



LAS POSITAS CONNECTION

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community | January 2019

Roanna Bennie, Las Positas College Interim President

Welcome Week January 14 - 16

Las Positas College Outreach Services and Las Positas College Student Government (LPCSG) will host welcome tables the first three days of the semester on the Quad and in-front of the Welcome Center/Student Life Office. The informational tables include class schedules, brochures and flyers on academic and student support services, and campus maps for new and returning students.



Courtesy of Mike Alvarez

New Student Services Hours

Effective January 2019, all major Student Services entities including but not limited to, Admissions & Records, CalWORKs, Financial Aid, Student Health & Wellness Center, and the Veterans Resource Center will open on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to the public.

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LPC Foundation Receives Grant from Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC

The LPC Foundation received a Lawrence Livermore National Security Grant for \$3,500 which will be awarded to the Las Positas College STEM (Science, Technology, Electronics and Mathematics) program, specifically the Biology Department.

The Biology Department has a unique opportunity to partner with industry scientists in a pilot program to engage students in real-world, innovative biotechnology research on the LPC campus.

The scientists, Dr. Camille Troup (principal scientist, Core Diagnostics, Inc.) and Dr. Sulantha Dwarakanath (managing scientist, Integen X/ Thermo Fisher Scientific), have founded a start-up company to design a microassay for cervical cancer screening, with the goal being the ability to deploy this at the point-of-care, especially critical for rural healthcare. Cervical cancer, a potentially preventable dis-

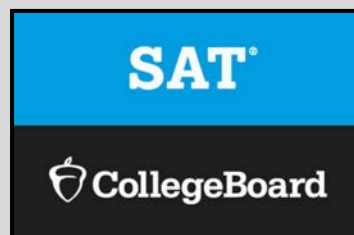
ease, remains the second most common malignancy in women worldwide and the third leading cause of cancer-associated mortality in women.

The objective of this college/industry partnership is to provide biology students the opportunity to work on real biology problems, gain industry-level biotechnology skills, and understand the development of a product through the lens of a biotechnology start-up.



Las Positas College Becomes an Approved SAT Testing Site

We are happy to announce that on December 13, 2018, the College Board approved Las Positas College as a testing site for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). With U.S, News & World Report's 2018 ranking of Tri-Valley high schools being some of the best high schools in the country, students now have the option of taking the SAT "in their own backyard" - the only SAT test site in the Tri Valley. Students will also be able to take the Wheels bus to LPC for the test. LPC worked with our Tri-Valley educational partners to fulfill this need.



It is our privilege to continue to support students on their road to college and career success. LPC has agreed to host up to 500 students on March 9, 2019 for its first round of testing.

LPC Grad... from Davis to Harvard



Courtesy of Ashley Kim

Graduating from UC, Davis

LPC alum, **Ashely Kim**, collected a plethora of accomplishments while at Las Positas College and continues to do exceedingly well. She began her educational path at LPC partly due to LPC's Transfer Admissions Program, which allows students guaranteed admission to the UC system. She was also influenced by the many different majors at LPC, small class sizes, lower costs, and access to an over-abundance of student service resources. Ashley's initial focus was as a Biology major but only developed a real passion for it after she became part of the LPC Biology Club. As her exposure to ecology and evolutionary biology grew, so did her desire to explore other possibilities.

While at LPC, Ashley began discovering her strong inclination toward research during her work at the California Academy of Sciences. This eventually led her to present her research at the National Science Foundation (NSF) Bay Area Symposium of Undergraduate Research Experiences Conference 2016 and the Harvard National Collegiate Research Conference 2018. This work was awarded Special Congressional Recognition from the U.S. House of Representatives in 2016 and is now being submitted as a manuscript. Ashley's passion for biology and research has not only led her to graduate from LPC and UC Davis, but she has spent time at UC Riverside and also participated in the Harvard National Collegiate Research Conference in 2018. Many of the instructors and researchers with whom Ashley has worked with have inspired and motivated her to become more involved in the education field and explore the academic barriers female undergraduates face in their university career.

Ashley stresses the importance of research by saying, *"For many STEM careers, research will always help students understand the problems we face today in the world. Research can allow you to be on a team to help cure diseases or study conservation biology that may save species. I always encourage peers to try it out and see if it might be a possible career path."* As a final note, Ashley says *"I recommend attending LPC for the opportunities to really explore your career options."* Las Positas College is so proud of Ashley and wishes her continued success.



Courtesy of Ashley Kim

At Harvard University

Award Winning, No-Cost Math Jam at LPC

LPC held the award-winning Math Jam from January 7 -11, the week prior to the start of the Spring semester. Over 160 students attended Math Jam, the no-cost, intensive one-week math program designed to help students achieve their math objectives while also helping them accomplish their goal of a degree. Students were also introduced to a community of support and resources that come with enrollment at LPC.



Most students are able to gain access to a high-level math course that allow for faster degree program completion. LPC Math Jam participants have a 10% HIGHER success rate in their subsequent math course compared to the general population.



Courtesy of Kristy Woods

Approximately 100 students are eligible at the end of the week for a higher level math class, saving them one to three semesters. Math Jam participants that jump are also more likely to succeed in their new level of math class than the general population.

