



ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

March 8, 2023 | 2:30 – 4:30 pm | Room 1687 + zoom for visitors

LPC Mission Statement

Las Positas College is an inclusive, learning-centered, equity-focused environment that offers educational opportunities and support for completion of students' transfer, degree, and career-technical goals while promoting lifelong learning.

LPC Planning Priorities

- ❖ Establish a knowledge base and an appreciation for equity; create a sense of urgency about moving toward equity; institutionalize equity in decision-making, assessment, and accountability; and build capacity to resolve inequities.
- ❖ Increase student success and completion through change in college practices and processes: coordinating needed academic support, removing barriers, and supporting focused professional development across the campus.

LPC Academic Senate Quorum: 8

Non-Voting Members:

President: Sarah Thompson
Student Government: Lara Weidemeier
Faculty Association: Heike Gecox
Admin.: Rifka Several

Voting Members:

Vice President: Collin Thormoto
Secretary: Dave Wagner
Treasurer: Ashley Young
BSSL: Robin Roy, Daniel Cearley
A & H: John Kelly, Peter Kuo, Kisha Quesada Turner, Katie Eagan
STEM: Michael Peterson, Ashley McHale
PATH:
Student Services: Christina Lee, Jill Oliveira
Part Time Representatives: Jeff Judd

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 2:32 pm
- 2. Review and Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve: moved/seconded/approved
- 3. Review and Approval of Minutes (February 22, 2023):** Motion to approve: moved/seconded/approved
- 4. Public Comments (3 minutes):** *This time is reserved for members of the public to address the Academic Senate. Please limit comments to 3 minutes. In accordance with the Brown Act, the Academic Senate cannot act on these items.*
Banoo Khani: I am a Class of 2022 alumni of Las Positas and I am here today on the behalf of my peers to represent the student initiative Substance-Free LPC. 70% of public universities and colleges in California, including ALL UC and CSU campuses, have adopted 100% smoke and vape-free policies. At LPC, smoking and vaping is permitted in parking lots, and the on-campus smoking ban is weakly enforced. The CA Department of Public Health evaluation has reported a grade of C for Las Positas's current policies, putting it at the bottom of ranks among ALL California community colleges. Physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing is intimately tied with one's success in school and at work. Las Positas's current policies are not serving the interests of students and staff. Only a 100% smoke-free policy would prepare students for the future academic and professional work environments they will be in. And there has been consistent demonstrated support for more rigorous policies. Through public opinion polling among 212 students, faculty, and staff, we found that 54% felt that stronger enforcement of the current policy was needed, and 72% felt that the current policy needs to be revised to be more stringent. Only by creating a tobacco and smoke-free campus do we truly prove our commitment to prioritize our students' and staff's health and well-being. We ask to work with the LPC Academic Senate on passing a resolution in support of creating such a campus environment that is safe, healthy, and conducive to learning and working for everyone.
- 5. Action Items:** none
- 6. Consent Items:** none
- 7. Presentation – Local Degree and the Fall 2023 Ethnic Studies Requirements** (see attachments on website) Craig Kutil:

AS degree: In 2024 we will be required to have Ethnic Studies for graduation. In the attachments, Craig's proposal is in GREEN. The aim is to not restrict course enrollment to one area. Question about

implementation: likely in 2026, however, we need to make changes to Ethnic Studies in 2024 as an administrative revision. All the documents need to be in place.

AA degree: Craig's proposal is in GREEN. We want to preserve kinesthesiology and health. The other option is to add unit requirements. With transfer students they will look at taking the CSU required courses.

What is our goal for our students who aren't transferring? American History and Critical Thinking might be what we want to offer.

With only one division meeting for the rest of the year, what changes can we make? Make only the changes that are required by adding Ethnic Studies to our pattern. This increases our unit load but is the simplest change to move forward with the transition, leaving more time for deeper discussions.

