



LTC STUDENT USES
AMERICORPS TO HELP FIND HIS
PASSION



LTC PREPARES FOR VIRTUAL VISIT
FOR NURSING AND HEALTH
CAREERS



BLAKE ORZELL TO LEAD LTC
SOCCER PROGRAMS

LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE

Network



LTCARES LAUNCHED TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY

Lincoln Trail College students that need some extra help with food, household items, and personal care items have a new place to get it. LTCares is a pantry headed by Student Senate and Phi Theta Kappa. It opened on March 5.

“Pantry items will include perishable and non-perishable food items as well as household necessities,” says Cyndi Boyce, the co-advisor of Student Senate. “We are very excited about this project. Our intent is to improve the quality of life for many of our students who are experiencing food insecurities.”

Winter Harmsen is the president of both organizations and is a soccer player for LTC. She says she’s seen food insecurity with other athletes at the college. “They were relying on federal loan returns and Pell Grant returns in order to support themselves as far as food and toiletry goes and everything beyond what scholarships cover. We realized that those returns came pretty late in the semester so the students that were depending on those to carry them through the semester weren’t getting them until the semester only had one or two months left. We saw a real need for help.”

The Robinson and Palestine Food Banks helped stock the LTCares Pantry with food and personal care items. Jake Baxter with Sears donated a refrigerator and freezer and Interim President Roger Eddy donated meat to help start up the pantry. The United Way of Crawford County allowed the pantry to be used in what was office space at LTC. The

United Way also reached out to the community for cash donations.

“It has been a team effort to get our initial stock,” says Boyce. She says the Phi Theta Kappa is planning a food drive this Spring and Student Senate will have one in the Fall. Employees will have the opportunity to contribute with a “jeans week” where they can pay \$10 to wear jeans that week. “The money combined with cash donations from the community will keep us going on the perishable items.”

Harmsen says she finds volunteering for efforts like this to be very rewarding. “I really care about this type of thing. I’ve always volunteered at food banks and wildlife centers. I feel like anybody that has the capacity to help should, which is why I want to go into the medical field. For me, it’s just what I feel being a part of a human being is; it’s being there for other people. It’s helping them when they struggle and offering an outlet rather than letting them struggle on their own. I feel like at LTC and in Robinson, a lot of people have that same mindset.”

She says that mindset showed when word got out to the community. “The different food banks came together in order to help us out. They were immediately like, ‘we heard you’re doing this, and we want to help. What do you need? What can we do for you?’”

The project became reality quickly. “All of these organizations came together,” says Harmsen. “The amazing thing is they made it possible in a couple of weeks because we had the idea, and we had the want. All of the resources pulled together and said let’s do it.”

LTCares is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The pantry has a no-questions-asked policy and students do not need to meet any kind of requirements to shop in the pantry.

As far as donations to the pantry, Boyce says that any donations are welcome, but due to space limitations and the need to replenish perishable items, cash donations are preferred. Donations can be sent to Lincoln Trail College Student Senate in care of Cyndi Boyce at 11220 State Highway 1, Robinson, Illinois, 62454.



In-person viewings of Culture in a Cornfield will be on April 9, 10, and 16 at 7 p.m. and April 18 at 2 p.m. In-person viewings are available for a freewill donation. Streaming is \$10.



SULLIVAN GROWS WITH AMERICORPS JOURNEY



When Kyler Sullivan finished high school, he wasn't sure what he wanted to do, but he knew he wanted to chase his dream of traveling. He spent three semesters at Lincoln Trail College and then joined AmeriCorps. He started training in August of 2020 in California.

“When I landed in Sacramento, the sky was gray and it was raining ash. You could stare directly at the sun because there was so much ash and smoke in the air and it was covering it. It was truly something I'd never seen before or thought I'd experience.”

In his first assignments with AmeriCorps, he helped with wildfire relief efforts in California.



“These people were coming straight from the fires. They lost their homes; their cars had melted there. There was one kid that came in with burn marks up his arms. It was truly a sight to see. I want to say it was beautifully tragic. It was something that I was happy to see and happy to help with, but it really humbled you to see that side of our community that is covered in the news, but not as much as it should be. I got to see firsthand how these families are affected.”

