

*William Archibald
President of Faculty
Association (1971);
employee for 34 years
in faculty and
administrative
positions*

"It didn't matter where you came from or what you did," Bowen says. "LCCC gave you a chance." From the 1970s through today, Bowen watched LCCC open its doors to older adults in the community as well, often giving them the chance for a new start. The college evolved to serve the needs of Vietnam veterans, senior citizens and adults re-entering the workforce.

"To all an open door" also rang true for Robin Flores, who sang the alma mater at LCCC's first graduation ceremony. She sees in LCCC the same opportunity symbolized by the Statue of Liberty—embracing the college as a place where any person with drive and desire can obtain an education.

"My father passed away suddenly when I was 13 years old," Flores says, "and my mother did not work. There wouldn't have been an opportunity to go to college unless it was affordable."

The first in her family to attend college, Flores knew her father would be proud. She went on to earn a B.S. from Kutztown University and spent 33 years working for the Lehigh County Agency on Aging and Adult Services. Later, she earned an M.S. in Administration from the University of Scranton and served as executive director of the agency before retiring.

"The teachers who started LCCC showed me a new world," Flores says.

Daubert and his former classmates agree: LCCC now provides an excellent option for many more students, in different ways than it did then.

"We're a different community now," Daubert says. "Seventy percent of students in Allentown School District receive free or reduced-cost lunch based upon their family income."

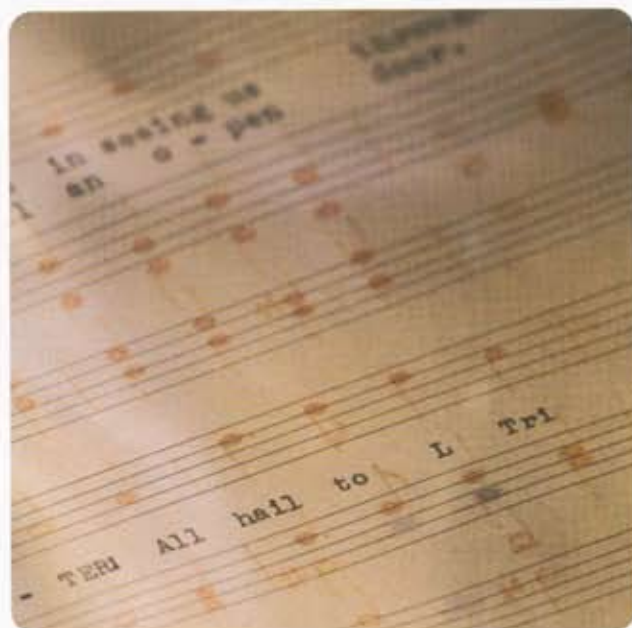


*Renee Saleh
One of the college's
first administrators,
beginning in Old
Lehigh County
Courthouse*

"Having a [downtown Allentown] site broadens the options of children who may not have considered going to college because of their economic situation."

LCCC is a collage of a thousand faces, all with their own stories. But when it comes time for graduation on the LCCC mall, they share a common bond as the alma mater chorus plays:

*Hail, Alma Mater:
All hail to L Tri C,
Thou shalt be an everlasting memory.*



A master copy of LCCC's alma mater hangs today in the Academic Services office.

For Flores, Bowen and Daubert, the song is much more than a memory. To this day, Flores keeps the yellowed sheet music tucked in her diploma. Bowen looks forward to hearing it again at her daughter's upcoming graduation. Daubert plays it on his Yamaha grand piano, where a tiny laminated copy of the music sits.

And although his fingers may create the music, it's his heart where the song forever resides. |



First LCCC class ring is designed by John Roberts Co.



2,123 students enroll in the full semester.