Craig will give the state-wide vision about the American Institutions requirement at the next meeting. Take these models to your division meetings for discussion and feedback, to provide at the next Academic Senate meeting. PLEASE NOTE THERE ARE REVISED DOCUMENTS ON THE WEBSITE FOR YOUR DIVISIONS. This reporting will be agendized at the next meeting.

8. Reports

7.1 LPC Student Government (L. Weidemier): none

7.2 UndocuAlly (Teri Ann Bengiveno): none

7.3 Curriculum Committee (Erik Bell): none

7.4 CEMC/DEMC Committee (Sarah Thompson): she will present later in the agenda on Kennedy and Associates findings. LPC enrollment is up 3.5%.

7.5 Faculty Association (Heike Gecox): evaluation training will be presented in two Flex Day sessions.

7.6 Professional Development Committee (David Powers): none

7.7 DE Committee (Barbara Zingg): 2.24.23 report on website.

- We will hear about district funding for STAC, which includes Pronto, Ally and NetTutor. The state chancellor's office is negotiating Canvas Studio with a multi-year license.
- 27 instructors registered for HyFlex training.
- 9 instructors voluntarily had courses removed due to accessibility issues. Wanda Butterly is assisting in fixing these.
- Instructors continue to add students into their courses via Canvas without going through A & R.
- DE rates for Fall 2022 were positive, though slightly lower than Spring 2022: 84% retention rate (highest ever for a fall semester) and 69% success rate (third highest ever for a fall semester).

7.8 Planning and Effectiveness Committee (Rajinder Samra): report on website

7.9 LGBTQ+ Presidential Task Force (Robin Roy): they are working on several activities:

- Presenting to new faculty orientation in April
- Arranging a speaker for Fall Flex Day

- Providing additional training for student interns in the Health Center
- More resources at LPC listed on the website
- Being part of the One Love Festival
- Getting more student input on a possible lavender graduation, or having something special at graduation.

7.10 MLEA (Katie Eagan): ESL is deactivating one course, based on student surveys. Most of our students in ESL are not going to the transfer path. SEA s not meeting this month.

7.11 Treasurer (Ashley Young) Ashley will be tabling at two Pleasanton Farmer’s Markets - contact Ashley with any LPC program collateral you’d like her to present for the public.

7.12 President (Sarah Thompson)

She has been busy with budget meetings, which are getting controversial. The BAM is available. There is a preliminary budget for next year which would not even cover salaries. 46M instead of 42M needs to be achieved.

Sarah spoke at the tenure awards ceremony today, a wonderful new tradition.

9. Old Business

9.1 AP 6625: Art, Exhibits and Displays in Public Places: tabled from last meeting, posted on website (Sarah Thompson): This has been more contentious at Chabot than LPC. Chabot provided these changes to the AP. The controversy over Art and Displays in Public Places has to do with freedom of speech in public spaces.

Each campus approves public art. The board does approve projects exceeding a certain amount, but no other projects. Share this with your divisions to find out if there are issues to bring to the meeting. We will vote on this at our next meeting.

9.2 Updates from Academic Senate Advisory Committees:

Staff Appreciation Event (Ashley Young): Food, cake, decorations and door prizes are covered. Ask your divisions to donate opportunity drawing items.

9.3 Update on the Retention after Math non-Success Project (Sarah Thompson): Following last meeting’s discussion, Dr. Foster has agreed to fund this, with Craig Kutil as project manager.

10. New Business

10.1 Revising the Program Proposal Process – degrees and certificates (Kristy Woods):

On the Senate website, there is information on how to present new degrees and certificates. She is requesting that there be a link to the program maps, and information on how to integrate with them. The process on updating program maps is already developed. This will be an action item for the next meeting, then it will be sent to the President’s Office for College Council.

