

# onnection

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus & Community | July 2014

# Leadership Sets Goals for Student Success

"What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals." -Henry David Thoreau

Students First is more than just a slogan at LPC. It is the very foundation of the college. LPC President Barry A. Russell, Ph.D. and the leadership team have college planning priorities in place to continue the tradition of putting students first and to advance student success at LPC. Following are three major areas of focus for the 2014-2015 academic year:

- Equity for all student populations to support their achievement and success
- **Completion** of student academic goals
- Excellence in education and student support

President Russell summarizes college priorities in his message to students in the *Fall 2014 Schedule of Classes*: "I want to welcome you to Las Positas College and share with you my commitment that the college will focus its attention on your success."

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# **Going Green to Stay Green** LPC Uses Recycled Water to Keep Grounds Green; Water Conservation Flows from Sustainability Master Plan

Water conservation is a high priority every day at LPC. The college uses recycled or "purple pipe" water to irrigate lawns and planting areas, keeping the campus green even during drought conditions. Recycled water is wastewater that has undergone a treatment process, but does not meet standards for drinking.

Using recycled water is only part of LPC's overall commitment to leadership in sustainability. Actions include signing the American College and University President Climate Commitment and creating a landmark Climate Action Plan to establish sustainability goals that reflect LPC's mission and values and move the college toward carbon neutrality. Results are evident across campus: the IceBank energy storage system, photovoltaic solar generation system, electric vehicle charging stations, and LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification standards for new building construction, which has been made possible by voter approval of Measure B.

In addition, LPC's commitment to sustainability has slashed energy costs and boosted energy efficiency. Best of all, this commitment creates a sustainable environment that benefits our community now and for generations to come.



Recycled water in the U.S. is distributed in purple pipes to distinguish it from drinkable water. LPC uses recycled water for grounds irrigation, wastewater in new buildings, and for its fire water supply. Shown above is a purple fire hydrant in front of LPC's new Student Services and Administration Building.

# LPC Awarded Career Pathways Grant

LPC students will benefit from a \$381,000 grant to help prepare them for careers in the following high-demand fields: advanced manufacturing and engineering, information communication technology, and health science. The grant will also benefit local, regional, and state economies by providing business and industry with skilled workers. LPC's grant is part of an \$8 million, onetime, three-year-funded grant from the Career Pathways Trust Program awarded to the Diablo Gateways to Innovation Consortium. The consortium includes 37 partners in education, the community, and area business. An additional \$36 million is pledged by the consortium's partners.



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

#### July

17-18	Operation Gateway for Veterans; please see article below
25	6-Week Summer Session Ends
August	

- 2 Golf Fundraiser for Veterans; please see article below
  8 8-Week Summer Session Ends
  14 Convocation, LPC
- 18 Instruction Begins for Fall Semester

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## LPC to Present Operation Gateway VI for Veterans

LPC will present its sixth annual *Operation Gateway—A Veteran's Transition to Success* on July 17th and 18th. This two-day program serves as an orientation for returning veterans interested in furthering their education at LPC. A wide range of topics will be covered, including course and major planning, registration, readjustment services, college resources, and Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits.

"Operation Gateway is also a great opportunity for veterans to experience firsthand the community and camaraderie that we have here at Las Positas College," said Veterans First Coordinator Todd Steffan.

In addition to informational sessions and workshops, veterans can also meet other veterans and enjoy a barbeque lunch with students, staff, and members from community organizations. Textbook stipends will be available for eligible student veterans.

Operation Gateway is sponsored by the LPC Veterans First Program which provides veterans with services and resources to help them achieve their educational goals. This past academic year, more than 400 veterans or active duty military personnel were enrolled at the college.

LPC veteran support services include a full-time program coordinator, Veterans Resource Center, priority registration, transfer workshops, a book loan program, a study/drop-in tutorial center, work-study program, and an active Student Veterans Organization. For more information, please visit the website at laspositascollege.edu/veterans.



## Fall Semester Begins August 18th

This summer, a steady stream of students is visiting LPC's new Student Services and Administration Building—a one-stop shop for registration, financial aid, and academic counseling and assessment. For registration information, please visit LPC's website.

## **Summer Enrollment Surges Nearly 10 Percent**

Thanks to voter approval of Proposition 30, LPC began restoration of classes this past year and is able to offer more classes to more students. Students are taking advantage of this opportunity by enrolling in LPC's two summer sessions. Summer enrollment has increased nearly 10 percent over last summer, which means more students can move forward to complete their education.

## Spaces Available in Child Development Center

There are still spaces for toddlers and preschoolers at LPC's new Child Development Center, offering area families an unparalleled facility and play-based, holistic early education programs. For information, please visit the website at laspositascollege.edu/childdevelopment center.

## **Golf Fundraiser to Benefit LPC Veterans**

The Englander Sports Pub & Restaurant of San Leandro will hold its 8th Annual Charity Golf Tournament, benefiting LPC's Veterans First Program, on Saturday, August 2nd. The tournament has a start time of 1:15 p.m. and will take place at the Monarch Bay Golf Club in San Leandro. A dinner and raffle will immediately follow at 6:00 p.m. at the Englander. For information and registration, please visit lpcfoundation.org/newsevents/veterans-first-golf.



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