

Trustees Appoint New Board Member

The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District (CLPCCD) Board of Trustees voted unanimously at its special meeting January 27th to appoint William Macedo as trustee for Trustee Area 7, filling the vacancy created by the December retirement of Barbara F. Mertes, Ph.D. Dr. Mertes leaves a legacy of outstanding leadership and service to the district.

Mr. Macedo and his family have lived in Livermore for more than 40 years. For the past four years, he has served as a member of the district's Measure B Citizens' Oversight Committee, which monitors expenditures of the \$498 million, voter-approved general obligation facilities bond. Mr. Macedo will be sworn in at the board's February 17th meeting. He will serve as trustee until the next election in November 2016.

LPC Alum Reports on Tom Hanks' Letter: "I Owe It All to Community College"

Attending Las Positas was one of the best decisions I've ever made.

-KTVU Anchor Gasia Mikaelian



Courtesy, Pacific Coast News

Actor Tom Hanks wrote a guest editorial, "I Owe It All to Community College," in the January 14th *New York Times* that focused a national spotlight on how Chabot College changed his life. In the editorial, Mr. Hanks wrote, "I drove past the campus a few years ago with one of my kids and summed up my two years there this way: 'That place made me what I am



Courtesy, Gasia Mikaelian

today.'" His moving tribute to Chabot was prompted by President Obama's proposal to make two years of community college free. Commenting on KTVU's coverage of the story, was TV anchor Gasia Mikaelian who shared on air that she attended LPC.

"Attending Las Positas was one of the best decisions I've ever made," she wrote in a recent letter to LPC. "I completed my general ed classes without the pressure of mounting debt, and allowed myself the freedom of taking any class that interested me." She then transferred to San Diego State University with a clear goal of earning a broadcast journalism degree. "I was 'older and wiser' when I transferred.... If I had started SDSU as a freshman, I doubt I would have been as disciplined as I was as a transfer student."

Ms. Mikaelian posted her gratitude to LPC on her Facebook page. "Thank you, thank you to all the wonderful teachers I had at Las Positas... like Tom Hanks says about his teachers at Chabot—you helped me be the person I am today!"

District Leaders Focus on Advocacy

In this issue

- *New Trustee Appointed*
- *Praise for Colleges*
- *Leaders Conduct Advocacy*
- *Speakers Enrich Education*
- *Biological Honor Society*
- *College Day Success*
- *LPC Hosts Science Bowl*
- *Middle College Head Start*
- *Save the Dates*
- *Key Dates and Events*



Faith Lane

CLPCCD leaders headed to Sacramento to advocate on behalf of our colleges and students for the January 25th and 26th Community College League of California Annual Legislative Conference. During their visit, district representatives met with Assemblymember Catharine Baker. Featured in the photo are, from left, Chancellor Jannett N. Jackson, Ph.D., Assemblymember Baker, Trustee Hal G. Gin, Ed.D., and LPC President Barry A. Russell, Ph.D.

Speakers to Enlighten, Enrich, Engage, and Electrify

LPC is pleased to bring outstanding guest speakers to campus this semester. All events are open to the public.

Enlightening: “Honoring Women Veterans” Event Speaker

LPC will hold its annual Honoring Women Veterans event on March 12th, presented by LPC’s Veterans First Program and the Student Veterans Organization.

Honoring Women Veterans

March 12th, event begins at 10:00 a.m., Mertes Center. Free.

Starlyn Lara, 2014 California Woman Veteran of the Year, achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant, awarded the Combat Action Badge and two Meritorious Service Medals, and appointed to the San Francisco Mayor’s Disability Council and the Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission.



Courtesy, Starlyn Lara

Enriching: Business & Entrepreneurship Speaker Gets Local

Courtesy, Rajnish Khanna



The Business and Marketing Department presents the Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker Series featuring area business leaders and innovators.

For the Love of Food

March 17th, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Room 2420. Free.

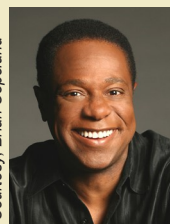
Rajnish Khanna, Ph.D., scientist and entrepreneur;

founder or co-founder of Global Food Scholar, Inc., GetLocal Application, and I-Cultiver; and scientist with the Department of Plant Biology, Carnegie Institution for Science at Stanford University. Dr. Khanna combines his expertise as a scientist and entrepreneur to revolutionize the local food system and champion advancements in health and sustainability.

