



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION LOCATES TO LTC

SEPTEMBER 2021



LTC PRESENTS TO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES



PATILLA JOINS LTC FACULTY AS DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE

Network



MEDICAL ASSISTANT PROGRAM RATED IN TOP 15

The website Medical Assistant Advice ranked Lincoln Trail College’s Medical Assistant program among the top 15 offered in the state of Illinois. The website is designed to give students interested in a medical assisting career a place to find up-to-date information on education and careers.

Of the 40 programs available in Illinois, Lincoln Trail College’s program ranked 15th. Medical Assistant Advice looked at colleges offering certificates, degrees, and diplomas. LTC offers both a certificate and an associate degree.

“I am honored and excited to find out that our program is held in such high regard among other educational institutions in Illinois,” says program lead instructor Dr. Jared Gullett.

He says LTC’s program is so special because it gives students the flexibility of an online format while also giving students a solid hands-on foundation to develop their clinical skills. “This allows both traditional and non-traditional student populations to succeed.”

One of the highlights Medical Assistant Advice pointed out with Lincoln Trail College is the internships where students hone practical skills in a real-world clinical setting. “We work with many different types of healthcare facilities

to place our students in internships. Whether it's local or across the country, our internship opportunities are based on the interest of the student," says Gullett. "Many of our students complete their internships and are then offered full-time positions. Finding employment for our students is the goal of the program, and our internship experiences help us reach that goal."

To build their rankings, Medical Assistant Advice weighted their own staff rankings with graduation rates, average net price, admission rate, full-time retention rate, and total number of students enrolled in the program.

Gullett says there's good reasons why students should consider LTC's Medical Assistant program. "Our patient-centered program provides students with exceptional clinical knowledge and skill. The need for Certified Medical Assistants grows each year and our program completers are always at the top of the list as potential healthcare employees."



LTC Medical Assistant students practice a blood glucose test.



Students gather in the Zwermann Arts Center Theater for New Student Orientation.



Students prepare for the first day of classes on August 17.



The Statesmen celebrate the program's first goal in program history. It was scored by Michael Beyande (7).



Lincoln Trail College volleyball alumnae returned to the Sports Center to face the current volleyball team in the annual Alumni Game.

CRAWFORD COUNTY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION COMES TO LTC



Lincoln Trail College is strengthening its relationship with the Crawford County Development Association by providing space to the economic development organization on campus. The CCDA office is now located within Williams Hall.

“Our partnerships with the community are very important,” says LTC President Dr. Zahi Atallah. “We want LTC to be a hub for the community and one of the ways we can do that is by working with our business community and having the CCDA on campus is only

going to help that.”

CCDA Executive Director Resa Shaner agrees. “The CCDA move to LTC is an excellent opportunity to enhance our partnership with Lincoln Trail College and improve upon the synergies of the two organizations. Lincoln Trail College’s resources also provide an easy path, in many areas, for CCDA and LTC to work together to assist and grow our business and industry community.”

Atallah has been meeting with business and industry leaders since joining LTC in July. One of the common themes of the meetings is how LTC can help develop the kind of training that they need. He’s also had similar conversations with Shaner.

“We certainly want to continue the great things we’re doing in the classroom with our current students, but we also want to look at how we can help business and industry,” says Atallah. “We want to make sure that we are providing them work ready students and we want to continue helping them develop and train their current workforce.”

“CCDA and LTC are working together to build Crawford County as never before,” says Shaner. “Our mutual goal is to assist and grow our business and industry community while expanding education through workforce development. Examples of this partnership may be on-site training for new or existing employers or perhaps training to use social media to promote a local restaurant menu.”

Shaner believes that attitude, education, and work ethic are key components to success, and she says that she found these attributes within LTC’s leadership and team. “Our partnership will build upon these same attributes for Crawford County, creating building blocks for business and industry, new opportunities to expand, and diversity in our ever-changing world. The best thing is, though, we will be doing it together, making the process easier to attract new businesses and help those who already call Crawford County home.”

Atallah believes that this will be a great partnership for LTC and the CCDA moving forward. “We both exist to improve lives in our local community and we both want to see it thrive. Working together, we can make Crawford County stronger and more attractive to businesses and people looking to locate here.”

