

# LAS POSITAS CONNECTION

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community | March 2022

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President

## **HERStory 10th Annual Women Veterans Event**

On March 9, the Veteran's First Program held the 10th annual Honoring Women Veterans event on campus. The event included the singing of the National Anthem by Ms. Alejandra Quezada-Sermeno, and was accompanied by Mr. Donald McIntyre. The event included a Native American Warrior prayer by Doral Gonzales, a virtual greeting from Congressman Eric Swalwell, a welcome by LPC President Dr. Dyrell Foster, and a keynote presentation by Virginia Wimmer, Deputy Secretary of Women Veteran Affairs, California Department of Veterans Affairs.



The event's many highlights included a student women veterans panel titled, "HERStory" moderated by Adriana Santos, US Marine Corps veteran and LPC alumna. The student panel included: Tracey Walker, US Navy Veteran; S. Maria Caballero, US Navy Veteran; Arica Steedley, US Army Veterans, Gissela Agurcia, US Marine Corps Veteran, and Marissa Macale, US Air Force Veteran. The event concluded with a scholarship award presentation, the presentation of "Quilts of Valor," and a reception with the speakers.

#### In This Issue

- Honoring Woman **Veterans**
- Safeway Foundation
- Beam Signing
- Hawks Make it to the Championship
- Flex Day
- Speaker Series: Dr. Clint Smith
- Flex Day
- Phi Theta Kappa Award to LPC Student
- Admission Applications **Now Open**
- Calendar of Events

### **Veterans First Program Awarded \$40,000 Grant**

The Safeway Foundation awarded a \$40,000 grant to the LPC Veterans First Program. The check was presented to Las Positas College during the grand re-opening ceremo-



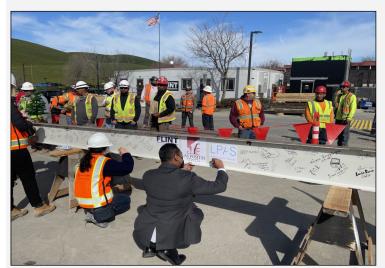
ny in honor of the store remodel of the Safeway in Livermore. This is the 7th year the Veterans program has received this grant.

The next time you visit your neighborhood Safeway, please help us express our deepest gratitude to the store (and their great customers) for their support of Las Positas College and our Veterans First Program.



## Celebration for the New Academic Support Building

On February 9, 2022, the final beam was installed in the Academic Support and Office Building. Members of the college community, builders, architects, faculty, staff, and LPC administrators came to the building site to add their names to a construction beam that will be a part of the building's inner core. The beam was set during this celebration to mark a milestone in the construction phase. The new three story building is scheduled to open in fall 2023.









## **Hawks Make it to State Championships**

The LPC men's basketball team will continue their historic season Friday, March 11, 2022 when they take on West Los Angeles College in the quarterfinals of the California Community College Athletic Association's State Championships at West Hills College Lemoore.



Coach James Giacomazzi's Hawks take their school-best 27-3 record into their first state tournament appearance since the program began in 2006. They are the number 4 seed from the North and will face a West LA team that is also 27-3 but enters as the number 1 seed from the South.

President Foster congratulated the team and coach, "The college is with you and we will be cheering you on tomorrow and throughout the State Championships! Good luck! We wish the team the best success!"

## LPC's Faculty and Classified Professional Development Day

LPC recently held its Spring Flex Day for classified professionals and faculty. A Flex Day is set aside each semester for staff to participate in programmed activities to allow for professional development. The faculty program included a



keynote session from the LPC Student Government, sessions on student equity, student success teams, apprenticeships, sustainability training and a number of other academic topics. The classified professionals program included an introduction to the Caring Campus initiative, building strategies for positive communication, planning for retirement, and a number of other sessions.

