



ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

December 14, 2022 | 2:30 – 4:30 pm | zoom

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: 7

Non-Voting Members:

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

Voting Members:

Secretary:
Treasurer: Ashley Young
BSSL: Robin Roy, Daniel Cearley
A & H: John Kelly, Peter Kuo, Kisha Quesada Turner, Dave Wagner
STEM: Michael Peterson, Ashley McHale
PATH: vacant
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 (November 9, 2022): Motion to approve: Moved/seconded/quorum changed to 7/motion to approve with quorum amended: moved/seconded/approved

4. Public Comments: NONE

5. Action Items: NONE

6. Consent Items: Motion to approve 6.1 and 6.2: moved/seconded/approved

6.1 Hiring Committee: Tutoring Center Instructional Assistant: Jin Tsubota

6.2 Hiring Committee: Photography Laboratory Technician: Peter Kuo

7. Reports

7.1 LPC Student Government (L. Weidemier): none

7.2 UndocuALLY (Teri Ann Bengiveno): none

7.3 CTE Committee (Melissa Korber): CTE has submitted changes to their committee charge: reporting out information that is discussed, and recommendations will be made. The next meeting is in January.

7.4 Curriculum Committee (Erick Bell): It was a successful semester for the committee. Faculty responded well to their outreach, and the committee was able to review their materials in terms of equity, expected enrollment, Guided Pathways and other items. There will be an approval list forwarded to Academic Senate before the break.

7.5 CEMC/DEMC Committee (Kristina Whalen): Sarah: Overall, our enrollment numbers are up from last spring, at 6% above. There is concern about the unevenness in divisions; some classes are full, others are still below 10. Currently there are 17.5 FTEF worth of classes that are less than 10, taught by full-time faculty. On average, each division has 30 classes taught by full-time faculty that are under 10. Most are face to face. There will not be a threshold of 20. There are concerns about classes that are filling: these are introductory (a Guided Pathways recommendation). Joel Gagnon and Sarah will meet to brainstorm on student tools so there is more diversity of choices presented. Question:

is there a pattern about time of class? Evening classes are the lowest. It is likely these students have moved to asynchronous classes. These asynchronous classes have a very high attrition rate. Kristy offered to attend enrollment meetings so Guided Pathways can connect students with disciplines, and highlight courses.

7.6 Faculty Association (Heike Gecox): none

7.7 Professional Development Committee (David Powers) none

7.8 Planning and Effectiveness Committee (Rajinder Samra): none

7.9 SEA Committee (Shawn Taylor) Katie Eagan: student groups are chosen for SEA focus: foster youth, economically disadvantaged youth, and African and LatinX transfer students. They are working on how students self-identify and are planning on staff training and online student reports.

7.10 Guided Pathways (Kristy Woods): Phase 2 will be completed as a fall 2023 goal. The steering committee will start with items including automated welcome letter to students based on declared major with contact information, put them automatically into Canvas, milestone check ins, the steering regularly reviews and analyses data. The committee may start to meet twice a month. Please see this link to the documents that were shared (these are also posted on the website):

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1rdK8pEfG_6bVO-Zsogo6l8PbPa2oInnl/edit#slide=id.g11858fa042a_7_16

7.11 DE Committee (report posted on the website)

7.12 District Compressed Calendar Committee (Dave Wagner): none

7.13 Treasurer (Ashley Young): \$2100+ has been raised, with 450+ entries. We can decide on the number and amount of scholarships at the January meeting. There are also funds for the classified appreciation events. For the wine rack opportunity drawing:

- 1st Prize: Marina Lira
- 2nd Prize (LPC basket): Kristina Whalen
- 3rd Prize (wine basket): Ron Gerhard
- 4th Prize (wine basket): Rafael Valle

7.14 President (Sarah Thompson)
Report on last two board meetings:

November 15 the no confidence vote was presented to the trustees from the three senates from both colleges. Sarah read and the other constituents stood in support. The trustee called them a “mob,” said that he needed a lawyer, and left the meeting. The board members voted to create an ad hoc investigation committee regarding the trustee being censured.

December 13 board meeting: the trustee left the meeting during Sarah’s report on Life Long Learning Academy. The trustee announced that he would attend all senate meetings (classified, academic and

student). There will be a plan in place in the New Year for his attendance at the meetings. Sarah has met with Sean Prather on this.

