

DR. ANN D. BIBER
PRESIDENT'S
DESK

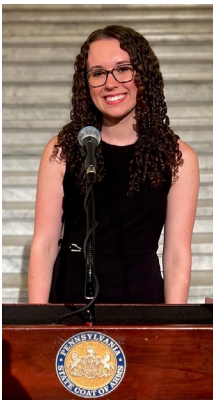
JULY 2023



Lehigh Carbon
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



LCCC Graduate Named 2023 Hites Scholar



Lehigh Carbon Community College 2023 graduate Emma Hope is one of 15 Phi Theta Kappa members nationwide selected as a 2023 Hites Scholar and will receive a \$10,000 scholarship for baccalaureate studies. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges.

The Hites Transfer Scholarship is awarded to Phi Theta Kappa members who are preparing to transfer to a bachelor's degree-granting college

or university. Winners were selected from among 2,700 applicants nationwide for their outstanding academic achievement and rigor, leadership accomplishments and engagement in college and community activities.

A graduate of Tamaqua High School, Hope received her Associate in Arts degree in psychology at LCCC's Commencement ceremonies on May 17. At the ceremony, she was honored as one of two Students of the Year. She plans to transfer to Kutztown University to continue her education in psychology. In addition, Hope was named a member of the 2022-23 All-Pennsylvania Academic Team, sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa, the Coca Cola Corporation, the State System of Higher Education and the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges.

Hope was also named a 2023 New Century Transfer Pathway Scholar. Selection was based on the score earned in the Academic Team competition. Hope received the highest score in Pennsylvania and is the only recipient from the Commonwealth.

The Hites Transfer Scholarship Program is made possible by support from the Hites Family Foundation and the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation. This is the largest scholarship Phi Theta Kappa awards to its members. ■

LCCC Signs Agreement with Grand Canyon University to Assist Nursing Students to Accelerated Degree

The healthcare system is offering great paying careers in nursing, and a new accelerated nursing degree can help students get high-level credentialing sooner. Lehigh Carbon Community College has signed an agreement with Grand Canyon University to offer a concurrent enrollment pathway for students in Nursing. Participating students would complete their Registered Nursing (RN) degree and start coursework for their Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree online with Grand Canyon University during the academic breaks.

This is a highly accelerated program for motivated students. The program can be started at any time during the nursing program since curriculum pathways are lined up for various points of entry. Partner students take the concurrent coursework at a discounted price. Some limitations apply.

For information on the transfer program to Grand Canyon University, contact Fauzia Graham, LCCC's transfer advisor, at fgraham@lccc.edu.

GRAND CANYON
UNIVERSITY®



Lehigh Valley Greenways Grant Supports Environmental Education

A grant awarded by Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape will enable Lehigh Carbon Community College to expand its campus ecosystem project and include the community in environmental education. The grant, “Partnership for Change: Community Building for a Greener Lehigh Valley,” was awarded through the Lehigh Valley Greenways mini-grant program and will create a partnership between LCCC and Promise Neighborhoods to develop an environmental program in summer 2024 for at-risk members of the community.

The \$6,900 grant will support coordination between LCCC and Promise Neighborhoods to plan activities; adapt the BIO 115 Field Biology course to increase environmental justice, conservation and climate change topics; and support volunteer activities to increase awareness of the benefits of the natural world and the importance of conservation. Participants in the course will be those engaged in Promise Neighborhoods’ PromiseCorps program.

The college also received a grant from the National Heritage Corridor in the spring 2022 to plant an arboretum on the Schnecksville campus and in the spring 2018 to create pollinator gardens. The campus ecosystem also includes the conversion of turf to meadows and the use of native trees and plants in the landscape.

This grant is part of a total of \$86,500 in new mini grants from the Lehigh Valley Greenways that advance the goals of land conservation and restoration, as well as environmental education. The LVG mini-grant program is a reimbursement grant program funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and administered by the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor.



Pictured: Rob Neitz, PA Department of Conservation; John Loughman, LCCC; Dr. Hasshan Batts, Promise Neighborhoods, Leo Rooney, Promise Neighborhoods; and Brit Condravy, Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor. ■

LCCC Receives Grant from PPL Foundation for Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Center

Lehigh Carbon Community College’s new equity center has received a \$7,500 grant from the PPL Foundation. Funds will support the Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (J.E.D.I.) Center that is set to open in the fall 2023 semester.

Located in the Academic Resource Center on the college’s main campus in Schnecksville, the J.E.D.I. Center will host events and activities to support dialog about social justice, celebrate diversity, provide space and voice for traditionally underrepresented groups and promote a college-wide culture embodying diversity, equity and inclusion. The newly renovated area, situated between the college bookstore and the cafeteria, includes spaces for activities, workshops, offices, a lounge and small meetings.

To promote student involvement, the J.E.D.I. Center will hold weekly activities built on monthly themes highlighting the cultures, histories and experiences of marginalized groups. Weekly events will include speakers, workshops, community-building activities, lunch-and-learns and opportunities for reflection. Students who complete the full calendar of activities will earn a J.E.D.I. certificate that denotes their commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, and their leadership in the quest for social justice.

