# LAS POSITAS CONNECTION

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community | September 2018

Roanna Bennie, Las Positas College Interim President

## LPC Art Gallery: The Art of Peace





The Art of Peace exhibit will travel from the Las Positas College gallery space to additional galleries in Alameda County during the Fall of 2018. Each piece in the gallery may be bid on via silent auction. Sculptures in the Art of Peace show are made from dismantled weapons like knives, guns, and bullet casings.

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## Inaugural Season Off to an **Undefeated Start**



The LPC Hawks Volleyball team poses for one of their first team photos following their first match.

In the opening match of their inaugural season, the Hawks, led by head coach Tracee Byrd, made history with a straight set (3-0) victory over College of the Redwoods at the Cougar Classic, hosted by College of Alameda

In match two of the day, the Hawks took on the host school in what proved to be a tough match-up for both sides. After battling through four sets with the match tied 2-2, the Hawks prevailed 15-13 in the decisive set to finish 2-0 on the day.

Four days later, the Hawks faced College of Alameda again, this time in the comfy confines of the Hawks' Nest on the Las Positas College campus. The Hawks did not disappoint the approximately 100 fans who came to watch the team's first home match in school history, winning in straight sets (3-0).

Women's intercollegiate volleyball is the most recent sport to be added at Las Positas College, following Men's and Women's Water Polo. Over the past few years, as the Athletic Department completed their annual Title IX report for the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA), women's volleyball continued to be a primary sport of interest.

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#### **Cycle Grant: Augmented Reality Sandbox**

Carol Edson, of the LPC Geology department, received one of the coveted LPC Foundation Cycle Grants for use purchasing and running an augmented reality sandbox. An augmented reality sandbox combines a real sandbox with virtual topography and water. It does so by using a closed loop of a Microsoft 3D camera, powerful simulation and visualization software, and a data projector. The augmented reality sandbox allows users to create topography models by shaping real sand, which is then augmented in real time by an elevation color map, topographic contour lines, and simulated water. The system teaches geographic, geologic, and hydro-logic concepts such as how to read a topography map, the meaning of contour lines, watersheds, catchment areas, levees, and much more. The open-source software was designed by a team of scientists at the University of California, Davis.



## Dale & Ted Kaye Innovation Grant

After retiring from Las Positas College Foundation, Ted Kaye and his wife Dale made a commitment to fund a yearly grant to faculty, classified or staff supporting innovative solutions to LPC challenges.

This year the \$1,000 grant was awarded to Rhiannon Follenfant, a lab technician – and former LPC student - from the Chemistry and biology Department to create a "Living Laboratory." This will be a pond supporting various lab courses and upcoming



field biology and a place to study water organism and aquaculture chemistry.

Photos courtesy of Carol Edson

#### "Brewing Up a Business"



**Brian Blackburn** 

Shadow Puppet Brewing Company



**Steve Sartori** 

Altamont Beer Works



**George Beardsley** 

*Eight Bridges Brewing Company*  Three of Livermore's top brewers will be on campus for a panel discussion regarding business practices and how they became successful in their industry. The 6th annual Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker Series is presented by the Business Studies Program. It will be held on Monday, October 1st from 6:00 –7:00 p.m. in room 2420. It is free and open to the public.

### 9/11 Remembered at Las Positas College

September 11th, 2018 marks the 17th anniversary of the September 11th attacks and the events that led to the continuing conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan. In recognition of this solemn occasion, the lives lost that day, and the men and women who have served our country, the Veterans First Program and LPC Student Veterans Organization held a special event on September 11th, 2018 for the campus community.

The event began with Todd Steffan, Veterans First Coordinator, reading a timeline of events from September 11th, 2001. He introduced LPC's own honor guard, held a moment of silence, then played an instrumental version of the National Anthem. Interim President, Roanna Bennie, gave a short speech about how 9/11 affected her family. The event's key note speaker, Mony Nop, moved the crowd with his speech. Mr. Nop immigrated to the United States, escaping the killing fields of Cambodia, at the age of six. He became a police officer and served in Livermore for 17 years. He is the founder of the Mony Nop Foundation, focused on youth leadership, and currently owns his own real estate office. Mr. Nop recently authored a children's book, "Officer M.N.O.P and Me-How Police Officers Serve the Community On and Off Duty." Lastly, the six-plane Memorial Squadron, whose mission is honoring service, remembering lives, and mentoring youth, performed several flyovers in the skies above Las Positas College.

