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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ***LCC PREPARES FOR “CONVERSATION DAY”***

(Lamar, Colorado, September 3, 2004) Lamar Community College faculty and staff will participate in a “Conversation Day” on Friday, September 17, 2004 in the LCC Wellness Center. The Conversation Day will direct faculty, staff, and administrators into a series of discussions about opportunities and priorities for action at LCC. Due to the necessity to have close to 100% participation in Conversation Day, most LCC offices will be closed. Information Central, located in the Administration Building will be open 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Conversation Day is the second step in LCC’s new continuous accreditation process through the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association using Academic Quality Improvement Project (AQIP). Previously, each staff and faculty member answered eighty-eight questions in a “Constellation Survey.” The results from online survey will provide the context for discussions during Conversation Day.

Objective of conversation day is to establish potential strategic initiatives called action plans. Through further discussions and public forums the action plans are prioritized.

AQIP is a new approach to the accreditation process developed by the Higher Learning Commission to guide colleges in their efforts to be quality institutions. With AQIP, LCC will have the opportunity to demonstrate it meets the Higher Learning Commission's accreditation standards and expectations through sequences of events that naturally align with those ongoing activities that characterize organizations striving to improve their performance. By sharing both its advancement activities and the results of these actions with AQIP, LCC will provide the Higher Learning Commission with the evidence it needs to make a public quality assurance judgment and to support and to assist in its efforts to excel at achieving the distinctive higher education mission it has set for itself. For more information regarding AQIP visit the Higher Learning Commission’s Web site at [www.AQIP.org](http://www.AQIP.org).

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