After the wildfire season ended, Sullivan was relocated to New Orleans where he helped build affordable homes as a part of Hurricane Katrina's ongoing recovery efforts. He says his experiences with AmeriCorps have helped guide him into what he wants to study.

“What I really enjoyed about this is I didn't know what I wanted to do coming into AmeriCorps, but I knew it would show me a lot, give me a lot of experience, and let me see different job fields. Now I'm thinking that when I come

back and finish my Associate's Degree, I want to transfer to a university that provides the major of Environmental Science because I'm really into seeing how this stuff works."

Sullivan plans to return to Lincoln Trail College in the Fall of 2021 and when he returns, he wants to share his story with other LTC students.

"I wish to, when I get bac, talk about this and show this to other students so they can see that even when you don't have all the support that you need or that you think you need, there are ways to do it and travel, which is great. It's the best opportunity I've been given, given my background with schooling and just prior to LTC. I really, really want to share that with other students."

Sullivan says his time at LTC helped prepare him for his opportunities with AmeriCorps.

"I took a lot from my Leadership Development class and just LTC in general. It taught me how to be on time, be punctual and get assignments in on time. In AmeriCorps, everyone has a job. I work with the media and as a safety and tools representative. I have paperwork to turn in and I have people to email. I have media outlets to contact to try to get our team publicized in news articles or on TV."

Sullivan says he'd recommend AmeriCorps to anyone.

"AmeriCorps allows you to travel and kind of break out of your shell. It also helps you with funding for college, even if it's just enough to get your Associate's Degree. It's something that gets you out of your shell if you come from a small town like I do, and it gets you out there to see the rest of the world. It's definitely something you should look into."



See a video version of this story on YouTube.
Watch the LTV video:
<http://www.youtube.com/LincolnTrailCollege>

LTC PLANS VIRTUAL VISIT FOR NURSING AND HEALTH CAREERS



Prospective students interested in getting into the medical field will have the opportunity to see some of what Lincoln Trail College has to offer at a virtual visit on March 18. The event will focus on the College's Health Careers programs, which cover Certified Medical Assistant, Electronic Medical Records, and Pharmacy Technician, and the Nursing program.

"We're finding new and different ways to recruit," says Lincoln Trail College Coordinator of Marketing and Public Information Chris Forde. "The virtual visit lets us use technology to bring information about these programs to prospective students at their homes and schools."

The virtual visit is conducted completely online and is designed to mirror what a student would see on a typical visit to LTC. In addition to faculty and staff, students from the Health Careers and Nursing programs will be part of the visit to answer questions and give their perspectives about LTC. They'll also give demonstrations of some of the hands-on components students learn in the programs. Recent alumni from the program will talk about their experiences at LTC and how the College helped launch their careers. Faculty and staff will have information on topics like financial aid and the admissions process.

"Careers in healthcare are in high demand," says Forde. "These are very rewarding careers and we're very excited that we have alumni that want to share how Lincoln Trail College helped them get a start on their careers."

This is the second virtual visit that Lincoln Trail College has offered. The first one took place on January 27 and focused on the Broadband Telecom and Process Technology programs. The complete program is available on LTC's YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/LincolnTrailCollege.

Prospective students, parents, and guidance counselors that want to learn about the Health Careers and Nursing programs available at LTC can register for the free virtual visit at www.iecc.edu/ltc/virtual-visit-health-careers-and-nursing. Once they register, they will receive information on how to access the Zoom program that will run from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on March 18.

ORDELL TO HEAD UP LTC SOCCER PROGRAMS



Lincoln Trail College has hired Blake Ordell to be the head coach of the men's and women's soccer programs.

Ordell played professional soccer for nine years throughout the United States, Sweden, and Canada and coached collegiately for ten years. He previously served as an assistant men's soccer coach at Quincy University, head men's and women's soccer coach at Sheridan College, head men's soccer coach at Culver-Stockton College, and assistant men's and women's soccer coach at MacMurray College.

