

December 2011

*In this issue >>>*

*Cover Story: Student Scholars*

*Soaring Success*

*Hawk Happenings*

*Key Dates & Upcoming Events*



Photo — Jared Howard

President’s Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus & Community

# Las Positas Connection

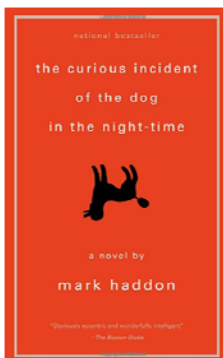


*in the news >>>*

## “LPC Reads” and Leads

*Campus book project demonstrates College’s commitment to lifelong learning.*

At Convocation, Dr. Walthers launched his idea for a campus project — a book that staff, faculty, administrators, and students could read over the course of the semester and then discuss together in an open forum ‘book club’ setting. The book, “the curious incident of the dog in the night-time” — selected by Arts & Communication Dean John Ruys and faculty from that Division — was chosen for its relevance and insights into ways to better serve students, particularly those with disabilities or special needs. The group discussion will be held after the December Town Meeting and facilitated by Jim Ott, community leader and long-time adjunct English instructor at LPC.



## Academic All-Stars Announced for 2012

### Students Named as Scholarship Nominees

*Las Positas College students recognized for exceptional academic achievements and receive nominations for national and state-wide scholarships.*

The nominations are in, and congratulations are in order for several of the College’s outstanding student scholars! LPC students Shaina Breger and Robin

Rivera have been nominated for the 2012 All-USA Community College Academic Team and the 2012 Coca-Cola All-State

Community College Academic Team. The program — presented by USA Today, Phi Theta Kappa, and the American Association of Community Colleges — is sponsored by Follett Higher Education Group and each year honors 20 students from across the country. Students are recognized for

their academic achievements and have a chance to win a variety of scholarships; the winners will be announced at awards ceremonies next Spring.

In addition, Robin Rivera is joined by Olga KnKade as nominees for the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation’s Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. This program

“honors excellence by supporting outstanding community college students with financial need” and providing scholarships that enable them to transfer and complete their bachelor’s degrees. Congratulations to Shaina, Robin, and Olga!



soaring success stories >>>

## LPC Delivers Tutoring at a 'Distance'

Campus community collaborates to meet guidelines and meet students where they are — including online...

Last semester, students who needed Writing or Math help — but couldn't conveniently get to the Tutorial Center — were able to get assistance virtually. LPC began an online tutoring pilot created, in part, to meet an Accreditation guideline stipulating that support services be made available to students, whether they're on campus or not.

This pilot will extend to the end of the academic year, and several groups worked



LPC student and tutor, Richard Wieger

together to create the program: the Tutorial Center, Student Services, the LPC Foundation, ASLPC, the Technology Department, Academic Services, the Distance Education (DE) Committee, English and Math faculty, and the Teaching and Learning Center.

This semester various modifications were made to the pilot, including the expansion of the list of classes eligible for online tutoring. For four hours a week, LPC students Richard Wieger and Erica Schoefer have each tutored Writing and Math students, respectively, using the secure web conferencing system, CCC Confer. With this system, Richard and Erica



LPC student and tutor, Erica Schoefer

are able to share their computer screens with students while talking to them over the phone or via the computer's microphone.

Currently, LPC offers online tutoring in Writing and Math for all DE courses: students can get help on essays and research papers in classes such as English, Psychology, Sociology; for Math, online tutoring is available not only to students in all DE sections (Math 65, 55, and 44), but also to students in all on-campus sections of Math 55, 65, 44, 55A, 55B, 65A, 65B, and X. Based on the success thus far, the DE Committee will continue to refine the pilot.

Story courtesy of Scott Vigallon

spotlight on students >>>



## Journalism Students Shine!

On November 12, a group of LPC students representing The Express and Naked Magazine traveled to California State University, Sacramento for the Journalism Association of Community College (JACC) Nor-Cal Conference. The attendees participated in workshops, competed against other students, and had an opportunity to interact with industry professionals. During the conference's closing awards ceremony, The Express earned 14 well-deserved honors and commendations: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Profile Feature — Kelly Gabel; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Infographic — Julian Lim and Mackenzie Luther; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Profile Feature — Brenda Cruz; 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sports Feature Photos — Jeff Bennett; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Sports Action Photo — Jeff Bennett; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Student-designed Ad — Julian Lim; 1<sup>st</sup> Place Video Journalism — Julian Lim; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Video Journalism — Julian Lim, Andre Principe, Mackenzie Luther, and Jeff Bennett; Honorable Mention Newswriting — Mackenzie Luther; Honorable Mention Infographic — Nick DeRenzi; Honorable Mention Front Page Design — Julian Lim, Mackenzie Luther, and Nick DeRenzi; 4<sup>th</sup> Place Opinion — Trevin Smith; and Editor Recognition — Nick DeRenzi. Congrats to these stellar student-journalists!

Story courtesy of Melissa Korber



Story courtesy of Cindy Rosefield

## Hawk Happenings

### Highlights of LPC Athletics



Photo courtesy of LPC Athletics

Congratulations to the following members of the Men's Soccer Team for their All-Conference Honors: 1<sup>st</sup> Team — Andres Plascencia and Silvano Lopez; 2<sup>nd</sup> Team — Christian Gonzalez and Josue Macias; and Honorable Mention — Gabriel Rissato, Kyle Foreman, Jon Hoeksema, and Alessandro Tilli.

