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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board recognizes LSC-University Park for completions

HOUSTON (Sept. 13, 2018) – The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) recognized Lone Star College-University Park as a two-year Texas public institution with high improvements in completions since the beginning of the *60x30TX* plan in 2015.

According to the THECB, LSC-University Park was highlighted as a top improver in its peer group and state in categories for overall completions, male completion, Hispanic completion, African-American completion and economically disadvantaged student completion.

“LSC-University Park is proud to be recognized for our continued strides in increasing student success and completion,” said Dr. Shah Ardalani, LSC-University Park president. “Our college was founded on an invitation to innovate, and our talented team of faculty and staff are progressively using our culture of innovation, evidence and inquiry to offer the best education and service to our students. LSC-University Park will continue to increase our completion rates and help our students reach their academic and career goals.”

THECB is leading the charge on setting regional completion targets across Texas. The THECB’s higher education plan, *60x30TX*, “aims to position Texas among the highest achieving states in the country and maintain its global competitiveness.” ^[i] To achieve this goal, THECB is working to ensure that 60 percent of Texans between 25- to 35-years-old hold a certificate or degree by 2030.

THECB invited LSC-University Park to present best practices and strategies for student success and completion at its two-year institution accountability peer group meeting this spring.

“Under Dr. Ardalani’s leadership, LSC-University Park faculty and staff work closely with administration to find, and often create, the best solutions for meeting our students’ needs,” said Kathy Cecil-Sanchez, vice president of instruction at LSC-University Park. “Our culture is very student-centered. We work with students where they are, identify where they want to go on individual bases and match them to the resources they need for optimum success.”

The college has implemented math and science hot spots and a writing lab to help students with their coursework. Programs like the Student Success Institute and Puente Project focus on helping disadvantaged student groups earn associate degrees, certificates or transfer to four-year institutions. State-of-the-art facilities, including an Innovation Room with 3D printing technology, virtual reality and robotics equipment, are all available to students and employees alike.

“Our college believes that finding and developing the best educators will directly impact our students,” said Cecil-Sanchez. “We host two faculty development days each year, and maintain a full calendar of development and training opportunities for faculty and staff.”

LSC-University Park continues to be an innovative model college and remains committed to helping students unlock their potential and fostering community. Registration is underway for Late Start classes, with 12-week classes starting Monday, Sept. 24, and 8-week classes starting Monday, Oct. 22. Visit [LoneStar.edu/UP-LateStart](#) to learn more.

Established in 2012 and enrolling more than 13,000 students per semester, LSC-University Park has been recognized as one of the fastest growing and most innovative institutions of higher education in the country. Under its founding president, Dr. Shah Ardalan, LSC-University Park is devoted to impacting the community's prosperity and upward mobility through student success. The college's competent and compassionate faculty and staff provide students with holistic and immersive education and training in disciplines and industries that meet current and future workforce needs. Standout college facilities include the Center for Science & Innovation, the Energy & Manufacturing Institute, the Innovation Lab and the Geology Rock Wall. For more information about LSC-University Park, please visit LoneStar.edu/UP or call 281.290.2600.

Lone Star College offers high-quality, low-cost academic transfer and career training education to 99,000 students each semester. LSC is training tomorrow's workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support student success. Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., serves as chancellor of LSC, the largest institution of higher education in the Houston area with an annual economic impact of \$3 billion. LSC consists of six colleges, eight centers, two university centers, Lone Star Corporate College and LSC-Online. To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.

 Quoted from www.thecb.state.tx.us.

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