A recent Math Jam student reported, *"Math Jam was so helpful... my pre- to my post-test jumped from 36% to 88%. After Math Jam, I am excited for all my classes, not just math."*

Child Development Center Hosts Butte County Children's Book Drive

In December, the Child Development Center (CDC) at Las Positas College led a community service project benefiting Butte County, specifically the children affected by the California wildfire. The idea was proposed to Angie Lopez, CDC Director and CDC's Parent Advisory Council by Elizabeth Beeler McWhorter, PhD and her children, Calista (age 2) and Caleb (age 5).



Calista, CDC Student

Courtesy of Angela Lopez

The idea was to have LPC's Child Development Center host a donation drive and get supplies to Butte County. The consensus was to promote a book donation drive in tandem with the Center's annual

book fair. On behalf of CDC, Elizabeth cultivated a partnership with Katie Good at Reading Pals - Chico to strategize, accept and distribute the books. CDC parents and LPC employees were invited to "Buy a Book, Give a Book" at the Center during the book fair. Elizabeth, Calista, and Caleb also procured a generous Half Price Books-Dublin donation.



The response was great from the LPC community, with 240 books collected valued at \$1,600! The Director personally drove donations to Butte, and was received warmly by Reading Pals-Chico. A big THANK YOU goes out to all who were part of this wonderful project.

LPC Men's Water Polo

The 2018 season was very successful for Men's Water Polo. They ended their season 5th in the Coast Conference. During the season, they hosted numerous events including the US Olympic Development Championship, the CAL Cup Regionals, and the Frozen Cup. The team had one All-American Player, one All-NorCal Player, and two All-Coast Conference Players.

Coach Arroyo shared, "The future is bright with top tier recruits coming in from the local, national, and international areas for the 2019 season."

Go Hawks!



2019 Men's Water Polo Team

Courtesy of BHAWK

Farewell to a Great Coach!



Coach Arroyo

LPC's Men's Water Polo Coach, Robby Arroyo will not be returning for the 2019 season. Arroyo created the Hawk's water polo program at LPC in 2015 along with Assistant Coach Jason Craighead. During the program's four years, Coach Arroyo and the Athletic Department hosted events which brought 30+ University Head Coaches as well as USA National Staff members to the campus. Arroyo will be taking a larger role with Diablo Alliance Water Polo Club as well as coaching at the Acalanes High School in the fall. We wish Robby every success in the future, you will be missed!

Music Department Holiday Concert

The concert featured the Chamber Orchestra, Jazz Band, "Vocal East" Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Combos, and Chamber Choir performing many holiday favorites. Congratulations to the music students and faculty on this spectacular concert!



Courtesy of Allen Lewis

Calendar

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

January 7 to 11	Math Jam
January 9	Men's Basketball at Foothill
January 9	Women's Basketball at San Jose
January 11	Men's and Women's Basketball vs. Ohlone
January 14	First Day of Classes—Spring 2019
January 14 to 16	Welcome Week
January 16	Men's and Women's Basketball at Chabot
January 22	Welcome Back Hawks Event by Student Health
January 22	The Market Food Pantry
January 23	Men's and Women's Basketball vs. San Francisco
January 25	Men's and Women's Basketball vs. Skyline
January 30	Chill and Chat
January 30	Women's Basketball vs. Cañada
February 8	Performing Arts Student Show Case

Happy New Year 2019

Meet the New MACC Director

In 2014 after California merged the work of Adult Education with the Community Colleges, Las Positas College became part of a consortium, the Mid-Alameda County Consortium (MACC), along with Chabot College and



Ms. Tamika Connor

twelve Adult Education sites. Tamika Connor, M.S., has been selected as the new Director of the MACC, and she will lead the work among the two colleges and the Adult Education sites to prepare adults in our communities for entry level jobs, college readiness, training for those with disabilities, English language learning, and more.

LPC welcomes Ms. Connor, who finds this position to be a continuation, "... of my passion for the communities that we serve and my commitment to social and economic justice."



LPC News in Brief

Community Ed and Phlebotomy: Community Education has partnered with AUMT Phlebotomy Institute, a well reputed specialized school that focuses only on phlebotomy, to offer fee-based training at LPC. LPC is excited to offer this opportunity to students in the Tri-Valley and Bay Area. Upon successful completion of the class, the externship, and the exam, students will be CPT1 certified phlebotomists.

The Market: LPC Student Government will offer "The Market" on January 22 from 1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m. on the Student Government Patio in front of Building 1600. Free groceries will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis until food runs out.

New Community Education Viticulture Certificate: The Viticulture Program, Friends of Open Spaces, various vineyards, and LPC's Community Education will offer a 4-week certification program, "Certificate in Winery Tasting Room Sales and Service". It will be held in 4 cooperating vineyard tasting rooms over a month of Saturdays. We are proud to facilitate this training that is so unique and important to the Livermore Valley area, in cooperation with both campus and community resources.



Las Positas Connection is published by the Office of the President. Issues are posted online at laspositascollege.edu/president. Angelica Cazarez, Editor.

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