The Lady Hawks are flying high following great performances last weekend at the Hartnell Classic Basketball Tournament. The women beat host Hartnell in the semi-finals, 69-52, and went on to finish second after losing to Taft in the championship game. With a winning record of 7-4, the team will tip off against Lassen College on December 7. Come out to The Nest and show some support for these scholar-athletes!



Photo — Mary Lauffer

success on the stage>>>

## All My Sons Makes Its Mark

Following a strong showing and accolades from the audience, the Performing Arts Department closed the curtain on its Fall production of Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*. Directed by LPC adjunct instructor Wesley Morgan, *All My Sons* explored "familial loyalty, war profiteering, and differing views of the 'American Dream.'" Though set in the mid-20th century, the play deals with themes people currently face in their day-to-day lives.

Las Positas College Theater Department Presents

Arthur Miller's

# All My Sons

November 2011  
11.12.18.19 at 8:30pm  
13.20 at 2pm

\$12 General Admission  
88 Students & Seniors

Directed by Wesley Morgan      Designed by Jeremy Hamm

Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts  
3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore

Production information at [laspositascollege.edu/performingarts](http://laspositascollege.edu/performingarts)  
Presented through special arrangements with Dramatica Play Service



## Instructor's Awards Spark Student Success

Congratulations to Welding instructor Scott Miner, who was recently recognized in a national competition — for the second year in a row! Scott took home two awards at the American Welding Society Professional Welder Competition. He also did a live blog from the event, in order to share real-time happenings and highlights with his students.

## Community Continues Support for Students

The Associated Students of Las Positas College have seen significant success with their Textbook Loaner Program, an initiative that has been supported by the LPC Foundation's fundraising efforts, contributions from College partners like Follett Higher Education Group, and donations from individuals and businesses in the Tri-Valley. That community support continues as the Textbook Loaner Program received a \$750 mini-grant from the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley. This grant award was nearly double the amounts given to some of the other requestors, thanks in part to the outreach efforts of the ASLPC and College leadership. Started in 2009, the Textbook Loaner Program aims to assist students with the high cost of textbooks; the program has now grown to offer books for more than 40 courses, and students have the option of renting them for 2 hours (in the Library), 3 days, or the entire semester.

## Student Artwork is ACEs...

Last month students in LPC's Academy for College Excellence (ACE) Program displayed their class projects in the Library. The artwork was part of an assignment entitled "Exorcising Your Demons," in which the students wrote and illustrated stories about their own personal demons — such as anger, fear, indecision, temptation, or shyness. The ACE Program (formerly known as the College Foundation Semester) provides at-risk students with a learning community environment to help them transition into and succeed in college.

# keydates...

Information on upcoming events and institutional activities



Photo — Jared Howard



## December

- 7 Town Meeting ~ 2:30 p.m. in Rm. 2420  
“LPC Reads” Discussion Group ~ 3:30 p.m. in 2420  
Accreditation Team Kick-Off Meeting ~ 3:30 p.m. in 2480  
Women’s Basketball vs. Lassen ~ 5:00 p.m. at The Nest  
Poetry Slam ~ 7:00 p.m. in Black Box Theater
- 8 Annual Celebration Breakfast ~ 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in MCA Lobby  
IEC Meeting ~ 2:30 p.m. in Rm. 4129  
Farewell Reception for Dr. Barberena ~ 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in MCA Lobby  
“Stories & Speeches” ~ 7:00 p.m. in the Black Box Theater
- 10 Dance Concert ~ 8:00 p.m. in the Main Stage Theater
- 14 Final Exams begin
- 16 CalWORKs Holiday Celebration ~ 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in 2401  
Vocal & Instrumental Jazz Concert ~ 8:00 p.m. in the Main Stage Theater
- 17 Men’s Basketball vs. Gavilan ~ 3:00 p.m. at The Nest
- 21 Men’s Basketball vs. San Jose City College ~ 7:00 p.m. at The Nest

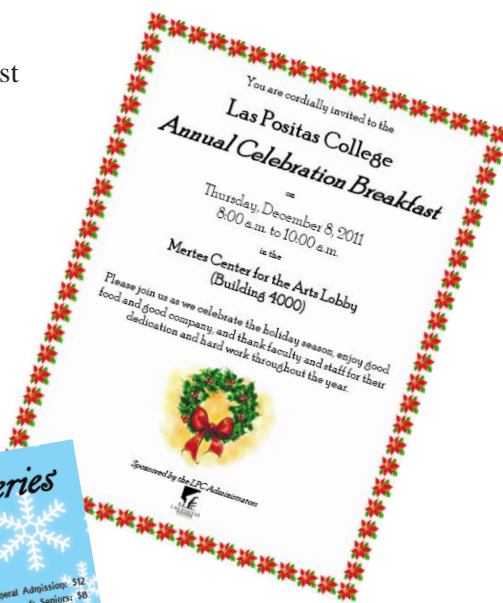
## January

- 4 Women’s Basketball vs. Skyline ~ 5:00 p.m. at The Nest  
Men’s Basketball vs. Skyline ~ 7:00 p.m. at The Nest
- 11 Women’s Basketball vs. CCSF ~ 5:00 p.m. at The Nest  
Men’s Basketball vs. CCSF ~ 7:00 p.m. at The Nest
- 17 Spring semester begins
- 20 Women’s Basketball vs. Chabot ~ 5:00 p.m. in Hayward

coming soon >>>

## In The Next Issue

‘Surging’ Spring Enrollment  
Accreditation Update  
Keeping Up with Kipanga  
Looking Ahead to 2012



3000 Campus Hill Drive  
Livermore, CA 94551

[www.laspositascollege.edu](http://www.laspositascollege.edu)

