

Dear LSC Employee Campus Community:

Today's Campus Update is focused on thanking the people who are instrumental in keeping our campuses (main, airport, ERTC, and downtown) running smoothly in the midst of construction confusion, noise, inconveniences, smells, and delays.

At top of the list are two teams that have sparked in the eyes of everyone, particularly those of us who worked during the summer's major construction: the Facilities Teams headed by Mark Cardinal (day) and Craig Nading (evening) and the IT Team, headed by Steve Fudally. These two teams work through challenging conditions, heavy lifting (literally!), unexpected changes, and difficult detours every day. They all perform this work with grace, humor, and a dedication to keeping our College moving forward to serve our students and ensure their success. None of us could do our work if these folks did not do theirs with such energy and efficiency.

I want to recognize the Director of Facilities Mark Cardinal who keeps everything in motion and oversees the facilities; Building Utilities Mechanic Pasquale D'Angiola, who is dedicated to keeping our buildings warm or cool (working early and late), repaired, and running perfectly; General Repair Worker Andrew Benusa, who contributes his expertise and work ethic (and humor) to getting things done; and General Maintenance Worker Jeramie Lemieux, who also jumps right in there with dedication and grit and keeps things moving.

Our Building Services Foreman, Craig Nading, who is always focused on making LSC the best it can be for the entire campus community, heads up a team of General Maintenance Workers who are the best in the Minnesota State System: Roger Bjonskaas, Austin Bourdages, Vaughn Johnson, Cheryl Swardstom, Stephanie Gordon, Joey Erickson, and Kyle Taylor. If you don't know some of these folks, it is likely that they are working quietly and discretely to not interrupt the business of the College and they are also often working when most of us are already at home. They repair, clean, remove snow early in the morning, and make certain we have a healthy working and learning environment.

I also want to recognize CIO Steve Fudally, who oversees a dedicated team of IT professionals and manages all things technology. Working with Steve are Senior Data Center Administrator Ryan Schaefer; Senior System Administrator Jerod Boisjoli; Network Administrator Cole Bleskin; System Administrator Technician Matt Shubitz; and D2L Brightspace Administrator Christine Torma. These folks are often not seen as their work requires focus on the network, phones, programming, and managing the learning management system; activities that are crucial for our College but are usually not top of mind for many of us when everything is running as expected. Things run as expected because these folks make that happen.

The IT folks you will see are those on the IT team who are dedicated to helping all of us stay connected, secure, and functioning. These are two people almost everyone on campus has met: Data Management Technician Carly Beckwith, and Academic & Student Support Technician Jamie Jepperson. Their expertise coupled with their calm reassurance when tackling challenging issues we might have with our computers or classroom technology is widely appreciated by everyone across our campuses.

I know you will join me in saying a heart-felt THANK YOU to these amazing, hardworking, dedicated, and well-respected men and women. If you see them in the hallways, give them a big thumbs up!