Disruptive public comments at board meetings: here is growing concern about public comments at the board meetings. Former employees make regular negative comments about leadership personnel, especially the Vice chancellor of HR. These comments are accelerating. There is yelling and use of vulgarity. There is a difference between “criticizing” and “verbally attacking.” Sarah supported VC of HR for his many accomplishments in her comments. This was followed by many other supportive comments. Sarah will propose at chancellor’s council meeting that the board use every legal method possible to stop these verbal attacks.

Update on vaccine mandate: visitors will no longer be required to be vaccinated, starting in January. Student and staff vaccine mandates will be addressed in February by the board, with any changes to be in effect for Fall 2023. Nearby colleges have already rescinded vaccine mandates.

District Planning and Budget Committee: the new model was approved. Sarah met with VPs on the plan for reassigned time, and these recommendations were presented to Dr. Foster. The reduction is almost 20 CAH.

Faculty Association is interested in working to create CLIP program for part-time instructors, and also to recreate the part time diversification committee for the 24-25 academic year.

There was a complaint about Sarah’s email regarding the wine rack announcement; she apologizes for the tone of the comment.

8. Old Business

8.1 New CTE Charge (posted on website): (Melissa Korber) The new charge has additional language regarding reporting out committee discussions. *This will be a consent items for the next meeting.*

8.2 Follow-up on Erik Bell’s communication with McGraw Hill Publishers: (Erik Bell) Erick and his students submitted a letter regarding inappropriate textbook content. McGraw Hill responded with a one-time \$5000 scholarship award promoting equity. This will be facilitated by the LPC Foundation, working with the SEA committee on qualification suggestions. He appreciates the award; however, Erick noted that the online textbook edition has not yet been changed. He had asked that a supplement to the existing textbook be created; this is not yet done. The students were pleased, overall, and this was a learning opportunity about using your voice to create change. Also how important it is to be able to clearly articulate and write about your issues.

John Kelly commented that he will be contacting a publisher for texts used in his classes about their use of masculine pronouns referring to stage technicians.

8.3 BP 4027 Travel Study Programs: (Katie Eagan) tabled from last meeting. Katie has been working with VC Rowland; the changes were so extensive that a new version was created (posted on the website). This will be shared at chancellor’s council. From there it goes to the CFO for recommendations to the Chancellor. Sarah will ask Theresa to set up this presentation.

8.4 Further discussion on eliminating vaccine mandate for staff and students (the mandate is lifted for visitors in January 2023): Can Alameda County Health Dept. be consulted? LPC is more restricted than the county and state, the K-12 schools and many other colleges. For spring semester, are other, non-mandated colleges, experiencing a rise in enrollment? We will have to wait for this data. This will be discussed at the February Board meeting.

8.5 Reevaluating current Academic Senate Advisory Committees (Sarah Thompson): tabled from last meeting. Sarah's recommendations and comments:

- Enrollment Advisory Committee: this has too big a goal to address; suggest it be replaced with a "Best Retention Practices" advisory committee to work with Guided Pathways.
- Destination Campus Advisory Committee: this is also a very broad issue; this advisory committee could create a specific goal or event for the spring. The committee had discussed a community "open house" and Ashley wants to make sure this discussion continues.
- Living within Our Means and A & R Forms Advisory Committees: these are not 10 + 1 issues, so not appropriate for the Academic Senate.
- AB1705 Advisory Committee: this issue is within our purview, but duplicates the existing college committee.

We want to revisit the Academic Senate reporting, such as MLEA, which will be added as a reporting committee.

Suggested new advisory committees to start in the Spring, with tasks that can be accomplished in a semester:

- Best retention practices: Jeff Judd has agreed to be the lead in this. Jill, Ashley McHale and Kelly will also join. The syllabus template for faculty would be a good first item for this committee.
- Staff appreciation event: Ashley will join.
- CLIP program advancement for part-time faculty: the Academic Senate should be the driving force as this is a professional development program. There is district support. Michael Peterson signed up for this committee.
- Part-Time Diversification Strategies: combined with FA. Collin Thormoto will sign up.
- LPC Olympics event (although not 10 + 1, the last Olympics was shared with all senates and the president's office :) Dan, Robin, Ashley Young and Kisha are already on the destination campus committee.
- Other committees to add for spring semester? This will be on the agenda for the next meeting, and these committees will be on the reporting structure in future agendas.

