

LMC honors Student Support Services Award winners

BENTON TOWNSHIP — Lake Michigan College has honored a student, faculty member and alumnus who participated in its Student Support Services program.

The program provides special assistance to first-generation, low-income students and students with disabilities to help them graduate or transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

Elena Fantroy of Berrien Springs was named Student Support Services' 2015 Student of the Year. The award annually honors a graduating LMC SSS student who has demonstrated leadership, academic achievement, volunteerism and overall excellence in the program. Fantroy was awarded a \$500 scholarship from the LMC Foundation.

Fantroy will graduate in summer 2015 with honors, receiving an Associate of General Studies degree. She plans to continue studies at Andrews University, pursuing an elementary education degree.

An active member of the SSS program, Fantroy has been a mentor to Benton Harbor students through Students Out to Change the World, participated in Relay for Life, packed food boxes for seniors through the Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency, and helped in the college's holiday food basket drive.

She was named to the LMC All-USA Community College Academic Team

and is employed as a work study student in the LMC financial aid office.

"Elena has a true passion for education. She is highly motivated, focused and provides an exceptional example to other students both academically and as a community mentor," said SSS Director Nancy Johnson.

LMC adjunct faculty member Corin Gresham gained the program's Outstanding Contributor Award. Gresham has taught mathematics at LMC since 2013. The Outstanding Contributor Award recognizes an LMC staff member who has worked closely with program participants or who works behind the scenes to support students' success.

"Both in and out of the classroom Ms. Gresham calms the fears and anxieties of math students," said SSS Academic/Transfer Advisor Brandy Thompson. "Former students return to her for assistance in higher-level math classes and she can frequently be seen staying late to provide extra tutoring to promote student achievement."

LMC alumni Timothy Wills was selected as the 2015 SSS alumni speaker. Wills enrolled at LMC in 1997 after being named Coloma High School Co-op Student of the Year for which he was awarded an LMC scholarship. He joined the SSS program in 1998.

He transferred to Western Michigan University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, and then to Baker College, where he earned a master's in business administration with a finance concentration in 2008.

The credit analyst with Horizon Bank serves as the Christian education director for Mt. Calvary Baptist Church and is a member of the WL Daniels Scholarship committee, which raises funds to provide academic achievement scholarships.



GRESHAM



FANTROY



WILLS