“We are grateful for the generosity of the PPL Foundation for helping to ensure that this new center at LCCC can provide programming for our students,” said Dr. Ann D. Bieber, LCCC president. “Our student body is richly diverse, and we want to celebrate and reinforce that with a broad perspective on racial and social justice.”

The PPL Foundation awards grants through an annual competitive application and review process.

For additional information on the J.E.D.I. Center, contact Mitza Morales, LCCC director of student engagement and inclusion, at mmorales24@lccc.edu.



Pictured at the June 1 presentation: LCCC staff, members of the JEDI Center team, students, as well as LCCC president Dr. Ann D. Bieber (center left) and Jane George, regional affairs director with the PPL Foundation (center right). ■

LCCC Receives Grant to Support Men of Color

Lehigh Carbon Community College is one of only 15 community colleges nationwide to receive a grant from the University of Southern California's Race and Equity Center that will help to advance the college's efforts to reduce barriers that Hispanic male students face and create an environment conducive to success. The college has received \$75,000 for the project "Takeoff Initiative – College Men of Color." The project is funded by the ECOM (Educational Credit Management Corporation) Foundation.

In the past five years, Hispanic enrollment at LCCC increased by 18% and, in 2019, the college was recognized as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) by the US Department of Education. Currently, 28% of LCCC students are Hispanic/Latino.

Since earning HSI status, the college has implemented a number of initiatives to serve Latino students, including a Latino Student Success Committee to uncover systemic inequities, Aspira First-Year Experience seminar to support and empower new Hispanic students, the iCare Network that offers individualized support and the student-led Latin@ Leadership Club.

In addition, the grant will support:

- Policy audit to uncover possible implicit biases in policies and regulations that adversely impact Hispanic male students, to be led by an ethnically diverse work group under the guidance of a USC-appointed DEI coach;
- Expansion of new teaching methods that best serve the college's Hispanic male students, such as co-teaching with bilingual faculty, creating more culturally relevant course content, and offering Spanish-only courses for English Language Learners;
- Expansion of student success coaches to help students explore how they can achieve career and academic goals;
- Faculty and staff coaching and professional development.

"The college has an incredibly rich and diverse student body, and we are committed to providing the resources to help all students be successful," says LCCC president Dr. Ann D. Bieber. "This grant specifically will allow us to add a number of initiatives that can directly impact the success of our male Hispanic students. Building a stronger community and enhancing the sense of belonging at LCCC will create an even stronger college to serve the needs of our community." ■

Dollar General Literacy Foundation Grant Supports English Language Learners

The Lehigh Carbon Community College Foundation recently received a \$9,700 grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation (DGLF) to support LCCC's Adult Literacy Program. The funds will be used to purchase a comprehensive curriculum for noncredit English as a Second Language students that focuses on academic preparation, civics knowledge, career readiness and technology integration.

The project, "Career Pathways ESL: Instruction to Support Adult Students as Workers, Family Members and Community Participants," will help to strengthen literacy initiatives, benefitting students in face-to-face and remote ESL courses. The program will impact approximately 125 students and help them to increase the language skills they need every day. The internet-based curriculum will integrate with the existing career pathways program for maximum impact. The targeted lessons include career exploration, soft skill instruction and content applicable to more than 180 career options, making the program exceptional for improving workplace communication.

This grant comes during their 30th anniversary year and is a part of the Dollar General Foundation's largest, one-day literacy donation of more than \$13 million throughout the 47 states in which Dollar General operates. DGLF supports organizations that increase access to educational programming, stimulate and enable innovation in the delivery of educational instruction and inspire a love of reading. Each year, DGLF awards funds to nonprofit organizations, schools, and libraries within a 15-mile radius of a Dollar General store or distribution center to support adult, family, summer and youth literacy programs.

For more information on LCCC's literacy programs, contact Allison Ludlow, assistant director of literacy, aludlow@lccc.edu. ■



DOLLAR GENERAL
LITERACY
FOUNDATION



Art, Rhythm & Tasting Highlights the Arts

Art, Rhythm & Tasting, an inaugural Foundation event to spotlight the arts at LCCC, is scheduled for 3-6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 3, in the Glass Box Art Gallery in the Rothrock Library. Enjoy original student art, a guitar and harp duo, and delicious hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from sponsorships will benefit the Arts, Communication and Design program. This will also be our community grand opening for the new Glass Box Art Gallery. Premier sponsor is David and Patrina Rothrock.

We hope you can join us for what promises to be a lovely event. Sign up [online](#) before July 20. ■

Lehigh Carbon Community College President

Dr. Ann D. Bieber

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Important Dates for July 2023

July 4	College Closed
July 10	Summer Session II Starts
July 11	Virtual Nursing Information Session
July 18	Dual Enrollment Virtual Information Session

ASD Early College Graduation

LCCC and the Allentown School District celebrated the graduation of 25 students from the Early College program on June 7 at the Americus Hotel. Pictured with Dr. Ann Bieber (center) are ASD school board member Phoebe Harris and LCCC trustee Daniel Bosket. ■



Alumni Night at IronPigs

Join us for a night at the Lehigh Valley IronPigs on Wednesday, August 30. Tickets can be purchased for alumni at \$35 per person and guests at \$38 per person. Food is included. See you at the ballgame! Purchase your tickets [here](#). ■



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