



# LAS POSITAS CONNECTION

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community | October 2020

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President

## Las Positas College One of Top 20 Community Colleges in the U.S.

Las Positas College has been named the 14th best community college in the country in a recent WalletHub report on the Top 20 Best Community Colleges in the United States.

WalletHub compared more than 650 community colleges within the American Association of Community Colleges to determine where students can receive the best education at the lowest price. Eighteen key indicators for cost and quality were reviewed, including cost of in-state tuition and fees to student-faculty ratio to graduation rate.

Also of note is that LPC ranked 14th in "Career Outcomes" which was determined by student-loan default rate, median salary after attending college, and share of former students earning above the average earnings of a high school graduate. Further, LPC placed 5th out of 77 community colleges in California. Las Positas College will continue to put Students First by enriching and growing the community we serve by offering affordable, accessible and equitable programs and courses.



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## LPC Remembers 9.11



On September 11, 2020, the Las Positas College Veterans First Program held a 9-11 remembrance with a live virtual program featuring keynote speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Darling, USMC Veteran.

Lt. Col. Darling shared his account of that fateful Tuesday morning, September 11, 2001 where he stood shoulder-to-shoulder with America's highest leaders including Vice President Dick Cheney and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in a bunker underneath the White House as they made unprecedented decisions on behalf of all Americans. He says, "Leadership and crisis management were the difference between hope and despair."

Students, faculty, staff, and community members were invited to this very special presentation to honor the fallen.

# How LPC Can Participate in the Undocumented Student Action Week

Las Positas College will be participating once again in the California Community Colleges Undocumented Student Action Week from October 19 - 23.

Beginning in 2017, the California Community College Chancellor's Office encouraged and supported all 115 California Community Colleges to hold an Undocumented Student Week of Action.

At its September, 2018 meeting, the California Community Colleges Board of Governors approved a resolution indicating that the California Community Colleges are committed to providing an open and welcome environment for all students, regardless of ethnicity, religion, national origin, immigration status, age, gender, medical condition or socioeconomic status. The Undocumented Student Week of Action encourages community colleges to plan events that support undocumented students in their pursuit of higher education and that advocates to Congress a pathway to citizenship for the current Dreamers, DACA, and Undocumented students.

The kick-off event began Wednesday, October 14, 2020 with a webinar from the Chancellor's Office System. Webinars will be facilitated in the following areas: Financial Aid Update, Policy Update, Student Track, Counseling Faculty Track, Administrators Track, Faculty Track, and UndocuLiasion and Classified Staff Track. Registration is required to participate in any of the webinars. Please [click here](#) for the registration link or more information regarding webinar topics.

For additional information on how you can support the undocumented students, visit the [Community College League of California webpage](#).

Fall 2020



**Information Sessions for Dreamers**

Presented by the UndocuAlly Task Force

**September**

In-state Tuition & the California Dream Act  
September 18th | 3p.m. - 4p.m.

The Las Positas College Financial Aid Process  
September 28th | 3p.m. - 4p.m.

**October**

Dreamers' Resources  
October 2nd | 3p.m. - 4p.m.

The Las Positas College Financial Aid Process  
October 19th | 3p.m. - 4p.m.

In-state Tuition & the California Dream Act  
October 23rd | 3p.m. - 4p.m.

**November**

Dreamers' Resources  
November 12th | 5pm - 6pm

Same Zoom Link for All Sessions:  
<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/98410908536>

Passcode: 8986

Dreamers @ LPC:  
[www.laspositascollege.edu/dreamers/index.php](http://www.laspositascollege.edu/dreamers/index.php)



**In-state Tuition & the California Dream Act**

- We will go over:
- What is AB 540, AB 2000, SB 68, and how it may apply to you?
  - Scholarships & Grants (AB 130 & AB 131)
  - Intro to the California Dream Act Application
  - The Student Experience

**The Las Positas College Financial Aid Process**

- We will go over:
- The LPC Financial Aid Process
  - Important Deadlines and Resources
  - The California Dream Act Application Tips
  - FinAid on CLASS-Web
  - How to Connect with Staff

**Dreamers' Resources**

- We will go over:
- The Dreamers at LPC Website
  - Dreamers Thriving Not Surviving Club at LPC
  - Scholarship Websites
  - Legal Support Services
  - Social Media and Webinars
  - Transfer Schools with Dreamer Resource Centers

## Romeo & Juliet

Presented by Las Positas College

We hope you had a chance to experience Las Positas College's first virtual production of William Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet. The show ran from October 2 - October 10. Patrons were able to reserve their virtual seat and enjoy this production in the comfort of their home.