LTC DISCUSSES WORKFORCE TRAINING WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Amie Mayhall speaks at the Robinson Chamber of Commerce's Lunch and Learn series about workforce training opportunities at LTC

After taking more than a year off due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Robinson Chamber of Commerce's Lunch and Learn series resumed September 9 at Lincoln Trail College. The monthly professional development series gives Chamber members a chance to enjoy a meal in the Lincoln Room from the Statesmen Grill and learn about topics relevant to local businesses.

Lincoln Trail College was invited to help kick off the series again. Director of Marketing and former Chamber President Chris Forde, Dean of Instruction Brent Todd, and Associate Professor of Business Administration Amie Mayhall talked about workforce development at the College.

"We want to talk about the academic programs that we have as a college. That's obviously what you're probably most associating with Lincoln Trail College," says Todd. "But we are also a service organization and we always have been. I don't think we have been successful getting that information out to our communities. We can actually build programs that meet the needs of our industry partners, and we do that all the time."

Todd says LTC has worked with companies to develop training programs and the College has used internships and apprenticeships that benefit both students and industry partners.

"One of the advantages we have is we can develop specific things you need," says Forde. "For example, if you have people that need to learn specifically about pivot tables in Excel, we can develop a program for that so you don't have to take an entire 16 week class to get just what you need."

Mayhall has been with Illinois Eastern Community Colleges for 19 years and joined LTC's faculty this summer. She told the group about her experience developing training over the years, including things like customer service training, basic computer skills, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access.

“I have several reasons that I want to get to know the Chamber of Commerce,” says Mayhall. “The first one is to be a resource for you, whether it’s for training or whether it’s to point you in the right direction when you have questions.”

Mayhall explained that she grew up in family-owned businesses and she has a lot of experience helping people start businesses.

Todd also spent time talking about LTC’s microcertificate programs that could be related to business. One of them is the Customer Service Management program, which gives students a background in different theories of customer service. He also talked about the Special Events Management and Public Service Management programs. “These can be completed entirely online and in as little as one semester. We also have instructors from the University of Illinois and Princeton that are teaching the programs.”

Todd also pointed out other ways LTC can help businesses. “Another thing Lincoln Trail can do is to be a resource in terms of data. You may not think about a community college having to do all of this, but any time we review an existing program or we’re looking to create a new program, we have to justify a need for that to the state of Illinois before we can ever offer it. So, we pay for some pretty powerful data programs where we can pull industry need and demand by county.”

Along those lines, Mayhall says she has helped many businesses with feasibility studies in the past. She also put out a call for guest speakers and the opportunity for students to have hands-on work. “I will be looking for case studies. Maybe there’s a business in the community that’s looking to do something specific with their marketing or specific with their management, or they want to look into philanthropy. I would love to be able to take that information to my students, study it, and come up with a game plan on how they think they can help and give them a recommendation for what they can do.”

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lisa Schaefer thanked LTC for hosting the Lunch and Learn and providing programming for the event. “I was wonderful to listen to you all speak and I’m just amazed at how many services are offered here and how many different segments of classes are available. We’re so lucky to have such a strong education system here.”

PATILLA JOINS LTC



Dr. Michael Patilla joins Lincoln Trail College as the Director of Music and Performing Arts Coordinator. He has a diverse national and international teaching and performance career.

Dr. Patilla comes to LTC from Lake Land College, where he served as the Associate Dean of Correctional Programs. Before that, he was a music professor at Mississippi State University for 18 years.

Dr. Patilla has performed and taught as a classical guitarist throughout the United States, as well as Canada, El Salvador, England, France, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, and Spain, and served as a guest lecturer at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras as a 2007-2008

Fulbright Scholar.

He holds a doctoral degree in music from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. As Director of Fine Arts at Lincoln Trail College, he will be teaching various music courses, directing the Jazz Band and Statesmen Singers, and teaching applied lessons in guitar and orchestral strings.

BAKAYOKO, CRYNS JOIN LTC SOCCER PROGRAM



Mohamed Bakayoko joins the Lincoln Trail College soccer team as the Assistant Women's Soccer Coach.

Bakayoko has played soccer professionally in Puerto Rico, Belgium, and Germany. He played collegiately at Salem International University, where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration.

While at Salem, Bakayoko was on the Dean's List and was an Academic-All Conference player.

