



LAS POSITAS CONNECTION

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community | June 2019

Roanna Bennie, Las Positas College Interim President

Congratulations Class of 2019!



On Saturday May 25, 2019, the Las Positas College campus was host to approximately 300 of the 1,282 graduating students in this year's graduating class along with their guests for the 29th annual commencement exercises. The Honorable Catharine Baker was the keynote speaker for the event where she delivered inspirational and practical advice for the future to the graduating class. Assemblywoman Baker was a Republican that represented the Tri-Valley from 2014 - 2018 and served as vice chair of the Higher Education Committee.

Michael Tree was presented the 2019 Friend of the College award for his contributions to the Las Positas Col-

lege's Student Mobility Initiative. Mr. Tree is the Executive Director of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority.

Congratulations graduates on this momentous day. You've worked hard to achieve your goals and now you're on your way to seek new vistas, dream new dreams, embark on who you are, embrace life with passion, and keep reaching for your star.



2019 Platform Party and Special Guests

LPC Fire Services Technology is First in State to Receive FESHE Recognition

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On May 6, 2019, LPC received approval to be the first Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) recognized Fire Safety Training (FST) program in the State. FESHE was established by the U.S. Fire Administration and is run by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FESHE has reviewed the Las Positas College curriculum and student outcomes in order to verify that they meet national standards. The program was then reviewed by National Fire Training to confirm that LPC FST courses met the standards. The FST courses received approval by both FESHE and National Fire Training, which allows LPC students to transfer to any FESHE recognized four-year institution to obtain a bachelor degree in Fire Management.

This is a monumental moment for the FST program. Being the first FESHE recognized program in the State places the LPC FST program on the national map. A special thanks goes to Mr. German Sierra for recognizing the value and importance of being nationally recognized and for all the hard work and dedication to get the Fire Service Technology program FESHE certified.



Best of the Best 2019

The Las Positas College Foundation's annual "Best of the Best" gala raised over \$80,000 for the benefit of the LPC campus community. Celebrating its 16th year as the signature fundraiser for the LPC Foundation, the "Best of the Best" highlighted well-known local cuisine from Posada Contemporary Southwestern restaurant and several Livermore Valley wineries while showcasing outstanding students and programs at Las Positas College. Over 150 guests, including civic and educational leaders, and new and long-time supporters of the LPC campus and community were welcomed into the campus' newest instructional facility to see first-hand the excellence of Las Positas College students and programs.



This year, the Foundation was honored to host a special VIP reception prior to the afternoon's main festivities in the College President's Office. Sponsored by Kaiser Permanente, the reception provided a means to thank several of our most generous donors and to highlight the successful partnership between Las Positas College and Kaiser Permanente.

Proceeds from the evening will benefit the LPC Foundation's Campus Grant program, athletic department and Foundation efforts to help address the most pressing unmet needs of the college community.



Photos courtesy of Allen Lewis



LPC Student Named To State All-Academic Team

Courtesy of Randy Taylor



Las Positas College student Paulina Gurevich was selected to the 2019 All-California Academic Second Team by Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society. Paulina was a Middle College student at LPC and a member of the Alpha Gamma Sigma (AGS) Honor Society where she served as Vice President for 2017-2018 and again in Fall 2018. She also received the 2018 AGS Ed Walsh Service Award and she is a Permanent Member of AGS. Paulina received an AA-T degree in Anthropology and an AA-T degree in Sociology from Las Positas College. She is now a junior majoring in Sociology and minoring in Honors Studies at the University of Wyoming where she will graduate in 2021. She is a member of the University of Wyoming's Honor's College and a French Horn player in the UW Wind Symphony and Symphony Orchestra. Her future plans are to obtain an MS degree in Human Development specializing in marriage and family therapy from Colorado State University.

21 years of Service—Trustee Gelles Leaves a Legacy

Trustee Dobie Gelles passed away on Thursday, May 2, 2019. He was part of the Chabot—Las Positas Community College District for 21 years and represented Area 4, which covers Castro Valley and portions of Oakland. It is an incredible loss for the CLPCCD family and condolences are sent to the Gelles' Family. "Dobie's commitment was first and foremost to students," said Interim Chancellor Ronald P. Gerhard. "He believed deeply in community colleges and gave unlimited amounts of time to our district. We are grateful for his service."

