

DR. ANN D. BIEBER
PRESIDENT'S
DESK

NOVEMBER 2023



Lehigh Carbon
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Buddy Lesavoy Receives LCCC Collegiate Award of Distinction

LCCC has named local attorney Buddy Lesavoy as the 2023 recipient of the Collegiate Award of Distinction, which is determined each year by the college's Board of Trustees. Trustees Chair David L. Krause presented the award to Lesavoy at the LCCC Foundation's annual golf tournament on Oct. 2.



The LCCC Board of Trustees selects the Collegiate Award of Distinction to recognize a person or organization for unique contributions to the community, service and dedication in support of education, and to honor those who have

demonstrated their commitment to the college and its students. The award was established in 1991.

Lesavoy has served on the LCCC Foundation Board of Directors since 2009, and most recently served as

chairman of the board. He is co-founder and a partner in the Allentown law practice of Lesavoy Butz and Seitz LLC, and is an active and committed member of the community. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for St. Luke's University Health Network and the Board of Associates for both Cedar Crest College and Muhlenberg College.

A graduate of William Allen High School, Buddy was honored by the school in 2012 as a Distinguished Alumnus. He also received a Practice and Service to the Community award by the Emmaus Rotary Club as well as numerous other awards and recognitions through the years.

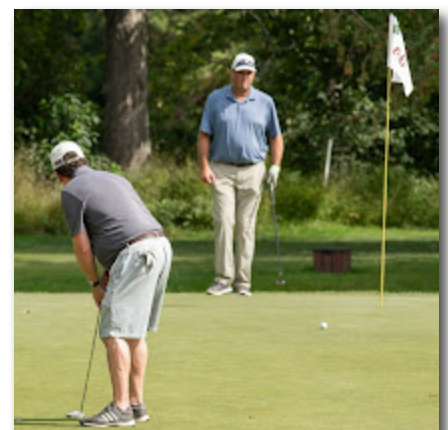
He is the immediate past president of the Bar Association of Lehigh County. He earned his law degree in 1987, his master's of business administration in 1982 and his bachelor's degree in business administration in 1980, all from George Washington University.

"Buddy Lesavoy has devoted himself to giving back to the community and is generous with his time to the benefit of a number of organizations," says LCCC Trustee David Krause. "His commitment has contributed to the vitality of the community and the college, as well as to the businesses in the Lehigh Valley." ■

LCCC Foundation Holds Tony Boyle Golf Classic

The LCCC Foundation's Tony Boyle Memorial Golf Classic was held on Monday, Oct. 2, at the Club at Twin Lakes in Allentown. It was a great day out on the course with perfect weather, and the dinner program was made special by guest speakers: Former Sen. Pat Browne, Honorary Chair; Buddy Lesavoy, recipient of the LCCC Collegiate Award of Distinction; and Jeremy Bautista, current LCCC student. All proceeds benefited the Promise and Aspira Scholarships. A special thank you to all of our sponsors, and thank you to all of our amazing event volunteers!

Photos from the event can be viewed on the [LCCC Flickr account](#). ■



College and University Partnership Paves New Path for Students

An innovative partnership between two area community colleges and two regional universities will keep students on a pathway to a college degree with a variety of transfer agreements that will benefit students whose journey to higher education may have been interrupted.

Entitled “It’s Not Over,” this pilot project brings together LCCC, Northampton Community College, Kutztown University and East Stroudsburg University to create opportunities for students seeking an associate degree and ultimately a bachelor’s degree.

Students who were not retained by Kutztown or East Stroudsburg and are in the community college service areas will receive information to help them navigate their credits to their designated community colleges, otherwise known as reverse transfer, to earn an associate degree. They will be encouraged to use that degree to transfer back to the university to earn their bachelor’s degree.

In addition, students who earned more than 60 credits from one of the universities more than five years ago will receive information on how to move those credits to the community college for an associate degree and then a subsequent bachelor’s, or to earn credits that will transfer. Students will need to meet a 15-credit residency requirement at the community college.

First-year students who did not return to their university will have the opportunity and encouragement to persist at the community college and return to the university upon receipt of their associate degree. In order to take advantage of the full tuition benefit of the community colleges, the students must live in the counties that are served by the respective community colleges – Lehigh, Carbon and Schuylkill counties for LCCC, and Northampton and Monroe Counties for Northampton.

The project stemmed from further discussions the presidents had after the signing of the statewide pledge in April confirming that community colleges and universities in the PASSHE system would work together for the benefit of students. The pledge was drafted

to demonstrate the commitment to provide high quality affordable academic and career education programs and to contribute to the development of a highly skilled competitive workforce in the Commonwealth.

“This program is further evidence of how important higher education and student success are in the Commonwealth,” says LCCC president Dr. Ann D. Bieber. “And it demonstrates the commitment that our regional colleges and universities have to ensuring that students have choices and opportunities to achieve their degree, while also staying locally, ultimately working and significantly impacting the region’s economic development.”

“This unique regional partnership is all about helping students succeed,” said David A. Ruth, president of Northampton Community College. “It can help students stay on track to earn a degree while at the same time support the workforce needs of regional employers. It’s a real win-win for the community.”

“The primary focus at ESU, and frankly throughout the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and Pennsylvania community colleges, is to satisfy the education needs of our region,” said ESU President Kenneth Long. “We signed a pledge earlier this year to ensure seamless transfer from community college to ESU, and I am excited to expand on that pledge with the ‘It’s Not Over’ reverse transfer

initiative. Our goal is to create opportunities for everyone throughout the region to have access to an affordable post-secondary education.

