

key dates...

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

March

18 Speaker Jeff Bell, 9:30-10:45 AM, RM 2420, free
19 One-Act Plays, 1 PM, free*
21 One-Act Plays, 8 PM, free*
30 Carmina Burana, LPC Choir with Valley Concert Chorale,
Bankhead Theater, Livermore, 3 PM. Admission,
tickets.livermoreperformingarts.org

April

3 LLNL/LPC Seminar, 6-7:15 PM, RM 2420, free
4-13 *Spring Awakening*, April 4, 5, 11, 12 at 8 PM;
April 6, 13, at 2 PM. Admission*

14-19 Spring Break
21-30 *Best of the Best* Online Auction, biddingforgood.com/
LPCfoundation

22 Speaker Karl Schroeder, 6-7:15 PM, RM 2420, free
24 Speaker Temple Grandin, 7 PM, admission*
26 *Best of the Best* Gala. Tickets: lpcfoundation.org/news

*Held in Mertes Center for the Arts. Advance tickets can be
purchased at www.brownpapertickets.com
Please visit the Athletics website for schedules. Go, Hawks!

LPC Advocacy Shines at March-in-March



Photo by student Olga Salgado

Rainy weather fails to dampen the spirits of approximately 30 students, staff, and faculty representing LPC at the annual March-in-March in Sacramento on March 3rd. This march and rally event brings together thousands of community college, CSU, and UC students from across the state to advocate for higher education.

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

LPC Theater Arts to Present *Spring Awakening*, Winner of Eight Tony Awards



Students rehearse for the musical. The LPC Theater Arts Department will begin its run of the musical *Spring Awakening*, winner of eight Tony Awards including Best Musical, at 8 p.m. on Friday, April 4th, in the Main Stage Theater. Set in late 19th century Germany, the musical follows a group of young students as they navigate through self-discovery and coming-of-age anxiety in a repressive provincial culture.

The musical, a popular production for colleges and universities, was met with rave reviews when it opened in 2006. "This brave new musical, haunting and electrifying by turns, restores the mystery and the thrill to that shattering transformation that stirs in all of our souls," said *The New York Times*. "The best new musical in a generation," stated *The New York Observer*.

Spring Awakening contains mature themes, sexual situations, strong

language, and may not be appropriate for younger or sensitive audiences. Theater Instructor Titian Lish, who is directing the play, said she recommends the LPC production for ages 15 and up.

A powerful story of young love and personal and ideological rebellion, *Spring Awakening* challenges the audience to look beyond the sensationalism of this musical phenomenon and deeper into themselves, as their own stories, or the stories of people they know, play out on stage, Ms. Lish explained. She noted that the subject matter has prompted much discussion among the 16 cast members. "We speak more in rehearsal about love, connection, and the characters' desires to be seen and valued by other people and find happiness, than anything else," she said.

Spring Awakening will be presented April 4, 5, 11, and 12 at 8:00 p.m. and April 6 and 13 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$10 for students and seniors. Tickets are available at the door, (cash and checks only), at brownpapertickets.com, or at 1-800-838-3006. Parking is \$2. Photo courtesy of the Theater Dept.

6th Annual LPC Student Film Festival Spotlights Talent

Lights. Camera. Action. Awards. LPC's Student Film Festival, held March 1st in the Mertes Center for the Arts, encouraged and acknowledged student filmmakers. For a list of winners, please visit lpcfilmfestival.blogspot.com. Kudos to Deanna Horvath, Photography Program Coordinator and Instructor of Photography and Video, for organizing this event that showcased the work of our talented students.



3000 Campus Hill Drive Livermore CA 94551-7623 | PH 925.424.1000 | www.laspositascollege.edu
Chabot-Las Positas Community College District



Photo courtesy of Photography Dept.



Las Positas Connection

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

LPC President Forges National Partnerships



Photo courtesy of Pres. Russell

President Russell visits the White House to meet with education policy makers.

LPC President Barry A. Russell, Ph.D., attended a meeting of the Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA) at the White House on February 11th and 12th, which included participation in the Arrival Ceremony of President François Hollande of France. The purpose of President Russell's visit was to build support for community college programs at the White House and several federal agencies.

The visit was highlighted by meetings with both Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack. President Russell was able to have a dialog with representatives of federal agencies and provide input directly to policy makers. The RCCA is the primary advocacy organization for America's 600 rural community and tribal colleges and 3.4 million students.

In this issue

President Meets Top Policy Makers
Campus Achieves First LEED Gold
LLNS Invests in LPC STEM
Guest Speakers Enrich Education
Foundation Plans Best of the Best
Talk Hawks Win Championship
Community Gathers on Campus
LPC Marches for Advocacy
Theater Dept. to Present Musical
Students Earn Accolades for Films

LPC Science Building Strikes Gold Campus Achieves First LEED Gold Certification



Photo by Mary Lauffer

A student is on her way to class in LPC's first LEED Gold certified building.

