

Roanna Bennie, Las Positas College Interim President

Las Positas College Receives Golden Bell Award from Tri-Valley ROP

Interim President Bennie and Las Positas College were recognized for outstanding dedication and commitment to the students of Tri-Valley Regional Occupational Program (ROP) and Middle College High School. The award is similar in design to what was presented to Tri-Valley ROP's Golden Bell Award. This award promotes excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs and governance practices of school boards in school districts and county offices of education throughout California.



President Bennie received a Certificate of Recognition presented by Julie Duncan, Superintendent at the March 6, 2019 Tri-Valley ROP board meeting for her collaboration and partnership with the Tri-Valley ROP Districts and Middle College High School at Las Positas College.

(left to right): Mr. Chuck Rogge, Trustee (ROP); Mrs. Julie Duncan, Superintendent; Ms. Roanna Bennie, President LPC; Ms. Valerie Arkin, Trustee (ROP); Ms. Amy Miller, Trustee (ROP).

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Journalism Students Earn 16 Awards at State Convention

Photo and Article by Melissa Korber

Six students from the Mass Communications Department racked up multiple recognitions at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges' annual three-day convention March 28 to 30 in Sacramento. Emily Forschen, editor in chief of The Express, and Arion Armeniakos, opinions editor, each took home two awards, leading the LPC contingent that brought home 16 awards, 9 publication awards, and 7 honorable mentions, 3 of which were earned on-the-spot.

The college's media department also earned the most sought-after award of the night — General Excellence — and did so twice! Both Naked Magazine and the online version of The Express received the high honor, given to the best publications.

The convention included engaging workshops and fierce competition among community college students from across the state. The students learned new, modern techniques and fine-tuned their media skills. They also participated in on-the-spot competitions, testing their skills in live events, and submitted their published work to compete with their peers. Congratulations to the students and their advisors.



Left to right Mass Communication students: Thiha Naing, Christina Vargas, Arion Armeniakos, Devin Bradshaw, and Emily Forschen.

8 Schools in 5 Cities... How DSPS is Connecting with the Community



Dr. Jason Jones, Director of DSPS

Las Positas College (LPC) Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS) Director, Dr. Jason Jones, recently completed an outreach tour where he presented to “eight schools in five cities” about the support services available at LPC for students with disabilities. As an integral part of the College, DSPS provides support services, specialized instruction, and educational accommodations to students with disabilities so that they can participate as fully and equitably in the college experience as their non-disabled peers. Dr. Jones believes that getting out into the communities that LPC serves and spreading the word about how DSPS can provide academic accommodations to support student access, success, and self-advocacy is critical.

The DSPS community tour, kicked off at Dublin High School and then shifted to presentations to Pleasanton Middle School (hosted by the District’s Special Needs Committee), Foothill High School, San Ramon Valley High School, Granada High School, and Livermore High School before the final stop came at Kimball High School. One highlight from the tour for Dr. Jones came as he recalled a moment when a family shared that they have come to three of his presentations and another when a newly enrolled DSPS student learned that he was presenting at her former high school, met him at the school, and asked if she could share her DSPS experiences there. “It was at that moment,” he said with a smile, “that I knew my ‘tour’ was a success, and I also realized that I had the makings of a potential fan base.”

Ultimately, the message that Dr. Jones shared was one of hope, caring, and inspiration. Participants left knowing what DSPS program is, what the program can (and can’t) do for students, the differences between high school modifications and college accommodations, and what documents meet program eligibility criteria. Dr. Jones believes that the biggest “ah-ha moment” for most attendees was learning that high school Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), 504 Plans, or documentation from an appropriate agency or certified/licensed professional is all that is needed to satisfy the eligibility requirement for most students coming to LPC right out of high school.

The Las Positas College DSPS aims to provide support services, specialized instruction, and educational accommodations to students with disabilities so that they can participate as fully and benefit as equitably from the college experience as their non-disabled peers.

Seminar Series: Blood-Brain-Barrier (BBB)

The Las Positas College and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) collaboration is in full swing with its 9th annual Science & Engineering Seminar Series.

This seminar will explore the blood-brain-barrier (BBB). The blood-brain-barrier is a special structure in the body that helps to protect the brain from unwanted toxins and germs. LLNL is using a drug optimization pipeline that combines several experimental techniques with computational methods, making use of some of the fastest super computers in the world.

The presenter for this event is Dr. Tim Carpenter, Computational Biophysicist, Deputy Group Leader, Bioscience and Biotechnology Division, LLNL.



Dr. Tim Carpenter

LPC Flex Day

Las Positas College held its Spring Flex Day program that offered 26 workshops which allowed participants to contribute to one another by sharing knowledge in their area of professional expertise.

This year’s keynote speaker was Andrea Thorson. She is the Dean of Instruction at Bakersfield College (BC). Andrea and Dean Stephen Waller continue to lead BC through the difficult terrain of developing and executing AB705 implementation. Andrea has received two leadership awards for her dedication to timely and challenging innovations at Bakersfield College and serves in several leadership roles on campus.



Ms. Andrea Thorson and Mr. Howard Blumenfeld.

Las Positas College Veterans First Program Honors Woman Veterans

Courtesy of Alan Lewis



Keynote Speaker US Marine Corps. Veteran, Rachel Ballew.

The Las Positas College (LPC) Veterans First Program presented keynote speakers US Marine Corps. Veteran, Rachel Ballew, US Air Force Veteran, Graciela Tiscareño-Sato, and US Navy Veteran, Lindsey Sin, as well as a female student veteran Q & A panel discussion for its seventh annual “Honoring Women Veterans” event in March.

