

key dates...

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

January

- 17 Basketball, LPC vs. Skyline, 5 & 7 PM*
- 20 Holiday, Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 21 Spring 2014 semester instruction begins
- 22 Basketball, LPC vs. San Francisco, 5 & 7 PM*
- 31 Coaches vs. Cancer Games, LPC vs. Chabot in honor of Coach Tony Costello, 5 & 7 PM*. All proceeds benefit Coach Costello Scholarship Fund.

February

- 7 Basketball, LPC vs. Cañada, 5 & 7 PM*
- 8 College Day for high school seniors and their parents, 9 AM-2 PM
- 19 Basketball, LPC vs. Foothill, 5 & 7 PM*

*Men's & Women's Basketball home games
Please visit the Athletics website for schedules. Go, Hawks!

Las Positas Connection is published by the Office of the President. Mary Lauffer, Editor

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Las Positas Connection

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus & Community | January 2014

Coach Inducted Into Hall of Fame



Tony Costello

Coach Tony Costello, who dedicated 25 years of his life to student-athletes and basketball at both LPC and Chabot, was inducted into the Chabot College Athletics Hall of Fame on January 8th. The honor recognized the lasting legacy of Coach Costello who passed away last August 25th at the age of 57 after waging a courageous year-long battle against pancreatic cancer. He coached basketball for 17 years at Chabot and then came to LPC in 2005 as the college's first Men's Basketball coach. Coach Costello was inducted into the Hall of Fame by Chabot Athletic Director Jeff Drouin at half-time of the Chabot and LPC Men's Basketball game at Chabot. Coach Costello's brother, Tom, delivered a heartfelt speech about Tony and accepted an induction plaque on behalf of the Costello family. Attending were Coach Costello's wife, children, parents, siblings, extended family, friends, and colleagues, as well as District Trustees, members of both colleges and the District, Chabot Athletics Hall of Fame Inductee E.J. Costello (Tony's nephew), and Chabot Athletics emeriti. The Chabot and LPC Men's and Women's Basketball games played during the evening, and won by Chabot teams, were dedicated to the memory of Coach Costello. Surpassing their goal, the games raised \$1,570 for the Coach Costello Scholarship Fund created through the LPC Foundation. Coming up, the Coaches vs. Cancer Games, LPC vs. Chabot, will be played in honor of Coach Costello at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on January 31st at LPC, with all proceeds going to the fund. Donations also can be made directly to the foundation, noting "Coach Costello Scholarship" on the check memo line.

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

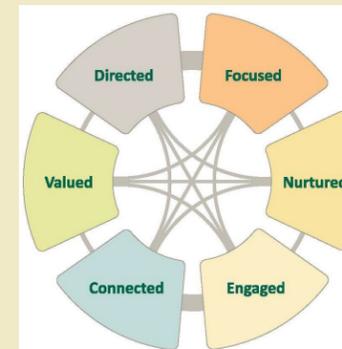
- Nelson Mandela, 1918 – 2013
"The world has lost another great leader. I am sure you will share my feelings of loss and remembrance of the good work that Nelson Mandela did to focus the world's attention on equality, education, and freedom." Message from LPC President Barry A. Russell, Ph.D., to the LPC community, December 5th, 2013

LPC Rings in New Year with Six Student Success Factors

LPC chosen as one of 13 colleges for success study

What are the most effective ways to support student success? LPC was one of 13 California community colleges that participated in a study to find the answer to this question. Student responses confirmed the importance of LPC's existing services and values and will provide inspiration for new ideas. Findings revealed that students are most likely to achieve their academic goals in college environments where they are directed, focused, nurtured, engaged, connected, and valued—what college researchers are calling the "Six Student Success Factors." "Services across campus are engaged in these success factors in and out of the classroom," said Student Services Vice

President Diana Rodriguez. Focusing on specific ways to enhance these factors is a goal for 2014, she said. Ms. Rodriguez and Student Services Interim Dean Barbara Morrissey shared findings about the factors with the campus community at the December Town Hall meeting. Kudos to these two administrators, Director of Research and Planning Rajinder Samra, and staff in these offices for facilitating this valuable study sponsored by The Research & Planning Group for California Community Colleges. For two examples of the many ways LPC incorporates student success factors across disciplines and services, please see the following articles on page 2 of this issue: "Calculus Project Gets to the Root of Student Success" and "Programs Help Students Succeed and Advance."



College Kudos

New Dean Appointed

Congratulations to Lisa Everett, Ed.D., who has been approved to fill the permanent role of Dean of Academic Services for the Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Public Safety Division. She previously served as the Interim Dean. During her 13-year tenure with LPC, Dr. Everett has held key leadership positions including Curriculum Chair, Department Coordinator, Athletic Director, and Basic Skills Coordinator.

Men's Soccer Wins Coaches of the Year Award

What a way to wrap up a great season! Congratulations to our Men's Soccer coaching staff who won the Coast Conference Coaches of the Year 2013 Award: Head Coach Lawrence Aguiar and Assistant Coaches Ramiro Rodriguez, Geoffrey Aguiar, and Nate Frost. Kudos also go to the 11 team players who received 2013 all-league selections honors.

