LONG BEACH, California – Long Beach City College (LBCC), the region’s leading institution hosting a wide range of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, today announced the appointment of Kenneth J. Starkman as the new Dean for the School of Career Technical Education. Starkman will oversee the majority of the college’s 38 technical instructional programs offered at the Liberal Arts and Pacific Coast campuses.

“The addition of Ken Starkman demonstrates our commitment to design career and technical education programs that provide our students with the experience and knowledge required to meet the technical demands of growing career fields,” said Long Beach City College President, Eloy Ortiz Oakley. “With Ken’s guidance, I look forward to taking on the challenge of developing and launching new programs and improving upon current offerings that give our students an opportunity to change careers, learn new skills to advance in their current employment situation or obtain skills to enter into the workforce for the first- time.”

Formerly the Dean of Madison Area Technical College in Wisconsin for six years, Starkman was also a State Supervisor/Educational Consultant with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and spent 16 years in the technology education field after teaching at the middle, high school and post-secondary levels.

“I am excited and pleased to take on the challenges of supporting and expanding LBCC’s CTE programs,” said Dean Starkman. “My goal is to support programs that are in place, while developing new programs with greater effectiveness in areas where the market is in need of qualified individuals. There is a great team already in place at LBCC to move the CTE programs to the next level and I look forward to working with faculty members, local industry and corporate partners to advance our programs.”

LBCC’s CTE programs prepare students for a wide selection of vocational choices including child development, computer and office studies, culinary arts, fire science, advanced transportation technology, electrical technology, math and engineering and LBCC’s latest programs, cyber security and mechanical maintenance that lead students directly into a career.

“The knowledge Ken brings in both the education and career development spaces will enhance our existing CTE programs and drive and evolve innovative processes and collaborations that will benefit those students who enroll in any one of our many CTE programs,” said Dr. Meena Singhal, Associate Vice President at the Pacific Coast Campus. “The experience Mr. Starkman has in emerging technologies and developing programs around growing industries gives our programs, and thereby our students, an advantage in the manner in which they will learn and be trained.”

LBCC’s School of Career Technical Education, which encompasses the majority of the CTE training programs, continues to grow as the need from specialized industries to hire qualified graduates remains high in a variety of fields.

With one of the largest selections of career and technical courses offered in California, LBCC is continually developing new industry driven programs in burgeoning areas that provide industry with highly trained and work-ready graduates and gives our students an avenue to a high- paying career. Two such programs, under development, include Supply Chain Management and engineering and electrical technologies courses. These two programs are being funded through two grants awarded to LBCC in 2013 as a part of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) program given by the federal government.

The grants total more than $4.5 million and will assist with the development and implementation of alternative pathways for students that lead to an associate degree in engineering and electrical technologies and provides students/employees with skills suitable for entry and middle-level employment in supply chain management.

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About Long Beach City College
Long Beach City College is one of the largest single college districts in the California Community College System. LBCC is a comprehensive college which provides quality educational programs and related student services to nearly 30,000 students pursuing a wide range of degrees, certificates, transfer and other courses of study. LBCC is a driving force in the regional economy as lead host of the Los Angeles Regional Small Business Development Center Network, serving Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties; and, as the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Initiative site serving Southern California. In 2013, LBCC supported small businesses in creating 2,355 new jobs, increasing client sales by more than $198 million and helping clients access more than $100 million in new capital. LBCC’s economic activity generates over $2.12 million daily in the region’s economy. The College is also in the middle of a $700 million construction bond program that was approved by local voters.