
John C. and Esther L. Clay
Timothy Cowley
Rick and Illy Devos
William R. Dubois, II
John Evans
T.C. Farro
Don Hendrick
Carol and Earl Kubinecman
Linda Lovett
Randall W. and Yvonne D. Ludden
George and Mary McIlvaine
Nancy McKinley
Breaner and Anne Means
John and Dana Metzke
Jack Mueller
Dick O’Gara
Joe and Jean Phelan
Robert L. and Illyn Phillips
Rita A. Poupport
Ronald G. and Julier A. Rabou
Nona Gayle Weber
Mr. Larry Worth

**Memoriams & Honorariums**
For Calendar Year 2017

Gifts given in memory of:
- Martin Altenbern
- Ron M. Bailey
- Robert Jacques
- Doug Johnson
- Collin Kaiser
- George McIlvaine
- Edna E. Meena
- Anna J. Morrison
- Gwynne Robb

Gifts given in honor of:
- Brenda K. Laird
- Sally Meyer
- Joe Schaffer
- Rosalind R. Schluke

**LCCC Foundation Staff**
Lisa Trimble—Associate Vice President, Institutional Advancement
Melisa Dishman—Coordinator, Scholarships and Annual Giving
Kimberly Freimuth—Executive Administrative Assistant
Diane Germond—Specialist, Accounting and Finance
Lisa Murphy—Director, Alumni Affairs and Event Planning

**LCCC Foundation Board**

**Officers**

Stig Hallingbye, President—Security First Bank
Jeff Collins, Vice President/Acting Treasurer—Union Pacific Railroad, Retired
Cindy Pomeroy, Secretary—CP Consulting
Anna Marie Hales, Past President—Community Volunteer
Joe Schaffer, LCCC President

**Board Members**

Billie Addleman—Hirst Applegate, LLC
Tom Bass—Wyoming Bank and Trust
Kari Brown-Herbut—LCCC Faculty
John Clay—Community Volunteer
Wynema Engstrom—W.S. Engstrom, CPA, PC
Tucker Fagan—Community Volunteer
Dan Furby—Laramie Chamber Business Alliance
Melissa Gallant—LCCC Staff
Geri Grigo—LCCC Retiree
Don Heslucky—Detective, Laramie County Sheriff’s Department
Jess Ketcham—LCCC Board of Trustees
Brenda Lyttle—LCCC Board of Trustees
Kathy Manford—Senior Vice President, American National Bank
Carol Merrell—LCCC Board of Trustees
Ed Prosser—Rancher
Ron Rabou—Farmer/Outfitter/Motivational Speaker
Ann Redman—Community Volunteer
Dr. Sandra Surbrugg—Dermatologist, Cheyenne Skin Clinic
Larry Walters—Senior VP, Financial Advisor, RBC
Bob Wismack—Owner/General Manager, Spradley Barr Motors

Matt Burgess (left) presents a $10,000 gift to LCCC in support of Reality Town, an event to help high school students understand the importance of education and planning as part of adult life skills. Janice Varse (center) and Adam Keizer (behind) of the GEAR UP program reach thousands of students each year.
Laramie County Community College
1400 East College Drive, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82007
307.778.LCCC • lccc.wy.edu

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POSTAL CUSTOMER
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SAVE THE DATE
10 a.m.–2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22 | LCCC Campus in Cheyenne

CELEBRATING
LCCCC | EST. 1968