

LAS POSITAS CONNECTION

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community | November 2021

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President

LPC Afghan Student Panel

On Wednesday, October 20, the LPC Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Learning Community Interest Group hosted an Afghan Student Panel Event, which consisted of students from Las Positas College and Chabot College. A total of 45 people attended the event. The panelists' conversation was expertly led by LPC students, Jackie Carrillo and Omar Omar. The student panelists were Nargis Azizpor, Ghazaal Hamid, and Omar Omar, all of whom spoke about their Afghan heritage, college experiences, and how the crisis in Afghanistan has affected them, their families, and their communities. Special guest, Mallory De Lauro, the District Chief of Staff & Foreign Affairs Advisor to Congressman Eric Swalwell, also shared her expertise with attendees. Her passion for and commitment to helping Afghan Communities in Congressional District 15 are inspiring. It was a moving event in which participants - student panelists, Ms. De Lauro, and attendees - shared their personal stories and feelings about the past and present situation in Afghanistan and the Afghan refugees who have fled their conflicted country to seek safety and support in the United States.

Dean of Arts and Humanities, Amy Mattern said of the event, "Thank you for bringing meaningful events and activities

to the (LPC) campus, and for your care, compassion, and advocacy for the AAPI community. And, ditto to Chabot's Asian Pacific Islander Education Association (APIEA). Another great LPC and Chabot collaboration."

A CONVERSATION WITH LPC

AFGHAN STUDENTS

Learn about Afghan Culture & History Meet other LPC students

In This Issue

- A Conversation with LPC Afghan Students
- Veteran's Trunk or Treat
- Dr. Foster at HUBU Conference
- Black Cultural Resource Center
- COVID-19 Vaccine Program at LPC
- Fall Flex Day Keynote
- LGBTQ+ Student Panel
- Evelyn Andrews Awarded
- GP Communities of Practice
- Calendar of Events

Veterans First Program's Trunk or Treat

The Veteran's First Program held a Trunk or Treat event for students, faculty, and staff on October 28. Students and their families enjoyed trick or treating at the college in parking lot C. There was a trunk or treat best decorated car trunk contest.



Photos provided by Evelyn Andrews

President's Connection Corner

President Foster Presents at HUBU Annual Conference



On October 28, President Foster attended and presented at the Hermanos Unidos Brothers United (HUBU) 11th Annual Conference held at San Diego City College.

Dr. Foster was a workshop co-presenter where 25 students participated at his breakout session. He shared his knowledge, background and expertise to promote unity, self-awareness, and provide an opportunity for young men to discuss common struggles and obstacles they experience as students.

The HUBU conference is an event that brings college and high school students together for a conference of empowerment, encouragement and community. This year's conference aimed to recognize and celebrate students' tenacity and resiliency in their pursuit of their academic goals within the current environment of an ongoing pandemic, online learning and society's calls for racial justice.

College Offers COVID - 19 Vaccination

Las Positas College and City Health Urgent Care will be distributing COVID vaccines every Wednesday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on campus in parking lot P. This service is open to Students, Faculty, Staff, and the Community. *Appointments are required*.

COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM

Let's Take Action

Get vaccinated. It's safe, effective and free.

All students accessing in-person classes and services must show proof of vaccination before starting classes.

cityHealth

WEDNESDAYS
9:00am - 4:00pm
Las Positas College, Parking Lot P

Black Cultural Resource Center Mixer

President Foster and the Black Education Association (BEA) recently had a luncheon mixer and tour of the newly created Black Cultural Resource Center.

The Black Cultural Resource Center will be a place for LPC students to find resources for counseling services and educational resources such as study spaces and computer work spaces. The Center will also offer resources to meet basic students' needs and provide an opportunity to access peer mentors.

The luncheon mixer included a discussion of the usage of the resource center by students and college programs, staffing, and updates from the various black student programs including UMOJA, Brother to Brother, A2MEND, Sister to Sister, ConnectUp.



Flex Day Keynote by LPC Student Government

Las Positas College held the 2021-22 fall Flex Day on Thursday, October 28. The afternoon keynote was facilitated by Adria Anderson-Kelly, Administrative Assistant to Student Life and Leadership. The panel consisted of current LPC student leaders who shared their personal experiences and challenges as they deal with virtual and distance learning. Students also provided tips and methods on how LPC faculty and staff can continue to support all students during this time of distance learning/hybrid classes and services. Student leaders ended the discussion with a question and answer session with faculty and staff.

