



ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES – Emergency Meeting

April 1, 2020 | Zoom Conference

LPC Mission Statement

Las Positas College is an inclusive learning-centered institution providing educational opportunities and support for completion of students' transfer, degree, basic skills, career-technical, and retraining goals.

LPC Planning Priorities

- ❖ Implement the integration of all ACCJC standards throughout campus structure and processes.
- ❖ 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.

Academic Senate Quorum: 9

Non-Voting Members:

President: Sarah Thompson
Past President: Melissa Korber
Parliamentarian: Craig Kutil
Student Government: Michelle Diaz-Nava
Admin.: Rifka Several

Voting Members:

Vice President: Elena Cole
Secretary: Bill Komanetsky
Treasurer: Ashley Young
SLPC: Robin Roy, John Rosen
A & H: Catherine Suarez, Natalie Keller, Katie Eagan
STEM: Darcy Ernst, Michael Peterson, Segal Boaz, Alain Olavarrieta
BHAWK: Marsha Vernoga
Counseling: Jill Oliveira
Faculty Association: Heike Gecox
Part Time Representatives: Jeff Judd, Kate Bennett Faix

1.0 GENERAL BUSINESS (S. Thompson)

1.1 Call to Order/Establish Quorum: Quorum can be met in a Zoom meeting/phone meeting as per the allowances under the portions of the Brown Act currently suspended: Meeting called to order and quorum established at 2:32 pm.

1.2 Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda: moved/seconded/approved.

1.3 Public Comments (2 minutes): This time is reserved for members of the public to address the Academic Senate. Please limit comments to two minutes. In accordance with the Brown Act, the Academic Senate cannot act on these items. Kristina Whalen: Expressed deep thanks to the faculty for their huge efforts and faculty leadership for their collaboration and resourcefulness. She acknowledged our concerns regarding equity issues for students. Please contact her for resources you might need to continue and suggestions for improvements in communications.

2.0 ACTION ITEMS (S. Thompson) Tabled until next meeting

3.0 REPORTS

3.1 President (Sarah Thompson): We are getting daily information and updates on how the state and federal agencies are operating and changes that are being implemented. Problems are being identified and solutions developed.

All summer courses will be remote, and possibly fall as well.

Less than half of our courses have the paperwork completed for DE. The state has approved a "blanket policy" for converting courses to DE.

We need to push for professional development to inform our online instruction. The state Academic Senate has discipline-, technology-, and pedagogical-based online trainings.

4.0 OLD BUSINESS (S. Thompson)

5.0 NEW BUSINESS (S. Thompson)

5.1 Pass/ No Pass Deadline Suspension: This is open for all classes, and students can opt in right now. This works locally in the community college system, but what is the impact for transfer? CSUs statement: they will accept credit or pass (in spring and summer semesters) for transferrable courses in the "golden 4" (critical thinking, oral communication, quantitative reasoning and English composition), general

ed and major prerequisite courses. *(After the meeting, further clarification was made per Craig Kutil: CSUs are accepting P/NP for all GE and lower division major requirements. UCs are not doing that. They typically have a limitation on the number of courses a student can transfer over with that grading option. They are removing that limitation, but that does not mean they will accept P/NP for courses that they normally would not, such as major requirements.)*

The UCs removed the caps on credit/no credit or pass/no pass courses.

We need to develop the language for communicating with students and we do not have the counseling capacity for individual advice. Gisselle Nunez is working on the student messaging, to be sent out this Friday. The college presidents and VPs will review this. The ESS committee is also developing communications.

The first priority are students who are transferring this fall. Can Zoom drop in meetings be set up for student questions? Remember that Zoom is not FERPA-compliant so students can only do general questions and answers without personal information. Cranium Classroom is also available. This is a software platform, which can provide closed captioning, recording, and FERPA compliance.

For next week's Academic Senate meeting, Sarah will provide the language that will be crafted this Friday for students.

5.2 Probation and Dismissal Suspension: Community colleges would take away penalties for students opting in to pass/no pass.

5.3 Repetition Suspension: The pass/no pass option courses will not count against students in terms of repetition.

Motion to go out of order and move to 5.6: moved/seconded/passed.

5.6 Excused Withdrawal/ Withdraw Option: The state Chancellor has expanded these options to be "Extraordinary Covid 19 EW" and no notations will be on student transcripts.

Students will be automatically refunded tuition for these classes. Is this retroactive? It is only valid March 16 through the end of the spring semester (May 22).

The CSUs stated that if a student is completing an AD/T and is under-credit they would need to work with the individual CSU. Students need to be aware of consequences of taking this option.

There is a new form on Class Web; students do not need to do this immediately. Some community colleges are making this automatic.

