New Veterans Resource Center

Bossier Parish Community College (BPCC) and Louisiana Tech University held a ribbon cutting/dedication program on November 1st. The Veterans Resource Center, located in space shared between BPCC and Louisiana Tech, is the first center in north Louisiana established to serve the educational needs of our military men and women and their families.

Open House for the New Veterans Resource Center

In honor of Veterans Day an Open House for the new Veterans Resource Center was held on Monday, November 12. Veterans, those who are military-affiliated, and the public were encouraged to explore the new space.
Success Stories from Veteran Educational Services

In fall of 2018:

- Nine (9) students in nursing clinicals used GI Bill benefits. Seven (7) of those students are veterans using their own benefits. Out of the nine students, four (4) students will be graduating from the Nursing program.

- One (1) Pharmacy Technician program graduate was a veteran using benefits.

- Four (4) Paramedic program graduates were veterans using benefits. Two (2) of those graduates are working for the Bossier Fire Department.

Professional Development Opportunities

Events Attended

- Passport to Success October 4-5: Debbie, Jennifer
- National Career Pathways Network October 9 - 12: Jennifer
- Advance CTE Policy Meeting October 21 – 24 Lynne
- Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Career Tech Vision – November 28 – December 1 – Lynne

Presentations Given

- LCTCS Annual Conference September 26 – 28: Lynne, Sandra
- Perkins Compliance and Accountability September/October: Lynne
- Perkins/Jump Start Regional Partnership Perkins V update: Lynne
- Career Compass Coaches tour of BPCC campus and program presentations
Youth Challenge Program

Challenge exams were proctored in October for the Youth Challenge Program in Pineville, Louisiana. Thirty (30) Challenge Exams were passed, earning students ninety (90) credit hours.

Digital Catalog

The new digital catalog went live on November 13th. It has the look and feel of the BPCC website. New features include imbedded Degree Planners (these will replace the unofficial checklist), course master syllabi, and program articulation agreements.

BPCC IT Pathway – High School Jumpstart Award

BPCC IT Pathway – High School Jump Start project is a $50,000 sub-recipient of a Department of Education (DOE) Grant. The project is in the final stage of approval. The project team includes Megan Martin, Paul Spivey, Suzanne Shipp, Gayle Flowers, and Lynne McCoy.
Special Events

- Parent Night @ Northwood High October 2 – Approximately 35 families represented: Lynne

- Presentation of Robotics Competition Material to Northwood Robotics Program September/October 2018: Debbie, Lynne

- BPSTIL Advisory Board Annual Meeting October 15, 2018: Lynne

- Education and Innovation Luncheon: Lynne and Sandra

The following Dual Enrollment and/or AIM students received a scholarship from the Bossier Chamber of Commerce, Bossier Innovates Foundation during the Education and Innovation Luncheon on November 14th.

- Creighton France – Benton High School
- Zachary Grames – Airline High School
- David Jara – Parkway High School
- John Norris – Benton High School
- Eli Patrick – Northwood High School
- Benjamin Sanguinetti – Benton High School
- Logan Wilhite – Airline High School
Dual Enrollment

Innovative Learning is busy promoting BPCC programs and preparing for the upcoming school year. In May, Lynne McCoy, Debbie Bury, and Alex Ekstrom attended high school graduations and award assemblies to congratulate and to encourage high school students to attend BPCC.

Innovative Learning continues to improve communication with students, counselors, and parents. In June, we provided information sessions to parents and a home school group to discuss dual enrollment (DE) and enrollment after high school. In July, we toured and presented to high school counselors from Bossier Parish Schools to increase their awareness and action. We hosted two parent information sessions (AIM and DE) on July 26. In addition, the Remind app has been incorporated into the communication plan for our programs to provide another means to connect directly to students and parents.

BPCC recognizes the efforts of DE students by announcing their accomplishments during the graduation ceremony and adorning them with an honor cord. During the summer graduation, a DE student from Castor High School earned a Certificate in General Studies and her high school diploma with a 4.0 GPA at both institutions.
Career Compass

Innovative Learning thanks all who supported and participated in the June 5 and July 21 Career Compass Registration events. Of the 191 RSVPs, 61.3% indicated they would attend July 21, 29.3% indicated they would attend June 5, and 9.4% indicated they would not be attending. The top three indicated majors for the Career Compass students’ are: 1) Nursing, 2) General Studies, and 3) Physical Therapist Assistant. Over 125 students and guests were served and seven $500 book scholarships were awarded through these events.

Through the collaborative efforts of various BPCC divisions and departments the following assets were developed, implemented, and may continue to be utilized for future BPCC events:

- BPCC Selfie Wall
- BPCC Selfie props
- BPCC Facebook photo frame
- Directional signs.