Engaging: Psychology Speakers Educate, Illuminate, and Inspire

Each year, the Psychology Department brings world-renowned speakers and events to campus. This semester, the department presents two events.

Courtesy, Brian Copeland



The Waiting Period

March 3rd, 7:30 p.m., Mertes Center.

Tickets at brownpapertickets.com: \$10 students, \$15 general admission.

Brian Copeland, multi-talented writer, actor, comedian, and radio and TV talk

show host. This hard-hitting yet comical look at Mr. Copeland’s personal struggle with chronic depression is centered around a 10-day period, the mandatory waiting period before he could receive a newly purchased gun, with which he planned to take his life. The San Francisco

Chronicle praised the production as “Astonishingly funny, positively inspirational.”

Why Zebras Don’t Get Ulcers: Stress, Health, and Coping

March 25th, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Mertes

Center. Tickets go on sale soon at brownpapertickets.com.

Robert Sapolsky, Ph.D., Stanford University Professor of Biology and Neurology, one of the world’s leading neuroscientists, recipient of a MacArthur “Genius Grant,” and called “one of the best scientist writers of our time” by Oliver Sacks. The talk is based on Dr. Sapolsky’s acclaimed book of the same name.



Courtesy, Stanford News Agency

Electrifying: LLNL/LPC Science & Engineering Series Seminars

The 5th Annual Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)/LPC Science and Engineering Seminar Series, Theory to Practice: How Science Gets Done, is designed to enhance the partnership between LPC and LLNL and 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. Following are the two spring seminars.

Green Power: Making Electricity Out of Thin Air

March 2nd, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Room 2420. Free.

Jeff Mirocha, Ph.D., Atmospheric Scientist, Earth and Energy Division, LLNL; and **Eric W. Harpell**, Instructor of Physics, Astronomy, and Environmental Science, LPC.

Molecular Evolution

April 9th, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Room 2420. Free.

Brent Segelke, Ph.D., Biophysicist, Senior Biomedical Scientist; and **Emilio Garcia, Ph.D.**, Microbiologist, Senior Visiting Scientist. Biology and Biotechnology Division, LLNL.

Ceremony Celebrates New Biological Honor Society



Ashley Kim

An installation ceremony on January 8th reflected the excitement and pride of LPC's new Beta Beta Beta Biological Society club chapter, part of a prestigious national honor society. Twenty-eight charter members were installed, including student, honorary, and graduate members. Also attending were administrators, special guests, faculty, alumni, and members of LPC's highly-regarded Biology Club, which sponsored the event. LPC's

chapter was approved after a rigorous review process. Biology Instructor and Club Advisor Nan Ho (above, second from right) said that the society district director visited LPC and "was impressed with our college and the biology program, and strongly recommended our approval." Congratulations to the Beta Beta Beta Biological Society club chapter on its first installation ceremony!



Mary Lauffer

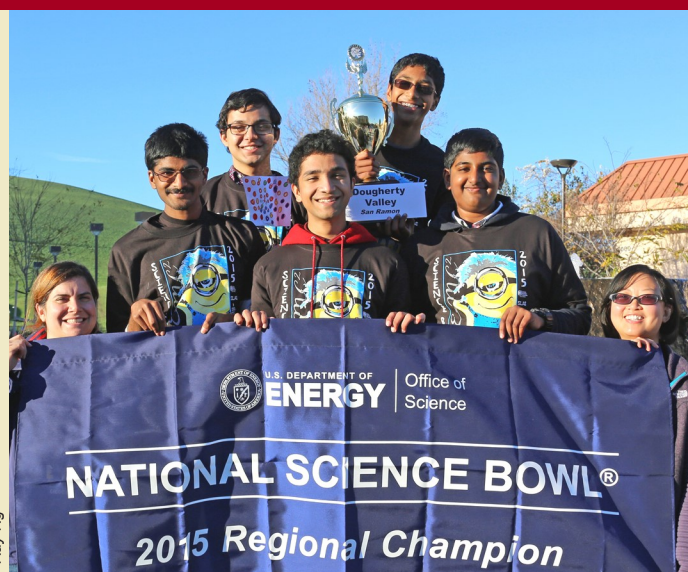
LPC Holds College Day for High School Seniors and Parents

LPC welcomed hundreds of high school seniors and their parents at the annual College Day on February 7th. Through information sessions and workshops, guests learned about LPC's many programs, services, and opportunities, including the popular Transfer Center and the Early Admission Program that helps students get a jump start on their education. Thanks to everyone at LPC who made the event a success!

