



Four Decades of Scholarship

Las Positas Connection

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community | April 2015

Special 40th Anniversary Issue

Proud to Be Our Community's College for 40 Years

LPC Celebrates 40th Anniversary with April 17 Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

The year was 1975. President Gerald R. Ford was in the White House. Americans were dancing “the hustle” and watching their favorite television show, *All in the Family*. Tech pioneers built their own personal computers with the new Altair home computer kit. And, on March 31st, 1975, the Tri-Valley welcomed its new college—the Chabot College Valley Campus, later to become Las Positas College.

This year, we celebrate 40 years of providing excellence in higher education to our community. To commemorate this milestone, LPC is holding an Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on April 17th. A short program, “LPC Through the Years,” will begin the day’s events from 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. in the Mertes Center, Building 4000.

The ribbon cutting celebrates the newly-renovated Library and Veteran’s Center. It will begin at 2:30 p.m. in front of the Library, Building 2000. Campus tours will be offered

until 4:00 p.m. The public is invited to all events; parking is complimentary.

During this anniversary year, LPC has much to celebrate: the recent renovations; our growth as a premier California community college; our many alumni; our faculty, staff, and administrators who dedicate themselves each day to student success; the citizens of our community who value and support the college; and all of the students whose lives have been transformed at LPC.



LPC Archive Photo

Chabot College Valley Campus, 1975

We also celebrate the transformation of LPC’s 147-acre campus—beginning with four buildings (pictured above) and evolving into one of the finest community college campuses in California (below), with state-of-the-art facilities for key programs in science, technology, performing arts, and athletics. We look forward to continued success and a bright future—proud to serve our community and honored to provide opportunities that empower students to achieve their dreams.



Courtesy of Dick Jones, RJ Aerial Photo

The Grand Opening of "Valley Campus" in 1975

*Article Describes College's First Days and Events
Leading to the Creation of a New Campus*



Valley campus opens

LPC Archive

Chabot College Opens Livermore- Amador Valley

Leading educators from everywhere in Alameda County attended Monday's official opening of Chabot College's new Livermore-Amador Valley campus.

First classes began immediately after the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The initial \$1.3 million facility amid verdant hills northwest of Livermore, 3033 Collier Canyon Road, was opened first day of Spring Quarter.

Board of Trustees of South County Community College District (who spent 12 years in preparing to make the campus a reality) helped cut the ribbon.

Attending were: Ann H. Duncan (Hayward) President; E.J. "Jay" Chinn (San Leandro) Secretary; Ted Jarvis (Castro Valley); Fred M. Duman (Hayward); Mrs. Dorothy Hudgins (Livermore); and L. Arthur Van Elfen (San Lorenzo).

500 day students are already studying on the campus. A fifth building will be completed next September, when the campus will be able to accommodate between 900 and 1,000 day students. Evening classes will also be held in the new facility.

Chabot College officials participating in the new campus opening were Dr. Reed L. Bufington (Superintendent-President), Peter A. Barthelme (Business Manager), Dr. Richard D. Yeo (Dean of Instruction), Dr. Arthur L. Larson (Dean of Student Personnel), John R. McKinley (Dean of Administrative Services); and Dr. Barbara Mertes (Dena of Chabot College-Valley Campus).

Opening ceremonies began with a welcome by Ann H. Duncan, Hayward, President, Board of Trustees of South County Community College District. Then she introduced the dignitaries.

Livermore's new campus includes a Learning Resource Center, Reading and Writing Laboratories, Secretarial Science Laboratory, five classrooms each seating 50 students, a science center with laboratories for chemistry, biology, and physics, a turf area for physical education classes, and offices for counselors and faculty members.

A staff of 40 - 15 instructors, 20 non-teaching personnel, four administrators - is headed by Dr. Barbara F. Mertes, Livermore native and daughter of the Charles Francisco Livermore. She is wife of Dr. David Mertes, president of College of San Mateo.

Faculty members are: Jerry Ball (mathematics), Roy Bidwell (biology), Joe Downs (history), Marshall Drummond (business), Esther Goldberg (political science), Jack Healey (chemistry), Dr. Henry Hoy

(psychology) and Maurice Ngo (mathematics).

Ellen Owen (English), Maria Chavez Pollinen (humanities), Dr. Judith Porta (sociology), Sophie Che Rheinheimer (physical education), Dee Ann Roshong (counseling), George Ann Tow (counseling), Dr. Bruce Werner (physical education) and David Wright (English).

Valley campus was forecast back in 1962 when a "Master Plan" was developed by Odell MacConnell Associates, Palo Alto.

Livermore-Amador Valley annexed to the South County college district October 2nd, 1962, becoming effective the following July 1st.

Present site (147 acres) was purchased for \$397,538, January 5, 1965, with part proceeds from a 1963 bond issue which also was used to build Chabot College in Hayward.

Tax override proposals were placed on the ballot to build a college in the Valley in 1970 and 1972. Both proposals carried in the Valley, but were defeated by voters on the Bay side.