“We are proud to honor the special contributions made by women in the military by presenting this event during Women’s History Month,” said Veterans First Coordinator, Todd Stefan.

Keynote speaker Graciela Tiscareño-Sato is a highly-decorated military veteran, bilingual STEM Consultant to K-12 school districts, and a sought-after speaker on environmental entrepreneurship, leadership, innovation and the Latino educational crisis and solutions. She’s the author of five-time award-winning *Latinovating: Green American Jobs and the Latinos Creating Them*. Tiscareño-Sato was honored by The White House as a Woman Military Veteran Leader Champion of Change in March 2014.

The LPC Veterans First Program is primarily responsible for the administration of veterans educational benefits programs. They provide other resources and contacts, such as career planning, financial aid, transition counseling services, and other needed services for our returning Veterans.



Q & A Panel Discussion Participants.

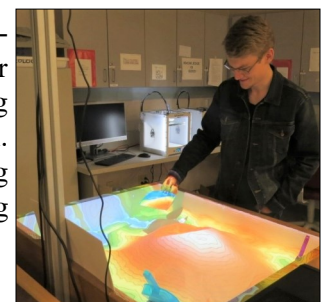
Courtesy of Alan Lewis

New Applications for Augmented Reality Sandbox

By: Carol Edson

The Augmented Reality sandbox is branching out into many disciplines at Las Positas College. It is not only being used in Geoscience labs, but also in Horticulture, Physics and other disciplines. Creative thinking has led to additional pedagogical applications of this teaching tool that superimposes responsive digital effects onto sand in an augmented reality sandbox.

Dr. Bill Pezzaglia designed a Physics lab for demonstrating equipotential and gradients using the augmented reality box, with the flowing water projection.



Student Will Kossow



Geology student assistant Kirill Ivanov working with the sandbox on Flex day featuring the AR sandbox and its capabilities.

Horticulture instructor Cindy Angers will be bringing her class to experiment with landscape design and drainage modeling with the help of student assistant, Will Kossow. Will is on both the augmented reality sandbox team and is a Horticulture student.

Las Positas College students will work with the college faculty to understand topography. The system teaches geographic, geologic, and hydrologic concepts such as how to read a topography map, the meaning of contour lines, watersheds, catchment areas, levees, and much more.

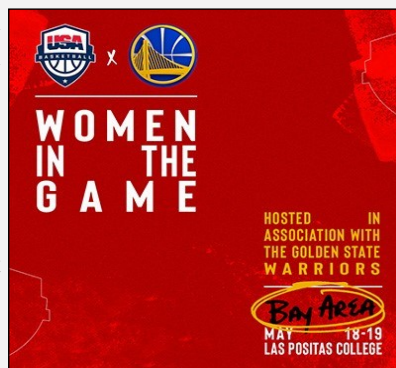
Calendar

Please visit our website for more details about the latest news and events.

April 2	FASFA and Dream Act Application Assistance
April 2 & 23	Financial Empowerment Workshops
April 3	LPC Queer Straight Alliance
April 8	LLNL/LPC Science and Engineering Seminar Series - Binary to Biology
April 8 - 14	Las Positas Student Government Elections Week
April 9	Business and Entrepreneurship Series - Featuring David Rowley
April 10	“Angst” Film Screening and Panel Discussion
April 10	Sexual Assault Awareness Event
April 10	Job and Internship Fair
April 16	The Market—Food Pantry
April 18	Spring Vocal Concert
April 24	Public Safety Majors Fair
April 25	Jazz Combos Concert

LPC to Host Women in the Game Conference

The USA Basketball Women in the Game initiative, which is in its third year in 2019, exposes high school girls, college women and emerging professionals to career paths in the sports industry to develop and prepare the next generation of female leaders in sport.



USA Basketball announced its first Women in the Game conference in 2019 will be held May 18-19 at Las Positas College.

Guest speakers from a variety of sports business fields will share their personal career journeys, essential characteristics to succeed in their roles, practical strategies to get started in the industry, and how to sustain a position in a highly competitive sports industry. In addition to guest speaker-led sessions, attendees will engage in small group discussions and workshops focused on professional development, leadership training and interactive experiences in the business of sports.

Welcome Trustee Tim Sbranti

The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees has appointed a new member from Trustee Area 5, which includes the cities of Dublin, Pleasanton and Sunol. Mr. Tim Sbranti of Dublin will replace Mr. Carlo Vecchiarelli, who retired in February, as an appointed member of the Board until the next regularly scheduled election for governing board members in November 2020. Mr. Sbranti will fulfill the responsibilities of a Trustee, including attending all board meetings and some college events, studying agendas and issues and participating fully in the governance of the District. He will be sworn in and begin service at the regularly scheduled board meeting, at Las Positas College, on April 16, 2019.



LPC News in Brief

Livermore Valley Transit Wins Award - The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), operator of the Wheels and Rapid bus services, was recently named as the recipient of four First Place AdWheel Awards, presented by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). One of the Authority’s winning categories was for the “Funding Partnership with Las Positas College Student Pass Program.” Congratulations to LAVTA and everyone at LPC that worked collectively for this program!

LPC to Host FastPass Registration - Between 3 and 7 p.m. Monday, April 8 through Thursday, April 11, students wishing to enroll at LPC can receive help in completing their

application and registration for future semesters. All sessions are on a first-come, first-served basis, and the event serves as a one-stop shop for gaining admission and preparing to attend LPC.

Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert - The Las Positas College (LPC) Jazz Ensemble and Orchestra musicians showcased their skills at the college's annual spring concert on Thursday, March 21. LPC's Jazz Ensemble played a variety of jazz tunes that were selected specifically for their crowd-pleasing effects.

For more information please visit www.laspositascollege.edu.



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Students First