“Kutztown University’s mission to provide affordable high-quality educational opportunities is shared by our fellow State System universities and regional community colleges,” said Dr. Kenneth S. Hawkinson, university president. “Through this partnership, students are provided additional resources and avenues to complete their degrees and contribute further to our workforce across Pennsylvania.”

For information on “It’s Not Over,” contact:

Lehigh Carbon Community College Office of Admissions:
610-799-1575, Admissions@LCCC.edu;

Northampton Community College Office of Admissions:
610-861-5300, adminfo@northampton.edu;

East Stroudsburg University: Kizzy Morris, associate provost for student success, 570-422-3880, kmorris@esu.edu

Kutztown University Office of Admissions: 610-683-4060, admissions@kutztown.edu. ■



Prospective Students Invited to LCCC Fall 2023 Open House on Nov. 8

Prospective students and their families are invited to LCCC's in-person fall open house on Wednesday, Nov. 8, in the Community Services Center on the college's main campus in Schnecksville. The open house will be held from 5 to 7 p.m.

Admissions and financial aid representatives, academic advisors as well as faculty program coordinators will be on hand to answer questions. The open house is an excellent opportunity for prospective students of all ages to learn about degree and career programs, tour the campus, learn about scholarship opportunities and how LCCC can pave the way for an exciting and rewarding career or transfer to earn a bachelor's degree. Families are encouraged to attend with their prospective student.

- Meet with faculty coordinators about degrees and the many programs that interest you
- Learn about the LCCC admissions process, advising, transfer options, placement testing, athletic opportunities and more
- Attend presentations on financial aid and scholarships (offered in both English and Spanish), educational support and the Honors program
- Learn about classes and campus life
- Take a campus tour

Interested students should register at www.lccc.edu/openhouse or contact the LCCC Admissions Office at 610-799-1575 or admissions@lccc.edu. ■

LCCC Fall Job Fair Features 80+ Employers

LCCC will host a fall job fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 2, in the Community Services Center at the college's main campus in Schnecksville.

LCCC students and alumni are encouraged to attend. The public is also invited. Please bring resumes and wear professional attire as more than 80 local and regional employers will be available to discuss full-time, part-time, seasonal and internship opportunities.

This event is free. For more information, contact the Career Development Center at 610-799-1090 or email careerservices@lccc.edu.

Details on additional fall 2023 job fairs are available at <https://lccc-csm.symplicity.com/events>. ■

LCCC Receives National Science Foundation STEM Grant for Hispanic Students

LCCC has received a three-year, \$200,000 grant from the [National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#) to increase the number of Hispanic students pursuing a major in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM). The grant will support a first-year experience course for Hispanic students to attract them to STEM majors. In addition, the project will address improving students' sense of belonging to a career where Hispanic/Latinx graduates are not well represented.

The grant project will be led by Dr. Deepika Khilnaney, associate professor of physics at LCCC.

Hispanic enrollment at colleges and universities nationwide has increased by 34% over the past few years. More Hispanics are entering the workforce, yet the industries fueling the future of innovation are lagging behind. In fact, just 8% of the STEM workforce identify as Hispanic.

LCCC has been designated by the U.S. Department of Education as a Hispanic-Serving Institution, with a student body comprised of more than 28% Hispanic or Latino students. The college developed the Aspira First-Year Experience initiative to support Hispanic students with their transition to college, understanding that developing a sense of belonging has a dramatic impact on students' academic performance. With this NSF funding, the existing Aspira program will be adapted to a pilot program specific to STEM-interested Hispanic students.

This course will incorporate topics integral to Hispanic student success, including motivation, self-management, goal setting, critical thinking, test taking and career exploration. Students will learn about STEM fields and hear from Hispanic leaders from local companies about the STEM industry. Scholarships, peer mentoring and faculty professional development will also break down barriers to affordability, help students navigate the college experience, develop connections with other students and increase inclusive teaching practices.

For information on the grant project, which runs to Sept. 30, 2026, contact Dr. Deepika Khilnaney, Associate Professor of Physics, at dkhilnaney@lccc.edu, or Natalie DeRosa, Director of Student Engagement and Inclusion, at nderosa@lccc.edu.



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Dr. Ann D. Bieber

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Important Dates for November 2023

- Nov. 2** Job Fair, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., CSC
- Nov. 8** Fall Open House, 5-7 p.m.
- Nov. 9** Virtual Nursing Information Session, 5-6:15 p.m.
- Nov. 15** Placement Testing Information Session, 4-5 p.m.
- Nov. 16** Job Fair, Donley Center, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Job Fair, Morgan Center, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- Nov. 16** Virtual Returning Adult and Veteran Information Session, 6-7 p.m.
- Nov. 21** Virtual Admissions Information Session, 5-6 p.m.
- Nov. 22** No Daytime or Evening Classes, Offices open until 5 p.m.
- Nov. 23-26** College Closed

KEYS to Success Room Grand Opening

Students enrolled in the Keystone Education Yields Success (KEYS) Program now have a private, calm office space to do work, organize class materials or simply relax. The space, officially called the KEYS to Success Room (SSC 121A), held a grand opening and ribbon cutting, followed by a small reception.

The KEYS Program is run through the PA Department of Human Services to help a specific group of students attend, succeed and complete community college. The primary goal of KEYS is to provide the services and support necessary to assist students in completing educational activities that lead to employment and self-sufficiency.

For questions about the KEYS Program, contact Diana Sweigert, KEYS Facilitator, at dsweigert@lccc.edu or 610-799-1744.



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