10.2 Diversifying enrollment practices: tabled from last meeting (Sarah Thompson):

We need to look at the issues of our online vs face to face enrollment. The majority of our students are in online courses. The throughput is higher in online, but success rates are better in face to face. Challenges to returning to campus include scheduling. In 1998 we moved to a “block schedule.” It was seen as the most convenient schedule for students. During lockdown, the necessity of a block schedule was negated due to asynchronous instruction. Some disciplines left the block schedule. 40% of our face to face courses are on a block. STEM courses for the most part are not on the block so students can’t easily enroll in all areas. STEM majors are moving to online enrollment as their major courses are not on the block.

Institutional discussion: block scheduling for all courses? Discussion: for courses with longer times, with higher units, should be built around them? Math courses have been directed by their dean to get on the block schedule (Middle College has a different time requirement). Math already has to discuss every semester how to align with STEM. Question about Ad Astra? This is not being used to address this issue. In STEM there are a log of 5 unit courses, that don’t fit in the block. We should look at courses starting at 8 am – 10:15, with the next block starting at 11:30. Start on a block and end closer to the next block.

How will the 16 week Compressed Calendar affect the blocks? Other districts have evaluated unit load and split classes with this calendar. This would be part of the new calendar evaluations.

What does “on block” mean? Every 1.5 hours, start at 8:00 am with a 15 minute break between blocks.

Addressing unevenness of enrollments for GE Requirements: Sarah is meeting with Tim Druley to make a draft of website changes to encourage a different way of displaying course offerings (a “flower model”).

10.3 Outcomes of Kennedy and Associates enrollment assessment: tabled from last meeting (Sarah Thompson): This consulting company came to our campus to evaluate the barriers we have onboarding students. We are very aware of this issue, and surveys and documentations have been done. Their findings matched the findings that had been identified previously; their report alerted the district of the issues:

Management issues:

We do not make use of leadership effectively in our district: lots of ideas, many changes, but no assigned responsibility for processes and projects. Recommendation to implement project managers. This will give us a better indicator of what we can accomplish effectively (our “bandwidth”). Evaluations are more effective when there is responsibility for coordinating and oversight.

Onboarding problems:

ClassWeb is not user friendly for students, and is labor-intensive. Many classified professionals have to help with student navigation. We need to address PIN and password issues; students need to immediately retrieve and reset these.

The detection of fraud takes a lot of time from financial aid personnel.

We need a complete update of Banner, so students and counselors can change majors (and add dual majors) in the system. DegreeWorks is also being updated and will integrate with Banner. Suggestion to streamline student preferred name change protocol; this needs some legal issues for certifying identity (Sarah will ask about this).

Kennedy and Co. Calls this process “enrollment management.” This means something different for educators, and is being discussed in College Council.

CRM Recruit and Revise (see attachment on website): this management system easily brings students into our campus enrollment system. It takes students through all the steps from first interest into class enrollment. We provide pre-set student messages triggered by student activity on the site. We need to balance what the students want with what the institution requires.

Motion to move to 10.5: moved/seconded/approved

10.4 Supporting Our LGBTQ+ Students, Faculty and Staff (Sarah Thompson and Robin Roy)

Trustee Reynoso has been on a media tour with his message: “They demanded I apologize but I am a Christian and it is against the word of God to support LGBTQ+.”

Sarah asked the Chancellor about students grieving against him. What is the definition of a “hostile environment” targeted to a protected group?

Legal advice for statements and actions to move forward with a grievance:

Actions that are:

- Offensive to a group
- Repeated and ongoing
- Deprive the students of the ability to obtain services

What is our response to this Trustee’s public statement? Share this with your divisions and bring back the feedback.

10.5 The Messaging Vision of Guided Pathways (Kristy Woods): They are part of a state wide effort for student support through the pathways. The vision of using new technologies (such as CRM Recruit and Revise) is being developed. See document on website for the Communication Flow Plan. The request is to build the push-out messages based on student data. SEA is working on this.

It will be best if we contribute from the very beginning of the development of the new technologies.

11. Announcements/Information Items

Craig Kutil: he submitted a revision to his GE documents, and more state-wide information. This is posted on the website.

12. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn: moved/seconded/approved. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

13. Next Meeting: March 22, 2023 – 2:30 pm