



# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Mar. 9, 2026 | 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM | Room 21147

## 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

- ❖ Affirm LPC's unwavering commitment to equity by deepening campus-wide engagement, enhancing professional development, embedding equity-minded practices in decision-making, assessment, and accountability processes; and building capacity to resolve inequities.
- ❖ Increase student success and completion through sustainable college practices, processes, academic support, removal of barriers, and focused professional development.
- ❖ 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.

## PDC Quorum:

### Non-Voting Members:

Dyrell Foster, Administrator Tri-Chair  
David Powers, Faculty Tri-Chair  
Aubrie Ross, Classified Tri-Chair  
LPCSG – Diya Jain

### Voting Members:

College President – Dyrell Foster  
A&H – Meghan Swanson-Garoupa  
BSSL – Erick Bell  
PATH – Vacant  
STEM – Ann Hight  
STUDENT SERVICES – Julie Nguyen  
ADJUNCT FACULTY – Cheryl Dolan  
CLASSIFIED/ AS – Alesia High  
CLASSIFIED/ TLC – Wanda Butterly  
CLASSIFIED – Marisol Baltazar  
CLASSIFIED – Rabiah Choudry  
CLASSIFIED – Jean O'Neil-Opipari

- 1. Call to Order:** 2:33 PM
- 2. Welcome and Introductions**
- 3. Review and Approval of Agenda:**  
Motion: Erick, Second: Meghan, Carried: Approved by consensus
- 4. Review and Approval of Minutes (Feb. 9, 2026):**  
Motion: Marisol, Second: Jean, Carries: Approved by consensus, with noted corrections
- 5. Public Comments** (*Limited to 3 minutes per person.*  
*The PDC cannot act on these comments*)  
Wanda attended Tara's Mandrekar's student information-gathering session. About 25-30 students in groups of five shared comments for the Flex Day panel. It was very well done.

## 6. Old Business

### 6.1 Spring Flex Day Update

The program is ready to go, pending presenter edits, due by this Wednesday. The goal is to send out the final program on Thursday. There will be 3-5 student panelists. David held space to include their names, if desired. A committee member suggested to wordsmith "ambassador" out of the keynote description to clarify the student panelists' involvement as participants in this process.

The keynote session will be in theater, so most sessions will be nearby in building 1000.

The Gen AI workshops will use the 21206 Computer Center. Gen AI participants MUST register in advance. Classified and Faculty sessions will be different, but it is fine to attend either. It was noted that there is a higher than usual number of outside presenters for this flex day. 42 – 44 sessions are currently on the program. Jean moved her session from Flex Day to Spring Break. It was suggested to include a warning about heights in Jackie's theater tour description. Responses requested to the lunch survey.

Dr. Foster thanked David for his time in organizing all of the sessions. David thanked Aubrie for her input.

### 6.2 SEA Funding

VP Brooks encouraged the committee to spend SEA funds, although they will roll over. This year, PDC is doing well with funds, so may want to save the SEA funds until needed.

### **6.3 RPDN Event**

Watch Party - *Reclaiming Joy: Human-First Teaching in the AI Era* on Friday, April 17, 2026 from 8:45 AM – 3:00 PM.

This event is a state-wide collab on AI issues, sponsored by the State Chancellor's office. LPC plans to hold a watch party in the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC). or the Computer Center. Wanda will be one of the presenters of *Shift Happens: Using Custom Bots to Reclaim Time for Human Connection*, at 10:15 AM. David suggested announcing this in division meetings, and breaking up attendance between various faculty members who could share out at a later date. It was also suggested to have a sign-up for the watch party ahead of time to determine the number of participants and whether pizza or other swag would be provided. Committee members were asked to share this information and any creative attendance ideas with your constituents.

## **7. New Business**

### **7.1 Conference/Activity Proposals**

David Powers – 100<sup>th</sup> Annual AGS State Convention, Apr 17-19, Fullerton College, Anaheim, CA. Only asking for mileage: \$535. Will carpool with Ashley McHale, who is co-advisor for AGS. Motion: Meghan, Second: Ann, Carries: unanimous  
Note of interest: Fullerton was the founding college of the honor society which came to be known as AGS.

