February is National Career & Technical Education Month!

The Association for Career & Technical Education has designated February as “Career and Technical Education” month. In January 2008, the United States House of Representatives passed a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a national CTE month, recognizing the importance of preparing a well-educated and skilled workforce.

In celebration of CTE and all of the hard work and dedication of LBCC CTE faculty and staff, four issues of this publication will be produced throughout the month of February. Each issue will highlight a CTE instructional area and resource as well as include CTE facts and trivia (with a chance to win prizes).

CTE Instructional Area Spotlight

Public Services

The Public Services program encompasses Administration of Justice, Human Services, Alcohol & Drug Studies, Public Administration, Fire Science Technology, and Homeland Security.

There are many emerging careers in Public Services including work in forensic sciences, hazardous materials, and homeland security administration. The department is connecting with business & industry in several of these fields, such as partnering with TSA to provide homeland security training to workers at local airports. The fire science program also found success in Fall 2011 through working with the fire industry to enhance certification offerings in Hazardous Materials, Mass Destruction and Incident Command System Operatives.

Upcoming events for Public Services students include the Association of Future Firefighters chili cook-off and car show in the Spring. The club will also host various fundraisers to provide assistance to those affected by fire in the community. Students will also be participating at Fire House World in San Diego, a conference that provides cutting-edge education for career skill development and improvement.

For more information on Public Services, please contact Ralph de la Ossa, rdelaossa@lbcc.edu.

CTE Resources @ LBCC...

CTE Success Center

The CTE Success Center provides faculty and students with targeted, course-based learning assistance & contextualized basic skills that give students the academic boost they need to succeed in college, career & beyond.

Services to students include; small group workshops & study groups, individual learning activities, one-on-one instructional support, tutoring, textbooks, and online instructional materials.

The Center also provides CTE faculty with one-on-one learning activity design & curriculum development expertise & assistance.

Institutional Effectiveness data shows that students who participate in CTE Success Center learning activities achieve higher rates of success and persistence.

CTE students or faculty who are interested in learning more about the Center, please contact Heidi Neu at 562.938.3979.

What Exactly is CTE?

“CTE is both an educational strategy in its own right and the cornerstone of the state’s workforce development efforts. As an educational strategy, it inspires and facilitates learning and, unlike traditional vocational education, aims to prepare students for ongoing education, long-term careers, and citizenship, as well as entry into the workplace. With its focus on rigorous and relevant content, experiential learning, career awareness, supportive relationships, and demonstrated outcomes, CTE can provide a context for academic coursework and set the standard for the kind of challenging, engaging, student-centered instruction that is required for students of all ages to succeed.”

Excerpt taken from the 2008-12 California State Plan For Career Technical Education

CTE Trivia: The state of California has identified 15 industry sectors that each contain multiple career pathways. What are the 15 industry sectors? The first 3 people to email careerteched@lbcc.edu with the correct answer will win a prize!