LPC got the Gold for going green. The college's new 21,000-square-foot Science Technology II Building, built with Measure B funds to meet the growing demand for LPC's science programs, is the first campus building to be awarded Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) Gold certification. LEED is an internationally recognized "green" building certification system and standard for measuring building sustainability by the U.S. Green Building Council.

LEED certification is a voluntary system that assesses the environmental performance of built projects. The Gold certification is a level above

Silver, the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District standard for all new buildings on campus. As with all LEED certifications, going for the Gold requires a commitment from everyone involved with the building—the architect, project manager, construction firm, and building users.

The Gold certification is the latest achievement supporting LPC's leadership in sustainability, which is evident throughout the campus. District and college initiatives include the following:

- Mertes Center for the Arts LEED Silver Certification
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- Photovoltaic Solar Generation System
- IceBank Energy Storage System
- Refillable Water Bottle Stations
- Recycling and Composting
- Paper Reduction
- Reclaimed Water and Water-Efficient Bathrooms

The college has an active Sustainability Committee that oversees green initiatives and was instrumental in creating LPC's landmark Climate Action Plan. The plan focuses on reducing the college's carbon footprint while also considering improvement to the local environment and neighboring communities within the region—benefiting our community now and for generations to come.

LLNS Invests in LPC STEM Education

Lawrence Livermore National Security (LLNS), the entity that manages Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) for the Department of Energy, recently invested \$10,000 in the students of LPC whose educations are focused on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). Presented by Acting LLNS President Bret Knapp, the donation is a Platinum Sponsorship for LPC Foundation's April 26th annual fundraising gala *Best of the Best*. LPC extends sincerest appreciation to LLNS for its generous support of our growing STEM education programs.



Photo courtesy of LLNS

Accepting LLNS's check on February 22nd are LPC Foundation Board of Directors members, from left, Stephanie Beasley, Dr. Lynn Seppala, Lori Souza, President Russell, and Jim Bono.

Guest Speakers to Instruct, Enlighten, and Inspire

LPC and the community will have the opportunity to hear engaging talks by thought leaders about topics ranging from psychology to management to science at four events during March and April. Parking is \$2. Following is information about each event.



Jeff Bell
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder: From Adversity to Advocacy
March 18th, 9:30-10:45 a.m.
Room 2420 Lecture Hall
Free

A sought-after motivational speaker, Jeff Bell is a nationally-recognized author, speaker, and radio news anchor and regarded as a leading authority on uncertainty and motivation. He is active with Mental Health America and serves as the national spokesperson for the International Obsessive Compulsive Disorders Foundation. He offers his audiences an engaging perspective on the many challenges that uncertainty presents and provides decision-making techniques that can motivate anyone to thrive amidst these challenges.

Mr. Bell is a frequent speaker at LPC. “He has been a great supporter of our students and has mentored several since he began his regular visits back in 2007,” said LPC Psychology Instructor Ernest Jones, Ph.D. Dr. Jones noted that Mr. Bell currently is assisting the Psychology Club students in becoming an affiliate chapter of the Adversity to Advocacy Alliance. Presented by the Psychology Department and Club.

Photo credits, from beginning: courtesy of Jeff Bell, courtesy of LLNL (two photos), courtesy of Safeway, by Mary Lauffer



George R. Farquar, Ph.D., Physical Chemistry, and Elizabeth K. Wheeler, Ph.D., Engineering
LLNL Global Security Program
A Spoonful of Sugar Helps National Security Risk Go Down: DNATrax (DNA Tagged Reagents for Aerosol Experiments)
April 3rd, 6:00-7:15 p.m.
Room 2420 Lecture Hall, Free

Presented by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)/LPC Science and Engineering Seminar Series “Theory to Practice: How Science Gets Done.”

Designed to enhance the partnership between LPC and LLNL, the series provides a forum for laboratory scientists and engineers to share their broad range of basic and applied research with the college’s scientific community of students, staff, and faculty.



Karl Schroeder
Building Your Personal Brand
April 22nd, 6:00-7:15 p.m.
Room 2420 Lecture Hall
Free

Mr. Schroeder will share his inspiring story about how he began his Safeway career as a courtesy clerk and rose through the ranks to become a division president of the Fortune 100 company. He also will provide



management insights based on his experience of leading the efforts of nearly 270 stores in Northern California, Nevada, and Hawaii. His awards include 2013 Food Industry Management (FIM) Executive of the Year from the University of Southern California Marshall School of Business FIM Program. Presented by The Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker Series, sponsored by the Business and Marketing Department.

Temple Grandin, Ph.D.
Different Kinds of Minds
April 24th, 7:00 p.m.
Mertes Center, Admission
Purchase tickets at the LPC Bookstore or at lpcpsych.brownpaper tickets.com. Event is expected to sell out.



Temple Grandin is regarded as the world’s most accomplished and best-known adult with autism. Her achievements as a speaker, author, and advocate earned her a place among *Time* magazine’s 100 Most Influential People in the World and her life story was the subject of an award-winning HBO bio-pic. A professor of Animal Sciences at Colorado State University, Dr. Grandin is a highly sought-after speaker, lecturing around the world on autism and livestock handling.

