



Biological Sciences Advisory Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2025 | 5:00 – 6:30 | Rm 21247

LPC Mission Statement

Las Positas College is an inclusive, learning-centered, equity-focused environment that offers educational opportunities and support for completion of students' transfer, degree, and career-technical goals while promoting lifelong learning.

LPC Planning Priorities

❖ Equity: 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.

❖ Student Success: 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.

❖ Health and Wellness: Establish a knowledge base and appreciation for health and wellness in the workplace; create a sense of urgency about wellness; prioritize wellness in decision-making, assessment and accountability; and build capacity to support wellness.

Committee Name Quorum:

Camille Troup
Chandra Khantwal
Dana Nakase
Dianna Maar
George Farquar
Jason Maxwell
Jean O'Neil-Opipari
Kai Blaisdell
Josie Sette
Kristen Wolslegal
Linnea Fletcher
Paula Checchi
Nicholas Heredia
Nicole Shapiro
Petter Mattei
Pornima Rao
Robert Saul
Sahar El-ETr
Segal Boaz
Stevan Jovanovich
Sulatha Dwarakanath
Vicki Shipman

Agenda Item

1. Call to Order 5:05

2. Review of Agenda

3. Review of Minutes, April 22, 2025

Correct time of bioinformatics from 9:50 to 9:30

4. Program Report (Kai's slides)

- Enrollment
 - Fall tends to have more sections than Spring, all sections are filling
- STEAM Building Update
 - Land now graded since Spring
 - 2 anatomy lab, Micro, BLC shared space
 - Will help increase lab space
 - Working on funding for equipment & supplies
 - Kaiser may be interested in helping with funding Anatomy
 - New room has space for 4 cadavers, but builder may only build out 2 or 3
 - George asked if we have a wishlist for equipment
 - May need to duplicate equipment where it is now shared
 - Increase in lab space for chem to 5 labs from 3
- Curriculum Update
 - Move to 2 semester sequence
- Bioinformatics Update
 - Held it twice
 - First 6 students, second 16
 - Part of degree and cert
 - Update bio website
 - Updated enrollment system
 - Make flyer for bio informatics
- Compressed Calendar / Winter Intersession
 - Condensed calendar from 18 to 16 weeks – same amount of classroom hours.
 - Winter intersession, fully online, no bio classes
- New Equipment –
 - Plate Pourer - Bought with RAC funds
 - NMR Spectrometer – open source software
- BioScope Workshop
 - 2-day workshop

- Can use for a manufacturing lab that Kai already does
- Have students pour plates
- Implementing next fall
- MESA – Jason
 - Collaborate with IGATE for career event
 - 100 students participated
 - Collaborate with Kristi in the Career Center
 - Earth Science Day
 - Jason, Jean and Marisa
 - 150 students participated
 - MESA still recruiting students
- Cheryl Goldbeck, new lab tech, great addition to the team!
- Fede
- Clubs
 - BIONIC
 - Biology Club
 - Pre-Med Club
- NCASM Fall Conference

5. Industry Updates

- Josie – Happy that Paula and Kai were able to participate in BioScope workshop
- George – Since Lab shut down in January, 3 employees looking for jobs, jobs very scare
 - Does LPC use AI? George uses Chat GPT & Gemini
 - When is it appropriate to introduce AI to students?
 - Many data collection positions will be gone and replaced by AI
 - Use AI as a study tool
 - Kai – students need to know how to evaluate data
 - Segal – maybe have an AI course, how to use AI in STEM
 - There is not a well publicized AI policy at LPC
- We need a training to teach the ethical uses of AI
 - Kristi – Majority of recruiters can tell when AI is used to develop a resume and may be a reason to disqualify resume. You can still use it, but resume needs to sound like you.
 - LPC uses Hiration software for resume building. Also has an interview prep feature.
- Beth – Met with President of Stanford – talked about using AI to save time for reporting
 - Down the road maybe have a panel discussion about AI
- Emerging Trends / Industry Forecast
- Industry Needs
- Internship / Employment
 - Daybreak has about 10 new companies, may need interns, contact Yolanda.
 - George started Releaf, may need interns in January

6. Good of the Order

- Money from Strong Workforce, from the advisory, can the funds be used for to development of the Biotechnology Certificate of Achievement?
 - Degrees in Allied Health
 - Lab technician position
 - Strength of college is hands on lab skills, better than 4 years
- Lab tech program with the hospitals, need certification to work in a hospital lab

7. Adjournment 6:30 pm

8. Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, April 22, 2026, 5:00 – 6:30 pm