There were 13 morning flex sessions and 12 afternoon sessions from which faculty and staff could choose from, hosted by the Professional Development Committee.



LGBTQ+ Student Panel



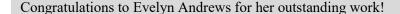
The Las Positas Student Government conducted a student panel of present and past students to share their stories and experiences at LPC. The panel discussion and questions were facilitated by Kyle Johnson, the current Student Government President.

Students and Alumni shared their personal accounts about the state of belongingness while they were students at LPC and how the current students were hopeful about creating a call to action to be more inclusive and offer more support services to the LGBTQ+ student community.

Evelyn Andrews Receives CalVet Trailblazer Award

NLPC's Veterans Office Specialist, Evelyn Andrews, was honored at the 2021 Women Veterans Reception: CalVet Women Voices that took place October 27. Todd Steffan, Veterans First Program Supervisor said of Evelyn, "Evelyn Andrews is a great advocate for all of Las Positas College student Veterans, military members, and their family members. She was nominated for the 2021 CalVet Women Veterans - Women Voices award because of her commitment and services for women Veterans. Although she did not serve in the military, like many who served and serves in the military, Evelyn does not ask for recognition or glory, and serves our student Veterans because of her passion in serving them. She never asks for anything in return, other than everyone to support our student Veterans in their goals to achieve success."

According to the CalVet website, "This reception was in honor of women veterans and provided recognition of the valuable and important contributions that women have made to our nation while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The highlight of the evening featured several California women who served or are currently serving in the military and who contributed significantly to the women veteran community. We honor them with our CalVet Trailblazer Award as they continue to serve their communities locally, statewide, and globally."





Guided Pathways: Communities of Practice

This is a busy year for Guided Pathways! The college has engaged in many meaningful discussions and conversations to reflect on, as the college starts to define and develop Student Success Teams for Las Positas College. A Student Success Team is part of a campus-wide support system focused on partnering with students through the implementation of data-informed, equity-infused practices to support student's personal and academic success.

Although the college is not quite sure what Student Success Teams will look like yet as there is a need to gather information, we do know that success teams can enhance the overall student experience in Academic and Career Pathways and could include



individuals such as: Peer Mentors, Classified Professionals, Counseling Faculty, Instructional Faculty, and Administrators.

Las Positas College is in need of a holistic approach in which the support structures can be implemented at scale for all of our students and the approach needs to be a strategic, sustainable, and proactive so that the college can ensure each student receives the information, assistance and encouragement they need along their entire LPC journey from application to graduation. Therefore, members of the college community have engaged in a monthly Student Success Team Community of Practice to collaboratively develop Student Success Teams that will honor our LPC culture and strengths.

A Community of Practice, or CoP for short, is a group of people who share a common concern, a set of problems or interest in a topic and who come together to fulfill the goals of the group. The Guided Pathways CoP is a big part of what will drive the rollout for Success Teams! The college is taking this fall semester, with an equity and belonging focus, to learn from the expert practitioners and students on our campus and community to inform the creation and work of success teams at LPC so that it embraces our culture and enhances the student experience. The topics that have been a focus this semester include: Equity, Belonging, and Holistic Student Supports, Career and Community Engagement, and Networking. The CoP will continue during the Spring 2022 semester and will culminate in April and May, with a focus on designing the work of LPC's Student Success Teams to enhance our student experiences and increase the achievement and success for all of our students.

Calendar

Please visit the LPC Webpage for more details about the latest events.

November 19 - 20 Water Polo Regional & State Playoffs

November 24 - 26 LPC Holiday - Closed

December 01 Town Meeting

December 08 Behavioral Health Workshop: Anxiety and Finals

December 14 The Market: Food Pantry

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

College Planning Priorities

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.



Las Positas Connection is published by the Office of the President. Issues are posted online at laspositascollege.edu/president. Angelica Cazarez, Editor.

3000 Campus Hill Drive | Livermore CA 94551-7623 | PH 925.424.1000 | www.laspositascollege.edu

Students First