

LOS MEDANOS COLLEGE



KEEPING YOU INFORMED AND INVOLVED!

MESA Center Remodeled

By Carol Hernandez

Transfer Readiness

The MESA Center was remodeled last fall, transforming it into a more student friendly and user friendly space. The soft space at the front of the center has been expanded with the addition of couches and lounge chairs. Study space has also increased. The computers at the back of the center were moved to the periphery of the room, providing space to add much needed tables and chairs for student use.

Additionally, the study rooms now accommodate more students with larger tables and more chairs present.

Student response to the study space has been positive, and despite the addition of more furniture, students have commented that the MESA Center feels bigger and homier.

Before the remodel, the space felt more like a lab than a center. Now, the space feels more like a student center with a welcoming environment for students to relax, study, and socialize. As an added bonus, if you take a close look at the fabric patterns covering the couches and chairs, one will notice a science theme emerging with double helixes, DNA, and numerical equations embedded in the fabric.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH NOMINATIONS

LMC Employees: Do you have a student who you think should be STEM student of the month?

Go to www.losmedanos.edu/stem/events.asp and submit your nomination today!

Every Student of the Month is rewarded with a \$50 LMC Bookstore Gift Card.

CONTACT RYAN PEDERSEN FOR MORE INFO
Ext. 3940 or rpedersen@losmedanos.edu

LMC STEM Grant Newsletter

STEM: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH

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JANUARY 2013

STEM Student of the Month

By Nominating LMC Employee



Your Student

Major: STEM Studies

Beginning in February the HSI STEM Grant will be accepting nominations each month for the STEM Student of the Month Award.

Nominated students should be active STEM degree seeking students at LMC.

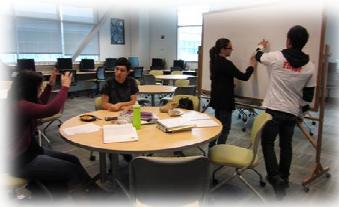
The student who wins the award will receive a \$50 LMC Bookstore Gift Card along with a photo and article featured here in our newsletter.

Nomination forms are available on the STEM website at:

www.losmedanos.edu/stem/events.asp
or by contacting Ade Origunwa at ext. 3294 or AOrigunwa@losmedanos.edu.

Nominations for the February 2013 award are due by: Monday, February 11, 2013.

NEWS & EVENTS

**Academic Excellence Workshops**

Academic Excellence Workshops are now up and running for Chem 6, Chem 26, and Physics 40. These workshops provide valuable supplemental instruction for ALL students enrolled in these courses. For information about times and locations, please visit the MESA website at: www.losmedanos.edu/MESA

**Four Students Accepted to Winter Research Program!**

Four LMC MESA students were accepted and participated in the UC Davis CBST Research Program over the break! Only 20 students were accepted into the program, so LMC was well represented! Congratulations Brian Berdiago, Amanda Davis, Nyemachi Chikere, and Vanessa Lanzas. Please congratulate these students when you see them!

BY THE NUMBERS

- 16.2%

Total number of LMC students
(Fall 2009- Fall 2011)

+ 11.4%

Total number of LMC STEM students
(Fall 2009- Fall 2011)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Director: Ryan Pedersen, ext. 3940

STEM Office: Ade Originwa, ext. 3294

MESA Director: Carol Hernandez, ext. 3437

STEM Counselor: Marie Karp, ext. 3282

STEM Connector: To Be Hired Soon

Get Involved!

STEM Connector Position:

Give your input on the STEM Connector Job description. You can find the job description on the STEM website at:

<http://www.losmedanos.edu/stem/events.asp>

Submit your feedback to:

rpedersen@losmedanos.edu.

Be ready to welcome and collaborate with this individual when they are hired.

Want to Read?

Copies of the grant are available electronically on the STEM website at:

<http://www.losmedanos.edu/stem/group.asp>

Download and read it today if you would like to become more familiar with the planned initiatives and structure. Hard copies are also available by request by emailing:

aorigunwa@losmedanos.edu.

Project Proposals:

Do you have a proposal for Grant Year Three, Four or Five?

Contact Director Ryan Pedersen at:

rpedersen@losmedanos.edu

Or go to our website at:

www.losmedanos.edu/stem/events.asp to download and submit your proposal.

A Note from the Director

By Ryan Pedersen

Welcome back to another semester at LMC. As many of you know, I am beginning my first semester as Grant Director this spring and am happy to get the opportunity to be a part of such an exciting initiative. There are so many great things planned in the grant and I am looking forward to working and coordinating with all of you to make them happen.

This newsletter is one of many steps that our grant team is taking this semester to do a better job communicating with our community. Another resource is our website whose construction is ongoing. Please visit the site at: www.losmedanos.edu/STEM.

As we work to communicate with you, please join us and let us know what you would like to know, and how we can serve you, our students, and the local STEM community in general better. Our phone lines, email inboxes, and offices are open to hear from you, and we look forward to hearing your thoughts.

-Ryan

COMPONENT HIGHLIGHTS

College Readiness

During the fall semester, the STEM Incubator invited several guests from both here at LMC and in the external community to help form a vision for the hiring of a new position. What has emerged is being called the "STEM Connector". This individual will be hired this spring, and will be charged with linking our STEM initiatives here at LMC with existing initiatives in the external community, connecting the STEM faculty here at LMC with those in the local middle and high schools, and generally promoting an interest in STEM education through various activities including a STEM student ambassador program. –R. Pedersen

Articulation Readiness**HSI STEM Articulation Project:**

The goal of this project is to increase the number of STEM classes that are articulated with UC and CSU campuses. Students become more confident and competitive for transfer admission when LMC classes are posted on www.assist.org.

Major Roadmaps for Transfer:

Roadmaps are being developed for STEM majors that will provide a sample schedule for students to follow. The goal is to inform STEM students that they should focus primarily on their math, science, and English classes. Contact Marie Karp with any questions. –M. Karp

Institutional Readiness

The Zero Based STEM Scheduling Initiative (**ZBS²**) came out of focus groups where students revealed their problems taking all the courses they needed, *when* they needed them. Sometimes these problems cost them two years of delay. To remedy this problem, math instructor Danielle Champney has been meeting with STEM departments and analyzing enrollment trends to develop a scheduling recommendation which we hope to implement in Spring 2014. She has some preliminary findings which you can hear in a series of meetings this February and will continue to solicit feedback as her recommendations coalesce. Stay tuned!
–J. Saito