#### Eager Students Return to Fall Classes

While summer temperatures are still around, LPC's students returned in August to begin their Fall courses. Many students have found themselves in the new Classroom Building 1000. Students are enjoying the comfy study areas, bright lighting from the skylights, and especially the electrical outlets so they can plug in their phones and laptops. Student-athletes have begun their seasons and are showing their pride by wearing their LPC gear around campus. The building hallways are alive with the rustling of bright, eager students; the faculty, administrators, and classified staff are happy to see them back and wish them a wonderful 2018-2019 school year.



Interim President, Roanna Bennie, addresses the crowd.



The LPC community honoring the flag during the National Anthem.

#### Convocation Day Success

Las Positas College hosted the 2018 Convocation Day and welcomed Chabot College and the District employees to campus. A large continental breakfast welcomed the crowd as they gathered outside the gym prior to the keynote address by Dr. Susan Cota and a panel discussion with guest speakers Theresa Tena, Executive Vice Chancellor for Institutional Effectiveness and Innovation, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and Ginni May, Professor of Math, ASCCC Treasurer, Curriculum Committee Chair, and member of IEPI State Advisory Committee. The day continued with breakout sessions, including district-wide discipline meetings and networking meetings.

# CALENDAR

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

September 18 September 18	The Market Food Pantry, 1-3 PM, LPC Men's Soccer vs Contra Costa, 4PM, LPC
September 26	Library Card Drive, 10AM-1PM, LPC Library
October 1	6th Annual Business & Entrepreneurship Speaker Series: Secrets of Brewing Up a Business, 6PM, Rm 2420
October 4	9th Annual LLNL/LPC Science & Engineering Seminar Series: Flexible Microelectrode Arrays for Monitoring Brain Activity, 6PM, Rm 2420
October 5	Student Showcase, LPC Main Stage*, 8PM, Free
October 6	Cycling for Veterans, 6:30AM/9AM/10AM, LPC Veterans Resource Center
October 6	Walk 22 for Vets, 10AM, LPC Veterans Resource Center
October 18	Jazz Ensemble & Orchestra, LPC Main Stage* 7PM, \$5-10
October 19-28	Arcadia, LPC Black Box*, Various times, \$10-15
	*Mertes Center for the Arts. Tickets available online at laspositascollege.edu/performingarts

#### LPC Students Excel in College English

A new report from the Public Policy Institute of California shows that Las Positas College has the second highest rate of students completing college English in the state! 74% of students completed college English in one year in 2016-17, the year LPC began allowing students with a high school GPA of 2.5+ to enroll directly in College English.

The #1 college is Moorpark College, which has been allowing students to self-place into college English for some time. 80% of students at Moorpark College enrolled directly into college English in 2016-17 and the college's one-year completion rate was 78%.

#### Volleyball Continued...

This was based on high school participation rates in the area, as well as student interest as indicated on the LPC college application. Working with a community organization, LPC faculty, Chabot College, and the local volleyball community, women's volleyball became a reality during the summer of 2018 and the first women's volleyball head coach, Tracee Byrd, was hired. The athletic department would like to thank campus leadership, district leadership, and our counterparts at Chabot for all of their support in helping this come to fruition.

#### **LPC News in Brief**

The Market Food Pantry; Once per month, the LPC Student Government sponsors "The Market" where free food/groceries are offered to students, faculty, staff and the community. Food is available on a first-come, firstserve basis until it runs out. Currently, LPCSG is serving an average of 120 families.

Library Hours; The LPC Library has extended its hours! Students now have access to Library facilities Monday-Thursday, 8AM-10PM, Fridays, 8AM-4PM, and Saturdays, 11AM-6PM. Internet Access for all; For students who do not have internet access at home or off-campus, they can now check out a mobile hotspot device for 24 hours from the LPC Library.

Middle College; In it's fourth year, the LPC Middle College program enrolled 140 students this year! The Middle College program at LPC is an alternative educational program that provides DUSD, LVJUSD, and PUSD high school students the opportunity to complete their last two years of high school at LPC, earning a high school degree and college credits.



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Students First