5.4 Extension of Semester into June: How do we help students complete their semesters in courses that require some kind of face-to-face interaction for certification, lab work, etc. where there isn't an online solution? The state Chancellor's office has given the colleges the option to extend the spring semester until the end of June. However, we are depending on summer FTES and there are difficulties in one semester continuing through another.

5.5 Incompletes: For students in the above "hard to convert courses" there is an option to do an IP (special incomplete that extends the course beyond the end of the semester). This is a temporary suspension where

the course is expected to continue at a later date, after the semester's end. The course would have a year to complete. The only other option as we cannot meet on campus is to cancel the courses.

Question about veteran students who are called back to duty, is there a procedure to follow that does not hurt these students or their financial aid? This IP would cover them, up to a year. International students: need to keep their records updated to continue compliance.

Chad Mullin: Public safety training is labeled "essential" so we will continue law and fire academies. They will minimize exposure with online coursework where possible and having in-person labs only. They are using daily temperatures, health questionnaires, and personal distancing. If students are not willing to participate, they can take the IP but most students are continuing.

Scott Miner: For welding and auto, can we provide alternate instruction? They are working on web cam instruction. What about necessary lab hours? There are several options.

Sebastian Wong requests that the Academic Senate endorse the essential public safety service training to continue with on-campus labs as necessary for course completion. This needs to be forwarded to the district. Students have shared that they want to do more in this emergency situation, and want to complete as soon as possible, without delay. For health care, we need to plan for labs while they are wearing field PPE (along with temperature, health questionnaire, etc.).

Is there consensus with fire, welding, auto, EMT? Discussions should continue with Kristina Whalen and Stuart McElderry. The Academic Senate can advocate at the Friday district meeting for support to these courses. Sarah will report back and then we can decide if a resolution is needed.

Nadiyah Taylor: With early childhood education, we do not know when schools will open (preschool programs serving essential workers are the only ones still operating). For student teaching courses, the SLOs depend on actual interactions and there are required face to face hours. There has been no specific guidance from the state in multiple areas, including whether licensing will accept pass/no pass coursework. The state Chancellor would make the exception to the teaching hours. The CA teacher credentialing and licensing agencies would need to determine the pass/no pass acceptance.

Amy Mattern: All performing arts courses are continuing online this semester. Students will submit virtual performances, and in the summer, the students can perform live together (if possible by that time).

5.7 Lab Class Software: The state has purchased software for the sciences and the state Academic Senate is offering training. Are faculty signing up for this? Segal reported that the biology faculty are interested in going forward. Scott has installed the software in Canvas.

5.8 Public Safety/ CTE Lab Requirements/ Remote Pathways: Covered above in 5.5. Nadiyah Taylor: note that teachers and children will not be able to "social distance" in the early childhood center.

5.9 SLO Suspension: To clarify this item, *the suspension would be for using this semester for evaluating SLOs*. We do want to find out how students are learning in the online learning experience. For this semester, it was done part in class, part online, which students did not sign up for. The data would be more solid starting next semester, where the online courses were more refined and students made the choice to take them. Catie Eagan would like the suspension to be optional. Ann Hight will present at a future Academic Senate meeting on SLOs.

5.10 Evaluation suspension: Heike Gecox: The Faculty Association will meet with the district about these evaluations being suspended because the teaching delivery changed so abruptly, but would this suspension affect those on a tenure track? Questions: what if online instruction continues next Fall? How will evaluations be handled online by review committees?

5.11 Distinguishing Between Remote and Distant Pedagogies: Our remote learning has been on an emergency basis. As we will be continuing online for at least summer and fall semesters, we need professional development to achieve optimum success for students and reduce impact on marginalized students.

5.12 DE Training for Summer/Fall: Will be discussed, can work with Professional Development Committee.

5.13 Outreach for current Students: We will discuss these in DEMC and CEMC; this item will be tabled for a future meeting. We need to address our current students who are not transitioning successfully to exclusively online education.

5.14 Outreach for potential Students: How can we capture an exclusively online student base? Tabled for future discussion.

5.15 ADA compliance: tabled

Conclusions:

Action item: Making SLO evaluations optional this semester. This will be on the April 8 Academic Senate meeting agenda.

Resolution: Support for public safety disciplines. This can be informed by the Friday district meeting on how to proceed.

Vote to cancel tomorrow's meeting: unanimously approved.

6.0 GOOD OF THE ORDER

6.1 Announcements:

- The April 2nd Academic Senate emergency meeting is cancelled.
- Contact Sarah if you want to join the COVIDBITEME Facebook group.

6.3 Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: moved/seconded/approved. Meeting adjourned at 4:29 pm

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