Laredo College pays homage to retirees

Laredo College is an institution that has transformed the lives of thousands of people around the world. Our students have gone on to accomplish great things and make positive changes in their community. Their success is in great part due to the people working behind the scenes to make our college operate smoothly – our dedicated faculty and staff. These men and women are the fabric of our great institution; the heart and soul of Laredo College. They foster a great environment of learning, innovation, growth and collaboration.

Undoubtedly, our many achievements and successes as a world-class institution of higher education would not be possible without our staff’s devotion and perseverance.

On Friday, June 12, our college family bid adieu to a dynamic group of retirees who, collectively, gave close to 880 years of service to our college with a special reverse car parade around our historic Ft. McIntosh Campus. We know that they leave with great memories and close friendships built over decades.

We hope each of them enjoys this great new chapter in their lives. They will all be dearly missed by everyone in our LC family.

Laredo College honored IBC CEO Dennis Nixon with President’s Community Leadership Award

Each year, Laredo College recognizes the recipients of the Community Leadership Awards, which are bestowed upon outstanding individuals who have been role models for achievement and made a difference in the community.

This year’s sole honoree was International Bank of Commerce CEO Dennis E. Nixon. As a civicly engaged and caring leader in the community, he is widely recognized as one of the nation’s leading banking authorities and executives.

The President’s Community Leadership Awards were established in 2007 as the Beacon Awards, in celebration of the college’s 60th anniversary. In 2017, the awards ceremony was renamed to the President’s Community Leadership Awards. For over a decade, these symbolic awards have celebrated the personal and professional achievements of citizens who work diligently to improve and advance the welfare of our community.

“Mr. Nixon has been a key player in the economic growth and development of our region,” Laredo College President Ricardo J. Solis said. “His extraordinary work in the banking industry as well as his altruistic efforts made him the clear choice for this award. We are elated to recognize a great community partner and champion for higher education.”

The IBC head banker is no stranger to supporting non-profit organizations and local businesses. He has always been an avid supporter of education and student success. Recently, IBC Bank sponsored the renaming of the renovated Harold R. Yeary Library Palomino Café as the IBC Bank Leadership Center. This venue is intended to support and encourage student networking and community engagement.

Additionally, Nixon promotes generosity and volunteerism from his employees by encouraging them to participate in community and charitable events. His myriad of civic involvements, awards and recognitions have been on a national and international level, including being instrumental in the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Other recognitions include the Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame Award, the Paul Harris Fellow Award given by Rotary International for outstanding community service, and the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanities Award given by the State of Israel for outstanding services to humanity.

Laredo College is proud to have recognized such an esteemed member of our community and we look forward to strengthening our great partnership for the advancement of our community.

Laredo College class of 2020 celebrated with virtual graduation

For over 73 years, Laredo College graduates have gone on to join the workforce and lead successful careers in different fields. Earning a degree or certification from LC is a great investment that has paid huge dividends for students chasing after their professional aspirations. This year, graduation looked different for LC students due to the ongoing global health situation. The college experienced another unprecedented occasion – its first virtual graduation.

Graduates were celebrated by college administrators, faculty, friends, family and their peers through a virtual commencement ceremony. Our 2020 graduating class and their accomplishments were at the forefront of this virtual commencement.

Over 1,000 students were added to the ranks of LC graduates that have prospered and advocated for the expansion and development of our community.

This special event was streamed on the college’s official Facebook page and YouTube channel for everyone to join in and celebrate this momentous accomplishment.

Laredo College President Dr. Ricardo J. Solis commended the tireless efforts of all graduates who, despite a difficult last semester due to the COVID-19 pandemic, were able to rise to the challenge and complete their studies.

“This year’s graduating class will go down in the college’s history,” he said. “Their strength, resilience and the courage they have shown in the face of adversity will be memorialized for years to come. This is a very special class, and their achievements cannot be understated.”

Students and their loved ones witnessed this incredible milestone with a unique celebration to highlight the outstanding accomplishments by this year’s graduating class.