

August 2023

Opening Day Newsletter

Items of Interest:

- * LMC's 2023 Commencement was a celebration of student success, with 439 students walking in the ceremony — an 11% increase over the prior year. In total, the Class of 2023 earned 732 AA degrees, 184 AS degrees, 503 ADTs, and 419 certificates of achievement. Thank you to the Graduation Committee and the incredible event team who created such a joyful experience for our graduates and guests. Kudos to Dave Belman, Irma Gregory, and Anthony Olgin for their leadership and commitment to our students and community.
- * Following a competitive bid process and subsequent Governing Board approval, on-campus food services will be available in the Student Union Café beginning this Fall, with a tentative opening date of September 1.
- * As noted in the July 31st district-wide email from Satish Warriar, Director of Information Technology, 4CD will transition to a new phone system this Fall. According to the project timeline, the change is expected to be implemented at the Brentwood Center on September 8 and November 10-12 at the Pittsburg Campus. More details are available on the [4CD Zoom Phone Implementation webpage](#).
- * If you have been watching any of the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup coverage on Telemundo, hopefully you saw LMC's latest tv commercial, "El Futuro Es Nuestro" (The Future Is Ours). This exciting ad — which highlights the College's academic programs, degree and certificate offerings, and support resources — reflects our enhanced marketing and outreach efforts.
- * The first 2023-24 College Assembly will be held on September 18, 3:00-5:00P. Fall topics will include institutional work on strategic scheduling, facilities master planning, DEI efforts, and participatory governance.



Dear LMC Colleagues,

Welcome to the 2023-24 academic year! I hope you are as excited and energized as I am to launch a successful Fall semester! I'm looking forward to connecting with you at Opening Day on Friday, August 18. For those of you who worked throughout the summer, thank you for continuing to provide our students with an accessible, engaging, and inclusive learning environment. For those of you who were able to take some time away, I hope that it was joyful and restful. And, for those of you joining LMC for your first academic year, congratulations! I am grateful for the unique contribution that each of you make on behalf of students, our community, and one another.

Our Fall 2023 Opening Day activities — including the All-College Meeting and All-Faculty Meeting — will be held in person. As I noted throughout last semester and in my closing Spring message, we continue to move toward connecting and engaging in our collective work at the Pittsburg Campus and Brentwood Center. To that end, our on-site departments and offices will be open each day, while continuing to make our excellent online services available to students. We are mindful of the fact that COVID-19 continues, and we must be mindful of staying healthy and protecting ourselves and our students. We encourage the use of masks and will have them readily available on campus. For those that may be feeling under the weather, staying home is recommended.

I believe that, together, we can build the communities we imagine — and that we can be most effective in creating connections, transformative experiences, and moments of joy when we come together in person and create as humanized online experiences as possible.

Keeping with LMC tradition, at the All-College Meeting we will introduce the newest permanent members of the LMC family and recognize nearly 50 of our colleagues for reaching a milestone in their years of service to the College and District. The program will also include updates on key initiatives that we will be moving forward together this year. In addition, we will be honored with an opportunity to hear directly from some of our incredible students. Immediately following, we'll open the All-Faculty Meeting, which is mandatory for full-time faculty; adjunct faculty, classified professionals, and managers are welcome and encouraged to attend the session.

Please see the overview of the "Welcome Back"/Flex Week schedule, including the August 16th Focused Flex workshop and a subsequent feedback-gathering session outlining our Facilities Master Plan process. I encourage you to take part in as many Flex activities as you can, and to support and engage with our colleagues who have developed opportunities for our College community. Please sign up for Focused Flex, other Flex activities, and the All-College Meeting via GROW@4CD (see back page for details).

I look forward to seeing you at Opening Day and on our beautiful campuses throughout the semester.

In community,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pamela Ralston".

Pamela Ralston, Ph.D.
President



Fall 2023
“Monday Meeting” Calendar
3:00P to 5:00P

“Welcome Back” Week
Schedule-at-a-Glance

Please register in advance via GROW@4CD for all Flex activities. The full schedule is available at:

<https://www.4cd.edu/insite/>

(log in to InSite >>> click GROW@4CD tile >>> from the “Learning” drop-down menu, click on “Workshop Calendar” >>> click on the workshop(s) you want to attend)

August 21	Department/Project Meetings [↗]
August 28	Academic Senate & Classified Senate
September 4	No Meeting (HOLIDAY — Labor Day)
September 11	Academic Senate & Classified Senate
September 18	College Assembly: Scheduling Fair
September 25	Academic Senate & Classified Senate
October 2 [◆]	TBD or Department/Project Meetings [↗]
October 9	No Meeting (HOLIDAY — Indigenous Peoples’ Day)
October 16	Academic Senate & Classified Senate
October 23	College Assembly: Facilities Master Plan
October 30	Academic Senate & Classified Senate
November 6	College Assembly: DEI Efforts
November 13	Academic Senate & Classified Senate
November 20	College Assembly: DEI Efforts
November 27	Academic Senate & Classified Senate
December 4	Annual Holiday Reception

Tuesday, August 15 — Variable Flex Day

Wednesday, August 16 — Focused Flex Day & Optional Flex Activities

9:00A - 1:00P Focused Flex ~ Student Union (SU) Conference Center

- **Optional breakfast 8:30 - 9:00A**

An Act of Love and Community: The Reason We Decolonize Our Institutional Spaces, Our Classrooms, and Ourselves

Supported by: Local Planning Group (LPG), Professional Development Advisory Committee (PDAC), and Office of Equity & Inclusion

Join your colleagues for an interactive session that builds upon the Spring 2023 Focused Flex on utilizing culturally relevant practices. This workshop will focus on centering LMC’s Student Equity Plan and approaching Black student success by talking about decolonization — at the institutional, departmental, classroom, and individual levels — and the pedagogy of care and love. Practices to be discussed include: trauma-informed pedagogy and care; culturally responsive teaching; and pedagogies of care. The session will also address the role of metacognition and the importance of feeling equipped to facilitate difficult conversations around equity and inclusion.

1:15P - 3:00P Facilities Master Plan ~ SU Conference Center (SU-108 & SU-109)

Facilitated by: LMC Administrative Services and the District Facilities Team

This workshop is designed to share initial information about LMC’s Facilities Master Plan process and to gather feedback from the College community. The activities will guide participants through a process of identifying priorities for LMC to develop the best educational environment to foster student success.

Afternoon/Evening ~ Optional Flex Activities

Thursday, August 17 — Optional Flex Day

Friday, August 18 — Opening Day (Mandatory Flex) & Department Meetings

8:00 - 8:30A “Morning Meet & Greet” Breakfast (optional) ~ SU Conference Center

8:30 - 10:00A All-College Meeting ~ SU Conference Center

The “All-College Meeting” for classified professionals, faculty, and managers is designed to: kick off the new academic year; introduce the newest permanent members of the LMC family and recognize our colleagues’ service milestones; and update/preview key institutional initiatives.

10:00A - 12:00P All-Faculty Meeting ~ SU Conference Center

Attendance at the All-Faculty Meeting is mandatory for full-time faculty; adjunct faculty, classified professionals, and managers are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Afternoon ~ Department Meetings

Fall 2023 College Assembly sessions will held in person (L-109 & BRT-135), unless otherwise specified; viewing access via Zoom will be made available when possible, depending on presentation topic(s).

[↗]This time slot may be used by the College community for unit/inter-department/project meetings.

[◆]The Senates may use this as an alternate option in place of their September 25 time slot (Yom Kippur).

Please note that, during the course of the semester, meetings may be designated as “management-called” (based on a presentation/dialogue topic of institutional importance).