8.6 Equity dashboard misuses across the state (Sarah Thompson): tabled from last meeting. We use equity dashboards in program reviews, to identify marginalized groups with different success rates. Some districts – notably with conflicts between administration and faculty - have posted these dashboards publicly, without context. Some classes have greater proportions of marginalized students and are being compared with non-similar classes.

Background: IR keeps data on class performance by students with their demographic data applied. Faculty can then consider modifications of teaching methods, course content, etc. to address the data findings. Dan: you need to request this directly from the IR department (Rajinder).

Clarification of issue: the raw data being made public without context does not show the full picture of inequities of outcomes. There is no regulation on the use of this data. Michael commented that no data sample size has been established (example: a sample of 10 was used in one case).

We can continue discussion on whether any action is needed for this issue; which is not in place at LPC.

8.7 Appointing a Secretary of the Academic Senate for Spring 2023 (Sarah Thompson): tabled from last meeting. Collin moved from Secretary to Vice President. Collin: this is not a high-time requirement position. Question: would you lose your vote as a Senator? No. Dave Wagner will fill this position, and will be added to all the agendas and minutes templates. His A & H division will get a new senator position.

8.8 Any rearrangements for Senate reporting schedule/reporting personnel for the New Year? (Rifka Several): tabled from last meeting. Rifka will contact the committees regarding their recording preferences. MLEA will be added.

Current 2nd Wednesday meeting reports:

- 7.1 LPC Student Government (L. Weidemier)
- 7.2 UndocuAlly (Teri Ann Bengiveno)
- 7.3 CTE Committee (Melissa Korber) TAKE OFF FROM 2ND WEDNESDAY
- 7.4 Curriculum Committee (Erik Bell)
- 7.5 CEMC/DEMC Committee (Kristina Whalen)
- 7.6 Faculty Association (Heike Gecox)
- 7.7 Professional Development Committee (David Powers)
- 7.8 Planning and Effectiveness Committee (Rajinder Samra)
- 7.9 SEA Committee (Shawn Taylor) FOURTH WEDNESDAY
- 7.10 Guided Pathways (Kristy Woods) FOURTH WEDNESDAY
- 7.11 LGBTQ+ Presidential Task Force (Robin Roy)

Current 4th Wednesday meeting reports: add MLEA

- 7.1 LPC Student Government (Lara Weidemeier)
- 7.2 CTE (Melissa Korber) ONLY THIS MEETING
- 7.4 SLO Committee (John Rosen)
- 7.5 Program Review Committee (Lucas Hasten)
- 7.6 CEMC/DEMC (Sarah Thompson)
- 7.7 DE Committee (Barbara Zingg)
- 7.8 Faculty Hiring Prioritization (Heike Gecox)
- 7.9 Accreditation Steering Committee (Kristina Whalen)
- 7.10 Technology Committee (Collin Thormoto) MOVE TO THE SECOND WEDNESDAY
- 7.11 District Technology Committee (Bill Komanetsky)
- 7.12 District Compressed Calendar Committee (to be confirmed)

8.9 Implementing the new Brown Act options (Collin Thormoto): thanks to Collin who volunteered to do the management of the new Brown Act structure. This will be communicated to our committees. Information will be distributed to Senators, and posted on the website.

Moving forward: this is state law. The state of emergency is being lifted by the governor.

- Quorum is required to be in person: 8 people in person for our meetings
- Remote meeting attendance allowed only with prior written communication and reason for missing the in person meeting.
- Do we need to provide/use both audio and visual?
- Notify the meeting body if someone is in the room with you under 18 and why they are in the room with you.
- We can allow teleconferencing “for public benefit” which would apply to non-voting reporting members

Collin will take on the zoom management.

What is the district doing to handle this? They have not allowed virtual participation since last summer; you can request minutes or audio, but no input can be made remotely. Sarah and Collin will communicate to solidify the information and communicate this to the committees.

9. New Business: motion to table 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 for the next meeting: moved/seconded/approved

9.1 Academic Freedom (Sarah Thompson) tabled for next meeting

9.2 Discussion of LPC Olympics (Sarah Thompson) tabled for next meeting

9.3 Identifying a Spring president-elect, to serve as Academic Senate president next year: tabled for the next meeting

9.4 Need a representative on the District Wide Compressed Calendar Committee: the committee was not able to meet according to Dave’s schedule. Sarah will ask Theresa to meet with Kisha to see if the meeting schedule works.

10. Announcements/Information Items: none

11. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn: moved/seconded/approved

12. Next Meeting: January 25, 2023

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