LPC Partners with Sandia Labs to Host Science Bowl

LPC was the host site for the 2015 Regional High School Science Bowl, presented by Sandia National Laboratories. The Science Bowl is a highly competitive event sponsored by the Department of Energy to encourage student involvement in math and science activities.

Congratulations to the winning team, Dougherty Valley High School, which will advance to the National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C. in late April.



Ray Ng

key dates...

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

February

- 13-16 Holiday, Presidents' Day
21 Piano Master Class, 2-4 PM, Mertes Center; see below*

March

- 1 San Francisco Conservatory of Music Orchestra, 2 PM, Mertes Center; see below*
2 LLNL/LPC Science Seminar, 6-7:15 PM, RM 2420; see page 2
3 *The Waiting Period*, 7:30 PM, Mertes Center; see page 2
5 *Sex Signals*, 6 PM, Mertes Center; see below
12 Honoring Women Veterans, 10 AM, Mertes Center; see page 2
17 Business Speaker, 6-7:15 PM, RM 2420; see page 2
18 Student Directed One Act Plays, 1 PM, Mertes Center*
20 Student Directed One Act Plays, 1 PM, Mertes Center*
24 Shark Tank, 1 PM, RM 801; see below
25 *Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers*, 7:30-9:30 PM, Mertes Center; see page 2

**Ticket info at laspositascollege.edu/performingarts.
Parking permits are required at all times on campus.*

Please visit the Athletics website for schedules. Go, Hawks!

Las Positas Connection is published by the Office of the President. Issues are posted online at laspositascollege.edu/president. Mary Lauffer, Editor

LPC's New Middle College Program Gives High School Students a Head Start in College

LPC has introduced a new program for high school students which gives them a head start on their college degree and career training.

In Middle College, students take all their high school and college classes on the LPC campus, earning high school and college credit simultaneously, and complete their requirements for high school graduation while exploring interests through a diverse college curriculum.

The application deadline for the 2015-16 Junior Class is February 28th. For information, please visit http://www.laspositascollege.edu/tec/middle_college.html.

Save the Dates: Music, Comedy, Anniversary Celebration, Best of the Best

Piano Master Class. Featuring Markus Pawlink, and with performances by advanced students, the class will be held at 2:00-4:00 p.m. on February 21st in the Mertes Center. The class is free and open to the public. It is co-hosted by LPC and the Music Teachers' Association of California, Alameda East Branch.

San Francisco Conservatory of Music Orchestra will perform at 2 p.m. on March 1st in the Mertes Center. Admission is free and open to the public.

Sex Signals is an award-winning touring performance that incorporates comedy, education, and audience interaction to provide a provocative look at dating, sex, and the core issue of consent, as well as bystander intervention strategies. It is being presented in collaboration with community partners. Sponsored by the Student Health and Wellness Center, the event is free and will take place at 6:00 p.m. on March 5th in the Mertes Center.

LPC 's Shark Tank. The Business and Marketing Department will hold the college's third Entrepreneurship Competition in the style of the popular TV show, "Shark Tank," at 1:00 p.m. on March 24th in Room 801. Open to all students in all majors, the

competition is judged by area entrepreneurs. Awards include cash prizes and mentoring from i-GATE Innovation Hub in Livermore.

Cabaret. Audience seating is cabaret style for LPC's production of this smash Broadway hit musical. Get tickets early from www.brownpapertickets.com. Shows are April 10th-19th, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Mertes Center.

LPC's 40th Anniversary. The public is invited to our 40th Anniversary Celebration and Open House on April 17th. Tours of the campus and new buildings will be offered. Please see the March *Las Positas Connection* for details.

Best of the Best Gala 2015. Presented by the LPC Foundation, the 12th annual edition of this black-tie fundraising evening will be on April 25th. It will feature fine wine and gourmet food as well as unique online, silent, and Fund-a-Need auctions.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum. This hilarious musical comedy will be presented in the renovated Outdoor Amphitheater July 23rd through 25th. Save the dates!



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