Holiday Fun Day Delights at Child Development Center

Singing, crafting, reading, and healthy snacking were all part of the December 13th *Holiday Fun Day* in LPC's state-of-the-art Child Development Center. Children from the community and those enrolled at the center were invited to attend this annual festivity presented by the award-winning LPC Talk Hawks speech team, the Child Development Center, and the Library staff. The center also held a *Holiday Book Fair* fundraiser during the week. Kudos to everyone who made this a fun-filled holiday celebration, including Child Development Center Director Corinna Calica, far right in the photo.



Photo courtesy of the Child Development Center

Save the Date for Best of the Best and Bid Now on Sun and Ice

The LPC Foundation has kicked off the New Year by announcing two opportunities. First, it has opened ticket sales for its popular *Best of the Best* fundraising gala slated for April 26th. Second, it has launched an early online auction for two "Sun" and "Ice" winter specials, perfect for Valentine's Day gifts: a luxurious Palm Desert getaway and exclusive Club-Level seats for the San Jose Sharks. Bidding ends January 22nd. For information, please see the Foundation's latest newsletter at lpcfoundation.org/about-us/newsletter.



College Spreads Holiday Cheer Far and Near

Many thanks go to everyone at LPC who contributed so generously to brighten the holidays for others, especially children. LPC served needy guests at Open Heart Kitchen, donated to CalWORKS students and their children, collected food for ABODE Services, contributed to Toys for Tots, and delighted local children with a Holiday Fun Day (page 4). LPC also brought smiles across the miles to Peru. Low-income first-grade children of Villa María del Triunfo in Lima, Peru (above) will begin the new year with plenty of school supplies, thanks to the generosity of LPC. LPC student Raissa Chiri, who is from Peru, organized a drive to collect paper, notebooks, binders, pencils, crayons, and other items for the children. Ms. Chiri is the Public Relations Officer for the Alpha Gamma Sigma (AGS) Honor Society which sponsored the collection—one of many AGS philanthropic projects.



Photo courtesy of Raissa Chiri

Student Success Factors in Action Calculus Class Gets to the Root of Student Success



Photo by Ian Jones

Take one visionary instructor, add one calculus class, 375 hours of extra credit work, two conferences, and five computer programs. The results add up to incalculable benefits for LPC students and math enthusiasts.

This past semester, students in Instructor Howard Blumenfeld's Calculus 1 class (above) were presented with an extra credit project: create five computer programs that find ways to solve difficult equations. Not only did the class accomplish this goal and offer the programs free to the public, but they also presented their work at a talk and conference; published a booklet, pamphlet, and website; created a learning community in the classroom and online; and honed professional skills transferable to any career.

"This project allowed us to be creative, showcase our individual strengths, and learn new skills," said student Chris Williams (third from left), who is majoring in Business and held a leadership role in the project. "I enjoyed working with students from different walks of life, different backgrounds, and different majors," he said, noting that none of the Calculus 1 students were math majors. "We worked as a team. It was a unique learning experience and we learned about a lot more than math." Students had two opportunities to present

their work, one at LPC and the other at a conference. They gave a talk at the December LPC Math Society speaking event, inviting LPC, the community, and area high school students. One participating Calculus 1 student went to a thrift store to buy his first suit for the occasion.

Mr. Blumenfeld (fourth from left) said he received many positive comments about the presentation. "After the talk, parents of my students came up to me and thanked me," he said. "They said they were blown away by the motivation of their students while working on this project." Also in December, 11 Calculus 1 students traveled to Monterey for the California Mathematics Council Community Colleges (CMC³) regional math conference where they presented a professional, digitally-produced poster. They made CMC³ history as the largest group of students from any one college to participate in any CMC³ conference.

During the semester, Mr. Blumenfeld also brought his class to a math society conference at Sonoma State University. "After the conference, one of my students said she discovered she was capable of more than she thought because of what she learned that day."

The Calculus 1 class team continues to connect via social media and is extending its teamwork beyond the semester. The students have plans to participate in two poster sessions, one with the UC Berkeley honors symposium and the other with the LPC STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) group. They also plan to share their work at a brown bag talk at the Center for Research in Mathematics & Science Education at San Diego State University. Mr. Blumenfeld could not be happier with results of what began as an extra credit project and grew into a learning experience that exceeded expectations and benefited the students and others. "What an amazing and talented group of calculus students. The quality of work produced by these students is simply phenomenal," he said.

"The intent of this project was to engage students in an authentic learning experience that might closely model the types of problems they would be likely to encounter in the workplace," he said. "Teamwork, meeting deadlines, and creating a viable and useful product are all skills that transfer over well into the work environment. These students will be better prepared to deal with real life problems and deadlines because of the organization, discipline, and creativity involved in completing this project."

Programs Help Students Excel and Advance

Many LPC initiatives create environments with student success factors in mind. Two such programs are free services available to all students: Prep-2-Pass and RAW.

Prep-2-Pass for Final Exams

Prep-2-Pass is LPC's popular end-of-the-semester tutoring event sponsored by the Associated Students of LPC. Right before finals week, students are welcome in the Study, Tutoring & Reading Room for tutoring, study groups, or private study. Food and drinks are provided. Online math and writing tutoring also is available.

