Eighteen-year-old Kaitlyn Fritz began attending Lord Fairfax Community College (LFCC) as a high school senior by participating in the Dual Enrollment Program, which enables students to earn college and high school credit while still in high school. Upon graduating from high school, Fritz enrolled at LFCC in part because she could not afford to attend a public university. “LFCC was the perfect starting place for me,” Fritz said.

In addition to her classes, Fritz works in the Learning Resources Center on the LFCC Fauquier Campus, where she assists students who need to take placement tests and proctors class tests and exams. Fritz also takes care of her niece on the days that she does not have classes or work so that her sister can go to school and work.

Fritz is pursuing a degree in education, with an emphasis on history, and plans to graduate in May 2008. Her long-term plans involve teaching history in the k-12 school system. And, thanks to the Alfred Kummli Commonwealth Legacy Scholarship awarded by the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education, this future teacher is able to continue her education. Like so many other LFCC students, Fritz would not be able to attend college without the monetary assistance available through scholarships.

Q: How did the Commonwealth Legacy Scholarship assist you in furthering your education?
A: Receiving the Commonwealth Legacy Scholarship is why I am able to attend college now. I would not have been able to pay for my education on my own. I probably would have had to get a loan or work for a couple of years to save money and then begin my education.

Q: What are your future plans and goals after graduating from LFCC?
A: At I plan on transferring to the University of Mary Washington's Fredericksburg Campus, where I will finish a bachelor’s degree in history. After completing my bachelor’s degree, I plan to begin my teaching career. At this time, I will also pursue a master’s degree in history at the University of Mary Washington's Stafford Campus.

Q: As a freshman, if you had one piece of advice for an individual trying to choose a college, what would it be?
A: If you want to be considered a name and a number, then a big college or university is the place for you. If you want to be considered an individual and even a friend, then a community college is the perfect place for you.
March 2007

Teaching and Learning
LFCC is committed to (1) meeting the need of students by increasing academic offerings, convenient class locations and partnerships with businesses, industry and senior educational institutions and (2) providing professional development for all employees.

• LFCC Tech Prep will sponsor a Career Pathways Fair for approximately 500 high school students during the week of March 19, 2007. The fair, which will be held at the Faquier and Middletown Campuses, aims to acquaint students with a variety of career information and provide the opportunity for students to meet with business and industry leaders currently working in various fields of interest.

• During the fall 2006 semester, a number of LFCC faculty members received recognition and/or presented at area conferences.
  • LFCC’s Phi Thera Kappa (PTK) sponsor James Brumbaugh, instructor of economics, received the PTK Horizon Award for Regional Advisor, which is presented annually to one advisor in the PTK in the international honor society for two-year colleges.
  • Nancy Penney, interim dean of learning for humanities, math and social sciences, received the 2006 VCCA Faculty Showcase award at the Virginia Community College Association (VCCA) fall conference.
  • Miriam Moore, associate professor of English and ESL, organized a one-day regional conference for developmental educators from across the region under the auspices of the Virginia Association of Developmental Educators.
  • Frost McLaughlin, assistant professor of English, is serving as a consulting reader/peer reviewer for the text “Teaching English in a Two Year College.”
  • For information about the Office of Learning, please contact Margaret Bambara, vice president of learning at LFCC, at mbambara@lfcc.edu or (540) 868-0742.

Student Success
LFCC is committed to increasing student retention, graduation and transfer rates by providing students with a variety of academic, cultural and wellness activities and services to enhance their educational experience at the College.

• Enrollment at LFCC continues to increase. Official figures for the fall 2006 semester reflect that LFCC enrolled 5,856 students, an increase of 6.6 percent over fall 2005.

• The College’s Forensics Team participated in a drama and public speaking tournament in Richmond, Va., on Nov. 30 through Dec. 2, 2006. The three LFCC student participants each received two awards for a total of six awards, three of which were first-place finishes.

• Spring is the time for students to apply for financial aid for the next academic year. To assist LFCC students and community families with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, LFCC hosted Super Saturday on Feb. 10. Personnel from LFCC’s Financial Aid Office offered one-on-one assistance to students and their families with completing the financial aid process.

• LFCC’s Career Services Office hosted three job fairs in February and March 2007, one at each LFCC location. The job fairs provided students with the opportunity to meet local employers throughout the region.

• During the fall 2006 semester, the Dance Club was launched at the Middletown Campus. Over 100 students joined the club and learned steps to salsa, swing and break dancing. At the end of the semester, club members attended a semi-formal dance.

• For information about the Office of Student Success, please contact Cindy Bumbahn, vice president of student success at LFCC, at cbumbahn@lfcc.edu or (540) 868-7155.

Partnerships and Outreach
LFCC is committed to meeting the training and educational needs of businesses and individuals in the area, in addition to addressing the needs of an expanding minority and retiree community.

• The Office of Workforce Solutions and Continuing Education is offering a variety of new professional development programs to meet the training needs of the community. The following new programs will be offered in spring 2007:
  • “Shaping the Future,” a one-day workshop for administrative professionals, will be held on April 25.
  • The Office will host a week-long “boot camp” for training individuals to become certified medical billing and coding professionals.

• In fall 2006, the Office of Workforce Solutions and Continuing Education invited designer Jim Krengel, a 38-year veteran in the kitchen and bath design industry, to present a seminar at LFCC entitled “What’s Hot and What’s Not in Kitchen Design.” The seminar provided LFCC students and area professionals with insight into the kitchens of today and yesterday.

• For information about the Office of Workforce Solutions and Continuing Education, please contact Nancy Lloyd, vice president of workforce solutions and continuing education at LFCC, at nlloyd@lfcc.edu or (540) 868-7286.

Resource Development and Public Relations
LFCC is committed to (1) keeping the public informed about the programs and services available at the College and (2) coordinating fundraising for scholarships, facilities upgrades, faculty and program development.

• In 2006, $486,840.57 was raised for the LFCC Educational Foundation, and new funds were established. In addition to scholarships, the funds will be used for academic programs, facilities and professional development.

• The Foundation’s Society of 1970 is growing and currently has 16 members. Members of the Society of 1970 will enjoy exclusive benefits that include invitation to the annual Appreciation Dinner, the College’s quarterly newsletter, the College and Foundation’s annual reports, invitations to events at the home of LFCC’s president and a three-credit professional development course. For more information, please visit http://www.lfcc.edu/foundation/society_of_1970.html.

• LFCC hosted its alumni reunion reception last fall at the Middletown Campus. Approximately 50 LFCC alumni and current and retired faculty attended the event and witnessed the presentation of the 2006 LFCC Distinguished Alumni Award, which was given to Carolyn Glazier. Photographs from the event are available on the LFCC Web site at http://www.lfcc.edu/Alumni/.

• LFCC President John J. “Ski” Sygielski; Linnie Carter, LFCC’s vice president of college advancement; and a group of students served as LFCC ambassadors during visits to the Virginia General Assembly in Richmond in January and February. The visits were an opportunity for the students to learn more about Virginia’s legislative process and thank the elected officials who support higher education. Please see the photograph below.

• Complimentary planned giving seminars will be conducted in April at both the Faquier and Middletown Campuses. The seminars will feature industry experts from BB&T and The Faquier Bank. Legacy gifts offer a way to endow the future of your community while creating tax savings and/or income benefits for you. Gain the knowledge and tools you need to benefit the charities you love.

• For information about the LFCC Educational Foundation and Office of College Advancement, please contact Linnie Carter, vice president of college advancement at LFCC, at lcarter@lfcc.edu or (540) 868-4077.