Originally from the Ivory Coast, Bakayoko grew up in Florida. "Soccer has always been a part of my life. Growing up, I spent my time playing soccer and going to school."

Bakayoko will be in charge of editing video, setting up practices, recruiting and scouting and overseeing academics and eligibility for the Lincoln Trail College Soccer program.

Outside of work, Bakayoko enjoys traveling the world and watching soccer. He has three sisters.



Gregory Cryns joins the Lincoln Trail College soccer team as the Assistant Men's Soccer Coach. Cryns is a veteran soccer player and coach.

Cryns has an Advanced National "C" license and is currently working on attaining his Premier "B" license. He's served as a coach for six seasons, including stints at San Diego City College, Neosho County Community College, and the University of Hawaii Hilo.

Cryns is an Illinois native and played college soccer at Northern Illinois University. He won a national championship with the Chicago Sockers Club.

While at Northern Illinois, Cryns worked in a strength and conditioning role with the Northern Illinois football program. He earned a master's degree in Health and Human Performance from Pittsburg State. He interned at San Diego State's Strength and Conditioning department, where he worked with their football and men's soccer teams.

With the Statesmen, Cryns will help with soccer training on the field, tactical classroom sessions, recruiting, and scouting. He'll also oversee academics and eligibility.

Outside of work, Cryns enjoys playing the guitar and songwriting and cooking. He comes from a large family and has four brothers and two sisters.

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OCTOBER ATHLETIC EVENTS

Baseball

9	King City Royals	12:00
12	at Wabash Valley	3:00
16	Indiana Titans	12:00
19	Vincennes	2:00
23	at Fall JUCO Classic at Millington, TN	TBA

Golf

9	LTC Fall Invitational
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Men's Basketball

10	at Vincennes Jamboree
17	at John A. Logan Jamboree

Men's Soccer

6	at Lewis & Clark	4:00
9	Mineral Area College	2:00
13	at Parkland	4:00
17	Lincoln College JV	11:00
20	at St. Charles CC	5:00

Softball

2	at Indiana State	11:00
	vs Wabash Valley (at ISU)	3:30
3	Alumnae Game	
10	St. Mary of the Woods	9:00
	Oakland City	11:00
	Parkland	1:00
15	vs. CBU*	11:00
	vs. ASU*	1:15
	vs. Rich Mountain*	5:45
16	vs. Carl Albert*	9:00
	vs. SAU Tech*	11:15

* Arkansas State Exposure at Jonesboro, AR

Volleyball

3	at Parkland Tri-Match	1:00
5	at Lake Land	6:30
7	at Wabash Valley	6:30
11	at Vincennes University	6:00
12	Shawnee CC	6:00
14	at Southwestern	6:30
15	Lewis & Clark	6:00
19	at John A. Logan	6:30
20	LTC Tri-Match	3:00
21	Kaskaskia	6:30
28	Millikin JV	7:00

Women's Basketball

16	at ICC Jamboree (Scrimmage)
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STATESMEN PLAYING AT BUSCH STADIUM

The Lincoln Trail College baseball team will return to the field at Busch Stadium for an exhibition game against an in-District rival. The Statesmen face Olney Central College on September 19 after the St. Louis Cardinals host the San Diego Padres.

“This is a great day for our fans and our players,” says Statesmen coach Kevin Bowers. “We try to make sure that all of our healthy players can play in the game and fans will get the chance to get some great seats for this game.”

The Cardinals face San Diego on Sept. 19 at 1:15 p.m. The Statesmen and Olney Central will play after the game concludes, which will be approximately 6:00 p.m.

Tickets for the Baseball at Busch game are available now. Fans get a ticket to the Cardinals’ game against the Padres in the afternoon and that ticket also grants admission to watch the Statesmen play.

The Cardinals are offering several promotions as a part of the day. The first 30,000 fans will receive a Nolan Arenado Hat and an MLB Network Tote Bag highlighting the 2011 World Series. The game is also a part of the Prairie Farms Ice Cream Sundays promotion where fans can get free frozen treats at the Ford Plaza.

Bowers says his players always look forward to this event. He says the Cardinals also make the game very special for the players and fans.

Tickets for the game are available by contacting Bowers at 618-546-2269 or by emailing bowersk@iecc.edu.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER