

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NCLCA Welcomes the Texas College Learning Center Association as Newest Affiliate

The National College Learning Center Association is proud to welcome the Texas College Learning Center Association as a member of its expanding affiliate program.

In a vote held in November and ratified in December, NCLCA overwhelmingly approved TCLCA's application as an official affiliate.

The purpose of affiliation is to help create and organize networks of college learning support professionals in postsecondary institutions within various states or regions. The goal of TCLCA is to promote professional standards in the field of learning assistance in Texas while developing services available in learning centers that enhance student learning.

"This is very exciting for Texas. We have so many colleges and universities that could benefit from professional development, implementation of best practices, research, and resources," says the founding Vice President, Dr. Ne'Shaun Jones, Director of the Student Success Center and Testing Center at The University of Texas at Dallas. Michael Frizell, Immediate Past President and liaison for affiliates with NCLCA, concurs, adding, "It's also exciting for the profession as a whole. The state of Texas has a thriving network of learning center professionals. The work of TCLCA will add a lot to the growing scholarship surrounding the development of learning centers."

Learning centers at institutions of higher education serve as interactive, academic spaces designed to reinforce and extend student learning in physical and/or virtual environments. These environments offer a wide variety of comprehensive support services and programs to enhance student academic success, retention, and completion rates by applying best practices, student-learning theories, and addressing student-learning needs from multiple pedagogical perspectives. Staffed by professionals, paraprofessionals, faculty, and/or trained student educators, learning centers reinforce the holistic academic growth of students by fostering critical thinking, metacognitive development, and academic personal success.

Lisa Johns will serve as the founding secretary of the fledgling organization. As the Director of Academic Success Coaching in the Tomás Rivera Center at the University of Texas at San Antonio, she has worked to assist students at the local level but is ready to begin work on a statewide level, too. "I look forward to promoting our new state affiliate!" Johns added. If you're interested in being part of TCLCA, please contact Johns by emailing her at Lisa.Johns@utsa.edu.

About the National College Learning Center Association

The National College Learning Center Association (NCLCA) is an organization of professionals dedicated to promoting excellence among learning center personnel. NCLCA welcomes any individual interested in assisting college and university students along the road to academic success.

The mission of NCLCA is to support learning assistance professionals as they develop and maintain learning centers, programs, and services to enhance student learning at the post-secondary level. This support will include:

- Promoting professional standards in the areas of administration and management, program and curriculum design, evaluation, and research.
- Acting on learning assistance issues at local, regional, and national levels.
- Assisting in the creation of new and enhancement of existing learning centers and programs.
- Providing opportunities for professional development, networking, and idea exchange through conferences, workshops, institutes, and publications.
- Coordinating efforts with related professional associations.
- Offering forums for celebrating and respecting the profession.

Please visit <http://nclca.wildapricot.org> for more information.

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Michael Frizell, Immediate Past Present and Editor of the peer-reviewed journal, *The Learning Assistance Review*, welcomes media inquiries about the national organization and interviews may be available upon request.

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