Trustee Gelles served as President of the Board twice during his tenure. Working alongside his Board colleagues, he was instrumental in the passage of Bond Measures A and B to build out and renovate both Chabot College and Las Positas College. He was honored as a recipient of the Fulfilling the Trust Award conferred by the Community College League of California for his two decades of service as a California Community College Trustee. The Annual Trustees Conference was developed to help trustees strengthen the skills and knowledge required to lead their colleges and be accountable to their communities.

"On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we are deeply saddened and send our condolences to the Gelles Family. We will remember Dobie for his two decades of service, dedication, and leadership to our students and community," said Board President, Mr. Edralin "Ed" J. Maduli.

Trustee Gelles served three years in the military and eight years as a reservist. A retired K-12 administrator, Gelles was the Director for Castro Valley Adult School in Castro Valley Unified School District and has been a member of the Eden Hospital Community Board, Castro Valley Unified School District Board, and was President of the Kiwanis and Rotary clubs. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Science and Math from the University of Pittsburgh and a Masters in Counseling from California State University, Hayward.



3rd Annual Innovation Fair



Las Positas College participated in the third annual Livermore Innovation Fair, a project targeted to bring STEM + Arts excitement into the community. It is a free, family-friendly showcase of discovery and imagination that is equal parts science fair, high-tech exhibition, art show, and community carnival.

LPC was part of the hands-on interactive booths. LPC's Caryl Shill organized the college's participation with Andrew Lozano and Dana Nakase as the presenters for the fair. The

participants had a first-person experience with more than 50 displays, visual art, and technology experiments from a large range of STEM-related fields.

Other hands-on workshops offered through the day were presented by NASA Ames Research, Robotics Testing, Artificial and Business Intelligence, and the Virtual Reality Theater.



Photo courtesy of STEM coordinator Caryl Shill

Calendar

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

- June 10 Digital Media Summer Camp
- June 17 First Day of Classes
- June 17 Bio-Tech Boot Camp
- June 17 Cyber Patriots Cyber Camp
- June 18 The Market
- June 30 CSU Admissions Deadline



AGS Student and AGS Advisor Honored

Courtesy of Randy Taylor



At the 93rd Annual Alpha Gamma Sigma (AGS) Honor Society State Convention held in Ontario, CA, this April, AGS member Dallas Hearon (right) received the 2019 Ed Walsh Service Award which recognizes service to the LPC AGS chapter, service to the college, and service to the community. Dallas served as the 2018-2019 AGS Membership Officer. He is a Business Administration major and plans to transfer to the University of California, Berkeley in Fall 2020. Also honored at the AGS State Convention was AGS Advisor Adeliza Flores (left), who received the AGS Outstanding Advisor Award.

Horticulture Club Plant Sale

The Horticulture Club held a fundraiser event where they sold flowers, vegetable plants, succulents and a wide variety of other plants that were grown by the horticulture students. This Spring the college staff was offered an opportunity to help support the Club and take home beautifully grown plants right on campus.

LPC News in Brief

BioTech Boot Camp: Grades 10th - 11th
\$100 per student per session Beginning June 17 - 20, 2019 Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 3:00pm, Advanced June 24-27, 2019 Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 3:00pm. The BioTech Boot Camp is for local public high school students who want to experience how biotechnology is being used to diagnose diseases, solve forensic cases, improve the food we eat, and conserve natural resources. Students will learn basic DNA investigative tools in our state-of-the-art labs, meet scientists from local biotech companies, and enjoy the college campus experience. To be eligible for the Advanced Camp, students must have one year experience or attended BioTech Boot Camp in the past.

CyberPatriots Cyber Camp: Grades 9th - 12th and LPC Students
\$100 per student. No experience necessary June 17 - 21, 2019 Monday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm. Cyber Camp is a five-day technology event designed to excite students new to cybersecurity

about STEM careers and teach them important cyber defense skills through hands-on instruction and activities. Cyber Camp culminates in an exciting final team competition that simulates real cybersecurity situations faced by industry professionals and mimics Air Force Association's Cyber Patriot National Youth Cyber Defense Competition.

Digital Media Summer Camp: Grades 9th - 12th, \$100 per student per session, Level: Introduction June 10-15, 2019 Monday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm. During the camp, students will explore several industry standard tools including Illustrator, Maya, Photoshop, and Adobe Spark. Over a period of 5 days, students will work both individually and within teams to develop a fictional promotional campaign centered upon a product idea of their choice. At the end of the camp, each student will have a portfolio that includes their product concept in 3D, packaging, and a website for their chosen product.

For more information please visit www.laspositascollege.edu.



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