## Work-Based Learning Courses



Students can now earn college credits for working by enrolling into a work-based learning course. If the student holds a job, internship, or steady volunteer work, they can now earn college credit by enrolling in one of two WRKX class. Depending on the hours a student works, they can earn six or eight units each semester as long as the student works 75 paid hours or 60 unpaid hours per unit. These class units are transferrable to CSU, and the courses can be taken multiple times. Visit the [Work-Based Learning Courses](#) website for more information and to enroll.

## President's Speaker Series Presents Tyrone C. Howard, Ph.D.



Dr. Tyrone C. Howard was the featured speaker for October's President's Speaker Series, a partnership between LPC's President's Office and the LPC Foundation.

Dr. Howard is professor in the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies at UCLA. He is also the inaugural director of the new UCLA Pritzker Center for Strengthening Children and Families, a campus-wide consortium examining academic, mental health, and social emotional experiences and challenges for California's most vulnerable youth populations. Dr. Howard is the former Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity & Inclusion. His research examines equity, culture, race, teaching and learning. He has published over 75 peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and technical reports as well as several bestselling books, including *Why Race and Culture Matter in Schools: Closing the Achievement Gap in America's Classrooms* and *Black Male(d): Peril and Promise in the Education of African American Males*. His most recent book, *All Students Must Thrive*, focuses on equity, race, trauma, and learning. It has become a must read for all educators. Dr. Howard is considered one of the premiere experts on educational equity and access in the country.

His presentation from October 6 is still available for review at the President's Office [Speaker Series webpage](#). The next Speaker Series presentation will be November 3, 2020.

## 11th Annual LLNL/LPC Science & Engineering Seminar Series

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and Las Positas College Science and Engineering Seminar series provides LLNL scientists and engineers a forum to share basic and applied research with LPC students and faculty and the Tri-Valley community. The presentations typically focus on how teams of scientists work together to solve problems from theory to practice.

LPC will virtually host its first fall 2020 event on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 via Zoom at 7:00 PM. Please join us in the presentation of "*Environmental Radiochemistry: Where Radio Chemistry meets Environmental Science*" by Dr. Mavik Zavarin.

Dr. Mavrik Zavarin received his B.S. in chemistry and Ph.D. in Soil Chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley. He has spent much of his career at LLNL studying actinide environmental chemistry. He is currently the director of the Glenn T. Seaborg Institute, manages an active research group of postdocs and graduate students, and has published over 50 papers. In addition, Dr. Zavarin teaches introductory Chemistry at Las Positas College on occasion. Joining for the question/answer session: Enrica Balboni, staff scientist, environmental radiochemistry and nuclear forensics, Gauthier Deblonde, staff scientist, actinide chemistry.



Please visit the [Seminar Series webpage](#) to register for this event or get additional information.



## Walk 2.2 for Vets

The LPC Veterans First Program, LPC Student Veteran Organization, and Pleasanton Military Families will hold a “2.2 for 22 Walk for Vets Virtual Challenge” for twenty-two days, from October 21 to November 11. The event is an effort to raise awareness that 22 veterans are lost to suicide each day. Funds raised will help bring mental health services to LPC student veterans, stop suicide among veterans, and support services provided by the Pleasanton Military Families.

The “2.2 for 22 Walk for Vets” will be divided into virtual challenges emphasizing the number 22. The challenges do not require a person to be at any particular location and challenges can be completed/attempted from anywhere!

To sign up or find more information at please [click here](#).



## CoAEMSP Annual Report Success

On Wednesday September 16, 2020 the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) found Las Positas College’s annual report to be satisfactory in all metrics of student success. The current threshold of 70% was exceeded in all categories which included: NREMT/State Written Exam: 90.5 %, Retention: 92%, and Positive Job Placement: 95.7%.

Congratulations to the entire team of faculty, administrators and staff in surpassing the mandated minimums.

## Welding for the Arts Fall 2020



### News in Brief

**Faculty: It’s TOAST time:** On Wednesday, Oct. 28 the LPC Teaching Online and Sharing Tips & Tales will hold their Halloween TOAST. TOAST is a Teaching Institute inspired support and social forum for online teaching.

**New Online Incident Referral Form:** Student Services has launched Maxient, an online software system for use to report academic integrity, student discipline, student grievances, student mental health referrals, and student Title IX.

**November President’s Speaker Series:** The next President’s Speaker Series will be Tuesday, November 3rd, with Mr. Tim Wise. Wise is among the most prominent anti-racist writers and educators in the United States. Wise has been featured in several documentaries, including “White Like Me: Race, Racism and White Privilege in America.” Wise appears regularly on CNN and MSNBC to discuss race issues.



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3000 Campus Hill Drive | Livermore CA 94551-7623 | PH 925.424.1000 | [www.laspositascollege.edu](http://www.laspositascollege.edu)  
**Students First**