This will be Dr. Grandin’s third visit to LPC. “Temple has said she really enjoys coming to LPC,” said LPC Psychology Instructor Ernest Jones, Ph.D. “She was especially impressed with our science labs. She plans to spend the day of her event touring the campus and talking with students.” Presented by the Psychology Department and Club.

Foundation to Present *Best of the Best* Gala and Online Auction



The Las Positas College Foundation is presenting two ways to have fun while investing in LPC. First, secure tickets to attend the 11th Annual *Best of the Best* Gala on April 26th, featuring the best of the best in fun, performing arts, gourmet food, and fine local wine. Tickets are now available, with incentive pricing: buy seven tickets and the eighth ticket is free. The gala is a great way to spend an enjoyable evening with friends and meet new friends as well. Second, shop the Online Auction for items ranging from sports tickets to exciting travel adventures, from attire to unique collectibles. All items make great gifts. Bidding opens April 21st and continues through April 30th at biddingforgood.com/LPCfoundation. For tickets and more information, please visit the website at lpcfoundation.org/news-events/foundation-events. The gala and auction benefit the students, staff, faculty, and greater regional community that LPC serves.

Speech Team Captures 1st Place in Tournament



Photo by Janet Brehe Johnson

Talk Hawks Soar
LPC’s Forensics team, the Talk Hawks, swooped in to capture First Place among 25 participating colleges and universities at the recent Northern California Championship Tournament. LPC defeated competing teams from the University of California at Berkeley, Santa Clara University, California State Universities, and other community colleges.

Congratulations to the Talk Hawks and to Director of Forensics James Dobson. He noted that the team not only won its next competition, but that it more than doubled the amount of points of the second-place team. The Talk Hawks have a proud history of state, national, and international awards.

This month, they are headed to the International Forensics Association tournament held in Paris, France. The team secured its own funding for the trip.

International Student Wins Award
Winning a speech award is tough enough in one’s native language. Kyra Tillmans (in photo, back row, far right) raised the bar by winning First Place in Persuasion in the Novice category despite the extra challenge of being an International Student from the Netherlands.

Ms. Tillmans began her path to the award-winning performance in a Speech class she took last semester. “My first speeches in English didn’t go well at all,” she said. But

her Speech Instructor James Dobson noticed her talent and enthusiasm and encouraged her to edit and practice her speeches. Not only did she see improvement, but she started having fun as well. Mr. Dobson then suggested she enter the competition, which meant more editing and more practice.

Ms. Tillmans says she treasures her speech award and is enjoying her experience at LPC. “I like the way I am treated here. The teachers and students are respectful. And I really appreciate everyone in the International Student Program. I couldn’t have done all of this without them.”

Gefeliciteerd, Ms. Tillmans! That’s Dutch for “congratulations.”

LPC’s Campus: A Gathering Place for the Community

On any given weekend, LPC opens its campus to people of all ages in our community for events that educate, entertain, and challenge. Visitors to campus comment on the beauty and quality of the campus grounds and facilities. LPC truly is an educational and cultural center and gathering place for our community. Following are some recent weekend events hosted by LPC.

Science Bowl Hosted by LPC, Sandia
LPC hosted the February 22nd Regional Middle School Science Bowl, sponsored by Sandia National Laboratories. Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Public Safety Dean Lisa Everett, Ed.D., welcomed the 300 participants, families, friends, and volunteer scientists. Rep. Eric Swalwell also addressed the guests. Hopkins Junior High School in Fremont won the exciting competition and will advance to the National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C.

Tri-Valley Science and Math Conference
On February 22nd, LPC President Russell welcomed more than 300 girls in grades 6-9 to the Tri-Valley Expanding Your Horizons Conference. The girls gathered on campus to meet scientists and engineers and explore careers in math and science. The conference is coordinated by volunteers from LPC, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories/California, and the Association of University Women.

High School Swim & Dive Invitational
High school student athletes from throughout the region enjoyed warm weather and sunny skies on February 22nd for the Hawk Kick Off High School Swimming & Diving Invitational at LPC’s state-of-the-art Aquatics Center. Congratulations to Head Coach Jason Craighead for organizing this outstanding meet for our community.

Firefighter’s Workshop
With the LPC Fire Service Color Guard in position, President Russell welcomed participants to the March 2nd Firefighter’s Workshop, co-sponsored by LPC and Fire Alumni Events. Approximately 275 entry-level firefighters from across the state attended this all-day workshop which provided training and guidance to help aspiring professional firefighter candidates gain successful placement in a Fire Service career. Each workshop topic area was taught by highly respected Chief Officers representing multiple fire service agencies throughout California. Many of the officers are also faculty in the LPC Fire Service Technology Program, regarded as one of the top programs in Northern California. Congratulations to Fire Service Technology Program Instructor and Coordinator Ronald Johansen for organizing this important event for the future firefighters of California.