

GRIT™ Mindset: Lone Star College-Tomball strengthens mindset capabilities and career readiness

Rhiannon- Student

“The development of GRIT in my life has given me the ability to look at a situation differently, to kind of step back and take a whole new perspective. “

Latoya Hardman Lewis- Professor

“So it’s not just something for the classroom. My students are learning that this is a way of life.”

Gerald H. - Student

“To be able to face those challenges with the attitude of GRIT is key.”

Gloria Maristany- Professor

“I think that what I noticed the most was that they started accepting that it was really up to them.”

Tre T. - Student

“GRIT means to me as that to never give up. And the first A in my english class just told me that I could be able do it.”

Paul Stoltz- Founder and CEO of Peak Learning, Inc

“GRIT is that raw, essential element inside a human being, that capacity that enables them to dig deep, and do whatever it takes. Especially sacrifice, suffer, and struggle to achieve their most worthy goals.”

Dr. Lee Ann Nutt- President

“When we landed on this GRIT work, it really just became that guiding light for that focus and for our students. We had a declining in enrollment, we also had some budgetary issues because of that decline in enrollment and our performance on the standard key performance indicators as compared to our sister colleges in our system were lower than average. I just knew, sometimes you just have an instinct and a knowing that this GRIT concept was a key piece of the overall completion agenda for community colleges. I simply brought it back to the campus, and lobed a question, I said “what do you think about this GRIT stuff? There’s something here that is very compelling but I don’t know exactly how we can use this or what it will mean for our students but let’s take a look at it.”

Dr. Jackie Thomas- Associate Dean

“And that was really our platform in starting to think about our responsibility as a college to look at students differently and that really catapulted us into thinking both about mindset and GRIT. So our President kept telling us that we were onto something big and that’s turned into all the amazing things that we have been able to do here at the college.”

Latoya Hardman Lewis- Professor

“I thought it was very important that my students first understand the meaning of GRIT and each dimension of GRIT, the growth, the resilience, instinct and tenacity.”

Gloria Maristany- Professor

“When you introduce instinct, the part of Dr. Stoltz definition that says you’re doing this for your most worthy goals, when you put it in that term they start thinking well if it is my own worthy goal, then maybe. Maybe I am willing to go there and once you get them to say maybe, it’s really easy to get them into the growth mindset. So how can you get there? What resources do you have that can get you there? And if you get them buying those two things, resilience and tenacity just follow naturally.”

Dr. Lee Ann Nutt- President

“When we started this work, we were very locally focused. We thought, how could we make a difference for Lone Star College- Tomball? Once we realized the potential to really be a leader in this area, we knew we wanted to partner with someone else who can help us realize our own goals but who we could also help as well. We really wanted to work with Pearson in this because of their national reputation and their commitment to student success.”

Paul Smith- Student Success and Career Development, Pearson

“Synergy was right as we were starting out to work with them because they were very ambitious and very flexible about how they would infuse us into the curriculum in a fairly quick way.”

Dr. Lee Ann Nutt- President

“We found that our values are very similar and that it was a great partnership to move towards”

Latoya Hardman Lewis- Professor

“One of the main things that I focused on was helping my students understand how they could grow the GRIT that they already had.”

Gerald H. - Student

“The thing about GRIT for me is to be able to put it into your everyday life.”

Rhiannon- Student

“Life is going to give us challenges, that’s kind of the nature of life. Its very important that we begin to utilize GRIT and to develop a gritty personality to be able to overcome these challenges.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SomhhosDw8U&feature=youtu.be>