



LAS POSITAS CONNECTION

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

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President

Welcome Week Spring 2022



LPC is delighted to welcome additional new and returning students to campus and we look forward to our vibrant campus coming back to life. Our goal is to continue providing outstanding support and encouragement through our many programs, and services to all LPC students. We want students to stay connected and engaged with the college this semester and these activities are critical.

Administrators, staff, faculty and student government leaders greeted students back to campus during Welcome Week with a big **“Welcome to the Spring 2022 semester! We are happy to have you here!”**

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President's Connection Corner

President's Advisory Council on Race and Equity



To further the progress in implementing the College's institutional goals, President Foster is establishing a new strategic leadership group, the President's Advisory Council on Race and Equity. The Council will serve in an advisory role to the President and make recommendations for action to build upon and enhance equity and inclusion for students and employees at Las Positas College.

The Council's aim is to continue to build a more inclusive and welcoming atmosphere at Las Positas College by recommending actions and initiatives related to, but not limited to the following:

- Assess college policies, procedures, and practices to resolve institutional inequities
- Identify professional development opportunities related to equity and inclusion
- Secure spaces on campus for affinity/student groups to build community
- Establish LPC as a destination campus for traditionally underrepresented groups
- Identify outreach practices that enhance access and diversity and responds to the changing demographics in the Tri-Valley
- Advance faculty and staff diversification

The Council will meet quarterly in March, May, September and December. Updates and progress from the Council will be posted on the [President's Place](#) webpage.

Welcome Back to Campus February 7 -10

In person classes resumed on campus on February 7. To celebrate, students, faculty and staff were treated to free food, goodies and events. On Monday and Tuesday, Pacific Dining prepared and distributed breakfast pastries, grab-and-go lunches, and snacks to the campus community.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the campus hosted a resource fair that showcased all the services and learning communities. On Thursday, the Club Fair was a hit with many students joining the fun, making connections, and enjoying the outdoor activities.



President Speaker Series Presents: Dr. Laura I. Rendón



Laura I. Rendón Ph.D. is a nationally-recognized student advocate, activist scholar and contemplative educator. Rendón is part of a network of public speakers affiliated with SpeakOut-The Institute for Democratic Education and Culture. She has made hundreds of keynote addresses, workshops, and research presentations for national and international colleges and universities, educational organizations and non-profit entities.

Rendón grew up in a low-income, single-parent household along the U.S. Mexico Border in Laredo, Texas where she learned to speak English in the first grade. Rendón is a passionate advocate for low-income, first-generation students who she feels have hopes and dreams but often do not know how to realize them.

Rendón holds professor emerita status at the University of Texas-San Antonio, and has held faculty and administrative appointments at a wide range of universities including the University of South Carolina, North Carolina State University, Arizona State University, California State University-Long Beach, Iowa State University and University of Texas-San Antonio.

Rendón's personal archives are a part of the [*Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection*](#) at the University of Texas-Austin, one of the premier libraries in the world focused on Latin America and Latinx Studies.

We invite you to attend the March President Speaker event, where Dr. Rendón will virtually present her keynote lecture, "*Fostering an Equitable and Just Education for Community College Students*," on March 1, 2022 at 3:00 PM. Please visit the [*President's Speaker Series webpage*](#) for more information.

LPC Proud to be a Caring Campus

Las Positas College has been selected to join the next cohort of colleges participating in Caring Campus California with funding through the generous support of the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO).

Caring Campus implementation covers a semester of intensive work with IEBC coaches who meet with staff teams, returning approximately every three weeks. "Caring Campus is designed to leverage and enhance a college's existing student success and Guided Pathways efforts, with little to no cost to the institution to implement these interventions," explained Dr. Brad Phillips, IEBC/CEO President. "Connecting with a student doesn't cost anything. Asking a student his or her name doesn't cost anything. You don't have to buy software or build a building. But it is an intensive process, which takes commitment that is facilitated by our coaches and supported by college leadership."

Caring Campus recognizes and leverages the value of connectedness for increasing the likelihood that students will continue towards, and succeed in attaining, their educational goals. Staff interaction with students can set the stage for successful enrollment, persistence, and completion. It is particularly important for students from historically underserved populations, students less familiar with college, non-majority students, students from low-income households, and first-generation students to feel welcome and that they belong in college.



The LPC Classified Senate sought inclusion in this program back in 2020. The leadership team of Classified Professionals and administrative support will begin trainings with IEBC coaches in March 2022.



Black Education Association Events

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time to honor and recognize their critical role in U.S. History. At LPC, the Black History Month Committee (BHMC), will be collaborating with the Chabot-Las Positas Black Education Association to showcase the culturally-rich events across both campus communities.

We invite you to visit the college for the Black Cultural Resource Center (BCRC) Grand Opening from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM on February 15, 16, and 17 in Building 1700, Room 1726.

We also welcome you to attend the virtual Black Scholars Family Night on Thursday, February 24 at 6:00 PM.

All Black History Month events and updates will be posted to the LPC webpage.

Black Education Association Presents:
Black History Month 2022

Virtual Events:

- President Speaker Series:** Tuesday, February 1, 3pm-4pm. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Malisha Beasley. Zoom Link: [Click Here](#)
- LPC Town Meeting, BHM Presentation:** Wednesday, February 2, 3-3:30pm. Zoom Link: [Click Here](#)
- Relaxation Techniques: A Mental Health & Wellness Workshop:** Wednesday, February 16, 12pm-1pm. Speaker: Kimberly Banks. Zoom Link: [Click Here](#). Password: 6mll
- Black Scholars Family Night:** Thursday, February 24, 6pm. Zoom Link: [Click Here](#). Come celebrate with students who earned a 3.0 or higher in Fall 2021!

In-Person Events:

- Barbershop Talk LPC:** Tuesday, February 15, 3pm-5pm. Location: 6ym
- African American Male Forum:** Tuesday, February 15, 3pm-5pm. Location: 6ym
- BCRC Grand Opening Week:** Tuesday - Thursday, February 15-17, 10am-1pm. Location: LPC: Room 1726 & Chabot: Room 136

LPC Scholar Athletes



Congratulations are in order for the 57 LPC student-athletes that made the Fall 2021 Scholar Athletes list with a combined 3.56 GPA!

James Giacomazzi, Athletic Director said “I want to commend our coaches and their student-athletes for doing so well academically and athletically in these difficult times. Every team had a cumulative GPA above a 3.0! Big thanks to our Athletic Specialist Adria Anderson-Kelly.”

A's Community Champions

The Oakland Athletics recently celebrated Community Champions who are dedicated to improving and supporting our communities.

LPC's very own Elizabeth McWhorter, Curriculum & SLO Specialist, was selected as the first Community Champion for the Oakland Athletics. She was nominated for all her tireless work within the tri-valley community.



Please visit the [MLB Athletics webpage](#) to read her nomination.

Calendar

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

February 15	The Market
February 23	Disaster Preparedness Presentation
March 1	President Speaker Series Presents: Dr. Laura Rendón
March 2	March Town Meeting
March 9	Behavioral Health Workshop: Mindfulness

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.



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Students First