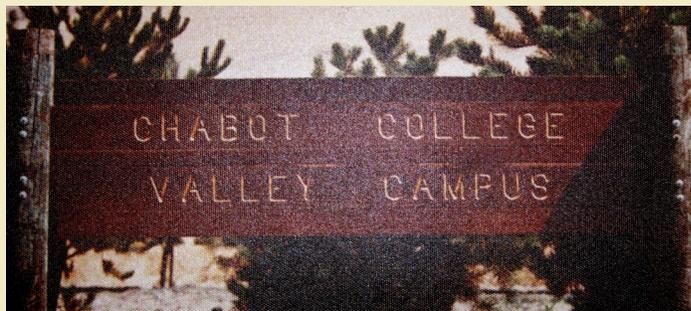
The Board of Trustees voted May 7th, 1974, to proceed with construction of a smaller campus, and May 21st awarded a contract for the first 4 buildings to Robert D. Moore Construction Company, (Burlingame).

Soon a fifth building will be constructed by C.A. Gossett and Sons, Castro Valley.

Architects Delp W. Johnson, Pool and Strom, San Francisco, described the architecture as contemporary design, based on Spanish tradition.

Distinctive College Gets a New Name and Status

An inaugural message below by Founding Dean Barbara F. Mertes, Ph.D., hints at the destiny of the new college. Just as the founders envisioned, LPC, indeed, has become a “distinctive” college—a first choice for many area high school graduates and a valued source of skilled professionals by area employers. It also got a new name—inspired by Rancho Las Positas, the land grant of Tri-Valley settler Robert Livermore—and, in 1988, it was designated by the Board of Governors as an independent college.



LPC Archive

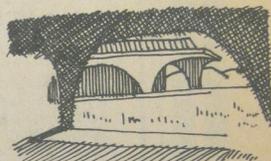
Original Campus Sign

Springtime's Glad Tidings

Valley College Opening

Welcome, Valley Campus, Chabot College!

Tomorrow will be a historic and joyous morning here when the college -- the valley's first fully academic college -- opens its doors. Spring quarter classes will begin, with an official ribbon-cutting at 9:30 a.m.



Intellectually, culturally, vocationally and spiritually, the college will be a profoundly nourishing force on our valley community. It in turn will be nourished by a self-contained valley and will become, we envision, much more distinctive than the average community college.

We have one criticism about the college: its name. The valley college will be more than merely an adjunct of Chabot. It should have its own name, we believe.

The birth of a college -- what a beautiful way to celebrate the valley springtime!

Pop Quiz: Test Your LPC Knowledge

History

1. In what year did LPC begin as an extension center of Chabot College?
2. Who was LPC's first president?
3. How many buildings did LPC have when it first opened?
4. How many day students were enrolled the first semester?

Today

5. How many academic programs does LPC offer?
6. Name LPC's intercollegiate team sports.
7. Name the LPC team which has won state, national, and international awards.
8. What is the nickname of LPC's Physical Education Complex?

Find answers on page 4.

College conversion

Chabot College trustees Barry Schrader, Elva Cooper and Isobel Dvorsky unveil the sign for the state's newest community college — Las Positas College in Livermore. The former Chabot College Valley Campus was named the state's 107th community college last October by the California Community Colleges Board of Governors.

Neil Hanshaw — staff photo



LPC Archive

LPC BY THE NUMBERS: Impact of a Valuable Community Asset

10

The top reasons students make LPC their first choice:

1. Premier California community college enrolling more than 12,000 students annually and providing classes for basic skills, transfer, career-technical, and retraining goals
2. Academic excellence, the latest curriculum, and outstanding faculty dedicated to teaching and student success
3. High transfer rate to UCs, CSUs, and other four-year colleges and universities
4. Small class and lab sizes; all classes and labs taught by faculty
5. New, state-of-the-art buildings and equipment for key programs, including science, technology, and performing arts
6. Extensive free support services for student success, such as the Tutorial Center and Open Math Lab
7. Best higher education value anywhere, with low tuition and financial aid and scholarships available
8. Flexible class scheduling: on-campus, online, days, nights, weekends, and fast-track
9. Over 30 clubs and a thriving athletics program with exceptional new facilities
10. Beautiful campus recognized for leadership in sustainability and safety

85

The percentage of LPC graduates who remain in the Tri-Valley

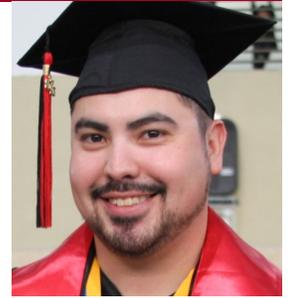


167,423

The number of students who have attended LPC/Valley Campus



Photos by Mary Laurifer



5.5 Million

The dollars raised by the LPC Foundation in the last decade, supporting student opportunity and success



508.9 Million

The dollars in annual income the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District adds to its East Bay service area

Quiz Answers from Page 3

1. 1963, at Livermore High School and two other sites
2. Barbara A. Adams; Barbara F. Mertes, Ph.D., was the Founding Dean
3. Four
4. 500
5. 96
6. Men's and Women's Soccer, Cross Country, Basketball, and Swimming and Diving—with Men's and Women's Water Polo coming in Fall 2015
7. The Talk Hawks, LPC's speech team
8. The Nest—home to The Hawks



RSVP Now for the April 25 Best of the Best

You're invited! Please visit the LPC Foundation website to reserve your tickets for the 12th Annual Best of the Best fundraising gala on April 25th, beginning at 6 p.m. and held in the beautiful Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts. Also, be sure to check out the exciting online auctions. It's all great fun, benefiting a great community asset—Las Positas College.