Ordell was the head men's soccer coach at Culver-Stockton College of the NAIA for 7 years. In his second season as head coach in 2014, Ordell led the Wildcats to the postseason for the first time since 1999 and the Wildcats advanced to the championship game of the Heart of America Athletic Conference Tournament. They advanced to playoffs 5 consecutive years in a row.

C-SC broke a school record for victories in 2014, garnering an 11-9-1 overall record. During his tenure, the season and career shutout record was broken along with the season and career goal-scoring record. In seven seasons with the Wildcats, Ordell holds the best winning percentage all-time. In seven seasons, Ordell has coached 14 players who have been named to the All-HAAC team, including Kevin Urbeck, who was a first-team selection in 2014, and Alejandro Mentasti who was first-team in 2016. Urbeck and Mentasti also earned All-Midwest Region second-team accolades from the NSCAA. In addition, 33 players have been named Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes during Ordell's tenure, and in 2015, Dominic Caruso was named to the CoSIDA Academic All-America® College Division Men's Soccer First Team.

Prior to coaching, Ordell was the director/owner of 'Sc'Ordell Soccer Academy in Detroit, Mich. As the director of coaching/owner, Ordell produced and implemented practice sessions, generated clientele, and created a budget for the facilities while organizing the finances of the company.

Ordell is a graduate of Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA, where he played soccer and was a member of the President's Athletic Conference (PAC) All-Conference team all four years, including first-team honors his junior and senior seasons. He was named the team's most valuable player his senior year. While in college, Ordell studied in England and played soccer at the University of Central Lancashire. He helped lead the team to the tournament final 16 in the United Kingdom.

Ordell played professional soccer for nine years throughout the US, Canada, and Sweden. These teams include the St. Louis Ambush, Cedar Rapids Rampage, Edsbyns IF, Wichita B52's, Illinois Piasa, Detroit Waza Flo-Pro, Cincinnati Kings, Toronto Italia, and the Windsor Border Stars. After a strong season with Detroit, he was invited to play with the U.S. National Arena Team where he played against Peru and Mexico.

Ordell, who has a master's degree in Management and Sports Management, has also achieved his United States Soccer Federation B License and United Soccer Coaches Premier Diploma. He is married to Amanda Ordell.



MARCH ATHLETIC EVENTS

Men's Basketball

1	at Shawnee	7:30
3	Olney Central	7:30
6	Lake Land	3:00
8	Lewis & Clark	7:00
10	at John A. Logan	7:30
13	at Vincennes	6:00
17	Shawnee	7:30
20	at Lewis & Clark	3:00
24	Kaskaskia	7:30
27	Southwestern	3:00
30	at Wabash Valley	7:30

Women's Basketball

1	at Shawnee	5:30
3	Olney Central	5:30
6	Rend Lake	1:00
10	at John A. Logan	5:00
13	at Vincennes	4:00
17	Shawnee	5:30
20	at Morton	3:00
24	Kaskaskia	5:30
27	Southwestern	1:00
30	at Wabash Valley	5:30

Volleyball

2	Rend Lake	6:30
4	at Lake Land	2:00
5	John Wood	2:00
7	at Frontier CC Tri-Match	12:00
9	John A. Logan	6:30
11	at Shawnee	6:00
12	at Kaskaskia	5:00
15	LTC Tri-Match	1:00
16	Kaskaskia	6:30
18	at Southwestern	6:30
19	at John A. Logan	6:30
23	Wabash Valley	6:30
25	Heartland	6:00

Baseball

5	Lansing CC at Grand Park	1:00
10	South Suburban at Rent 1 Ballpark	1:00
13	Ivy Tech at Grand Park	12:00
14	Ivy Tech at Grand Park	12:00
18	at Southwestern	12:00
20	Southwestern	12:00
24	Danville Area CC	3:00
25	at Frontier CC	12:00
27	Frontier CC	12:00
30	Kaskaskia	12:00
31	at Vincennes	3:00

Softball

1	Bay College at Cocoa Beach, FL	10:00
2	Indian River College at Cocoa Beach, FL	2:00
3	Triton College at Cocoa Beach, FL	10:30
4	at Seminole College	1:00
10	at Frontier CC	4:30
13	Southwestern	12:00
16	at Wabash Valley	2:00
20	Kaskaskia	12:00
23	John A. Logan	2:00
25	at Olney Central	2:00
27	Southeastern	12:00
30	at Rend Lake	2:00