### **7.2 Flex Day Proposals**

None new

### **7.3 Flex Day Proposal Discussion**

Concerns in email about Flex Day proposals:

Meghan: As discussed previously, feeling that there are too many sessions and people are working hard to put together sessions and attendance is small/ limited. We need to discuss respecting time of presenters. This conversation needs to happen outside of this room, not just here.

Ann asked for an overview of how flex day will look under the compressed calendar. David: Flex Days, starting in Fall will take place before the start of the semester to reduce impact on instruction. It will be up to us what we want those days to look like. Currently, we have the two days during convocation week.

Aubrie: For Spring flex days, since winter break is in there, the thought was to start planning in October for spring, and to get the program out before the winter break. It was suggested to have ONE pre-semester flex day in Spring, then use the other as a college/ collaboration day. Meghan: At Ohlone, they have "get it done" days. She then asked about specific requirements for flex day activities. David: the guidelines leave some leeway as far as content. Flex day activities (see LPC web) include: training workshops, course development, curriculum, and Title 5 Ed Code

Activities. There was concern about professional development days being reduced. Julie was concerned about offices such as A&R and Counseling being closed the week before classes start making it very difficult for students. Ann expressed she is in favor of professional development and believes it is a disservice to use a flex day as a work day and lose out on professional development. It is also the only time we get to interact with many of our colleagues. Jean: wanted to emphasize that everyone should have a chance to participate in flex day/ PD activities and allow for rotation so more are able to take part. Counseling is usually open short hours with part time faculty during flex days. David noted that there are concerns with too many sessions leading to low attendance leading some presenters to feel undervalued for time invested. This flex day, the Chancellor did push AI training as a vital part of current PD. Where is the line regarding telling some that we will hold their session while others are rejected? This is not very inclusive – DEIA and Health and Wellness are also part of the mission of the campus. IF we are going to turn proposals away, we are denying the 'I' in DEIA. Meghan: What about pre-registration for sessions? David: There are many issues with that that make it very difficult to do (registrant forgetfulness, presenter responsiveness to messages, [putting the cart before the horse]). David: The tri-chair model was created to make this more inclusive of the various constituent groups as far as all being represented as presenters and attendees. Dr. Foster: Liked the idea of coming up with some collective guidelines as far as the number of sessions, or rules regarding duplicate sessions. David: Let's bring back some suggestions to the May meeting. In the Apr. meeting, we will go over David R's flex day data. Julie: Rather than approving in batches, maybe save the vote until the end? David: Would prefer to cap at say, 42 sessions. Julie: Would you count 2-hour sessions as two, or one? Some sessions are *\*always\** offered, such as curriculum, faculty eval training, etc. for those who need this type of training, so certain things we need to be careful about. Think about some guidelines to bring back for discussion. Aubrie suggested that faculty reach out to their colleagues to send out a survey or reach out at division meetings to explore what training people are wanting or interested in. for example, DEIA training regarding evals.

## **8. Informational Items**

**8.1 Variable Flex Part 2** – due to Jennifer by May 15<sup>th</sup>. *Last one!*

### **8.2 PDC Budget Update**

Still has approximately \$3100, as well as some SEA funds.

### **8.3 New Faculty Orientation**

Meets Wednesday, 3/11. Topics will be Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) with John Rosen, and Academic Senate with Ashley McHale.

### **8.4 Teaching Institute**

Meghan Swanson-Garoupa presented along with Lyndale Garner, and Jennifer Siders. JS presented strategies to engage in content. Students have some autonomy over their assignments, connecting with their motivation. See handouts on the Teaching Institute page. Lyndale Garner: James Clear's Atomic Habits. Cora training. Showing genuine care for students to encourage learning. Human touch. Teaching persona vs authentic self. Aubrie: would like to see this offered as flex day session.

### **8.5 Caring Campus Update**

Flex day presentation moved to Classified Retreat during Spring Break week to accommodate GenAI workshop.

### **8.6 PATH Division Representative - none**

## **9. Good of the Order:**

Aubrie: Invited to attend district meeting regarding setting AI Policy

Jean – Happy that the term “Belonging” is showing up in DEIAB.

David: Thank you to the Committee for your participation in responding and approving flex day and conf proposals via email. Also want to acknowledge and encourage suggestions for future keynote presenters, such as Julie's suggestion for AANHPI.

## **10. Adjournment: 3:44 PM**

**Next Regular Meeting: Apr. 13, 2026, 2:30 pm in room 21147**