David Powers, Flex Day coordinator, thanked all participants who attended and coordinated the event, indicating "I'd like to give a big thank you to all of our wonderful Flex Day presenters for all of their time and effort. I'd also like to give a big thank you Rifka Several, Aubrie Ross, and Christine Hornbaker for their help putting our Flex Day together, and thank you to David Rodriguez and Frances Hui for creating the Google forms. Finally, I'd like to thank all of our

student panelists for taking time out of their day and joining us today and sharing each of their personal stories."

### May President Speaker Series Presents: Clint Smith, Ed.D.

In collaboration with the Livermore Public Libraries and the American Indian Education Center, Las Positas College is proud to co-sponsor a speaking engagement with Dr. Clint Smith. Dr. Smith is a staff writer at *The Atlantic*. He is the author of the narrative nonfiction book, *How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning With the History of Slavery Across America*, which was a #1 New York Times Bestseller, and the poetry collection *Counting Descent*, which won the 2017 Literary Award for Best Poetry Book from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and was a finalist for an NAACP Image Award.

He has received fellowships from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, New America, the Emerson Collective, the Art For Justice Fund, Cave Canem, and the National Science Foundation. His essays, poems, and scholarly writing have been published in *The New Yorker, The New York Times Magazine, The New Republic, Poetry Magazine, The Paris Review, the Harvard Educational Review and elsewhere.* 

Clint is a 2014 National Poetry Slam champion and a 2017 recipient of the Jerome J. Shestack Prize from the American Poetry Review. His two TED Talks, *The Danger of Silence* and *How to Raise a Black Son in America*, collectively have been viewed more than 9 million times.

Previously, Clint taught high school English in Prince George's County, Maryland where, in 2013, he was named the Christine D. Sarbanes Teacher

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of the Year by the Maryland Humanities Council. He currently teaches writing and literature in the D.C. Central Detention Facility. He is also the host of the YouTube series <u>Crash Course Black American History</u>. Clint received his B.A. in English from Davidson College and his Ph.D. in Education from Harvard University. Born and raised in New Orleans, he currently lives in Maryland with his wife and their two children.

We invite you to attend the May President Speaker event. On May 3, 2022 at 3:00 PM. Please visit the <u>President's Speaker Series webpage</u> for more information.

## LPC Student Honored as a 2022 Coca-Cola Academic Team Gold Scholar



Las Positas College student, Elham Mausumi has been named as a 2022 Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) All-California Award Recipient and a 2022 Coca-Cola Academic Team Gold Scholar. Elham will receive a \$1,500 scholarship.

Selection as a Coca-Cola Gold Scholar was based on scores the student earned in the All-USA Academic Team competition, for which more than 2,000 applications were received this year. This program is sponsored by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation and is administered by Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Each scholar also receives a commemorative medallion. Congratulations to Elham for this outstanding achievement!

## LPC Admission Applications Now Open for Summer & Fall 2022

#### **Concurrent Enrollment Application Deadlines**

March 15 - May 13 Accepting High School Concurrent Enrollment Applications for Summer 2022

March 15 - July 29 Accepting High School Concurrent Enrollment Applications for Fall 2022

May 16 High School Concurrent Enrollment Registration for Summer and Fall 2022 Terms Begin

### Las Positas College

### **High School Concurrent Enrollment** Information Session





- Attention! High School students in 10th. 11th and 12th grades.
- Enroll in college courses while attending high school.
- Online and in-person classes available.
- Earn college credit and get a head start on your college education
- Summer Concurrent Enrollment Forms are due by May 13, 2022. Register for Classes May 16th.

#### Join us on Zoom!

Wednesday, April 13th, 2022 6:00-7:00pm







RSVP Here: https://bit.ly/3CcRbur

### Calendar

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

March 18 - 25 High Fidelity, the Musical

March 21 Discover LPC: Virtual Information Session

March 23 Social Justice and Anxiety Workshop March 24 Technical Theater Information Night

April 4 - 8

Fire Service & EMT/Paramedic Information Night April 27

#### **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.

#### **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.

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Students First