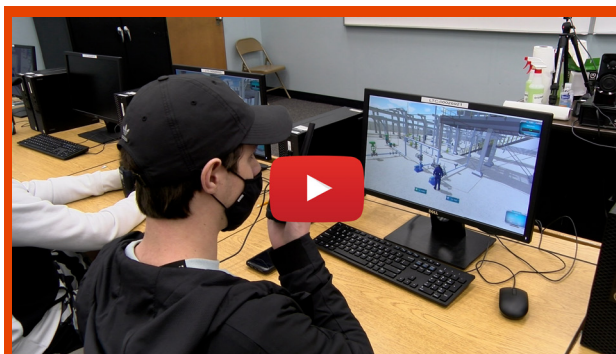
PROCESS TECH LAB SIMULATES OPERATIONS



Lincoln Trail College Process Technology students got a taste of what it is like to operate in the process industry during a recent lab. Instructor Tina Lindley says the goal of the lab was to simulate what students can expect on the job. "We're trying to make this as real as possible as it is out in the field."

In one room, students were using one simulator to start up a distillation unit. In a different room, students were using a different simulator where they could work as outside operators. The students communicated with each other using radios so they could share readings and instructions as they worked through scenarios.

Lindley says the goal of the lab was to help students know what it will be like when they get into the workforce. While this simulation had a focus on refining, she says that the same principles could be used in other facets of the process industry like energy, plastics, and food and beverage.



See a video version of this story on YouTube.
 Watch the LTTV video:
<http://www.youtube.com/LincolnTrailCollege>

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hopefully, the days of snow, cold, and closing campus for weather-related incidents are behind us for the year. A month ago, there was 11" of snow on the ground here and we were forced to close campus for one day. Improvements in technology and access to online platforms developed recently allowed us to employ remote learning another day due to weather. This option seems more and more likely in the future if the need arises. While in-person learning is still the favored option, it is nice to know that the investments made during the shutdown due to COVID could serve a useful purpose in the future. One thing that did not change was the need for the campus to be cleared of snow and ice for the safe return of our students. There is still no remote solution to that problem. It took lots of hard work and long hours by the maintenance crew to get that job done and they performed admirably.

For a long time, several faculty and staff members at LTC have identified the need for a food pantry on campus in order to assist students who have difficulty securing food, especially during certain times of the year. This very real need became apparent once again over the past month. With the assistance of several people, we were able to make a food pantry a reality on the LTC campus. With the support of the United Way of Crawford County (Barb Shimer leading the way), the dedication and hard work of PTK sponsors Kim Schuker and Carrie Brown, and Student Senate Sponsors Cynthia Boyce and Phil Thorsen, LTC now has a food pantry for our students. The donation of a refrigerator by local merchant, Jake Baxter, allows for us to provide some perishable goods as well. The name of the pantry is, "LTCares." I think that says it all.

The LTC baseball and softball teams were both able to travel south over the past few weeks to get some games in. Appropriate and necessary precautions were taken for these trips. We are looking forward to some continued warmer weather to enjoy these games locally very soon. Men's and Women's Basketball and Volleyball Seasons are well underway as well. While we are not back to "normal", we are beginning to see some positive signs.

Work on the addition to the Performing Arts Center continues to progress nicely. The winter weather might have cost a few days of progress, but things are moving along. As you enter the campus, the design adds a variety of shapes to the landscape, as well as color. I hear many positive comments regarding the new look. We are excited to see windows added soon and work on the interior to begin.



We were pleased to host the three finalists for the LTC President position here on campus in early March. Each candidate had a chance to tour the campus and participate in forums featuring community members, as well as faculty and staff. The forums were well attended by faculty and staff. There were lots of very good questions asked by staff members of the candidates. Everyone appreciated the opportunity to be part of this process.

Finally, LTC also welcomed new Men's and Women's Head Soccer Coach, Blake Ordell, to campus during the past month. He has already hosted a soccer recruit on the LTC campus with more to come.

Roger Eddy
Interim President