Thanks to all tutors, ASPLC, and Tutorial Programs Instructor and Coordinator Pauline Trummel for making this student success service possible.

Going from RAW to Well Done

RAW, short for LPC's innovative Reading and Writing Center, provides reading and writing help from English and English as a Second Language (ESL) instructors. Thanks to funding from the Associated Students of LPC, RAW was able to accept email submissions during the end of the semester, including weekends. Through RAW,

students can get assistance for writing and reading assignments from any class and for transfer and scholarship statements. RAW offers one-on-one tutoring with English and ESL Instructors in the RAW Center, email tutoring information, online reading and writing resources and lessons, and workshops on topics such as personal statements for applications. Thanks to all the tutors and everyone who serves our students through RAW including RAW Center Coordinator Richard Dry, ASPLC, and Career & Technical Education Program Project Manager Vicki Shipman.

LPC Thanks Retiring Library Coordinator for Service



Photo by Mary Lauffer

Cheryl Warren

She has helped countless students find the best resources for their assignments. For years, instructors have brought their classes to her for workshops in research skills. Administrators have depended upon her to shepherd the library through dramatic change and growth. Now, after nearly 28 years of service, Library Coordinator Cheryl Warren is retiring from LPC. "Cheryl Warren has been an integral part of the

library," said Tina Inzerilla, Ph.D., the Instructional Librarian who will serve as the library's new coordinator. "She is fearless, well-respected, and a beloved leader as well as a support to program needs great and small. Cheryl always has a smile on her face and drops everything to assist students in their quests for research articles. She has been a strong proponent of the library and worked closely with faculty at every opportunity."

One of the library's key services is supporting student research. "We work hard to be sure that students understand the importance of good information and how to find it," Ms. Warren said. "There is such an information glut these days. We help students weed through this glut to get what they need." Ms. Warren was instrumental in planning for the upcoming library remodel and technology improvements that will enhance and expand the instructional capabilities, including a "smart" classroom

that will accommodate an entire class.

Before coming to LPC in 1986, Ms. Warren was a librarian with ValleyCare Health System where she helped create the state's first cancer library for doctors and patients. Of her tenure at LPC, she says the experience "has been wonderful." She also is confident that the library is in good hands with Dr. Inzerilla at the helm. "Tina has been our Instructional Librarian and, as such, has a great working knowledge of the classroom including what teaching faculty and students need for services and research support. I feel that Tina will make an excellent coordinator, with the skills to manage the library remodel and address the library's place in meeting the needs of our student population," Ms. Warren said.

Thank you, Cheryl Warren, for your dedication and service to LPC and for your pivotal role in making our library a campus treasure.

Viticulture Program Toasts New Year with New Wines

LPC's Viticulture and Winery Technology (VWT) Program toasted the New Year with three new wines, including its first rosé-style wine in the program's history. Named "Rougir" which means "to blush" in French, the rosé is a southern Rhone-style blend of Syrah, Mourvedre, and Grenache grapes. The other two wines are a 100-percent Sauvignon Blanc and a red wine called "Passio," Catalan for "passion," which is a Spanish-style blend of Tempranillo, Grenache, and Graciano grapes.

VWT Program Coordinator David Everett noted that all grapes for the wines were sourced from LPC's Campus Hill Vineyard, a three-acre, state-of-the-art vineyard overlooking LPC's new entrance on Campus

Hill Drive. The vineyard is a working laboratory maintained by VWT students, who also made the wines. "The wine was meticulously produced by our advanced-level students and bottled on premise," Mr. Everett said. The new wines will be available for tasting at this year's April 26th *Best of the Best* fundraising gala presented by the LPC Foundation.

LPC boasts a premier viticultural research and teaching facility with strong ties to the Livermore Valley wine industry. With more than 100 students enrolled each semester, the VWT program is a reliable provider of skilled specialists for local industry. Alumni have gone on to own and operate wineries in the Livermore Valley. Students in the VWT



Photo by Mary Lauffer

David Everett

program can earn an Associate in Science Degree in Viticulture or Enology with options to transfer to four-year programs at UC Davis or Fresno State. LPC also offers a certificate program in Enology. For more information, please visit the program website at laspositascollege.edu/viticulture.

LPC is First College to Host Safety Training

LPC is proud of ongoing efforts to promote a safe environment for learning and working. The latest effort was the December 6th Active Shooter Training presented by the Public Safety Training Institute (PSTI). LPC was the first college trained in this pilot program funded by the state and Department of Homeland Security. PSTI selected LPC

for the training during the first week of presentations. About 65 people from LPC, the District, and other community colleges attended this free four-hour course designed for faculty, staff, and administrators on how to respond to an active shooter incident. The college extends its sincere appreciation to everyone who participated in the training;

Administration of Justice Program Coordinator Mark Tarte for his efforts in bringing this important event to our campus; and LPC's Public Safety Program and Active Shooter/Critical Incident Task Force for hosting the event. For more information about our safety services, please visit the website at laspositascollege.edu/safety.