Exploring College Options:
Las Positas College

Michael Schwarz
Counselor / Transfer Director
Las Positas College
College Night 2013
My background

- Former community college student who transferred to UC Davis using a Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) program
- Master’s Degree in Counseling (2000)
- My seventh year at Las Positas College
- As transfer director, I provide leadership for the transfer function of LPC
- As counselor, I and my colleagues are committed to help you successfully meet your educational goals.
Today’s Presentation

Today we will cover the following topics:

- Educational options at Las Positas College
- How to transfer
- Transfer Admission Guarantee programs
- Q&A
What can Las Positas College offer you?

- Certificates (Career Technical) – prepare for job entry
- AA/AS Degrees (Career Technical and Transfer Prep)
- Transfer Curriculum (General Education and Major Preparation for Bachelor’s degree at 4-years)
Certificate Programs

- Occupational

- Only require courses for a specific major (area of study)

- Requirements vary (usually 1-2 years of full-time study)

- Prepare for entry-level job in related career field
Associate Degree Programs

- Occupational or Transfer

- **AA/AS** = Associate in Arts/Associate in Science

- Includes major, general education, and elective courses (when necessary)

- 60 units (2 years full-time study)

- Prepare for entry-level position or for transfer, depending on chosen degree
Transfer Programs

- Completion of the equivalent of the first two years of a bachelor's degree (lower division) here, then moving on to a university for the remaining requirements (upper division)

- Shared responsibility between the student and the college

- Las Positas College offers courses and services which help you get from point A to point B
Visual: Transfer Preparation at LPC

Transfer
Visual: Transfer Preparation at LPC

- GE
- Electives
- Major Prep
General Education
General Education (GE)

- **General Education** defined as broad array of courses required of college graduates

- Las Positas offers General Education patterns for all campuses of both University of California (IGETC pattern) and California State University (CSU-GE pattern)

- Private, independent, out-of-state — each campus has its own GE requirements
Major Preparation
Major Preparation

- Major Preparation defined as first- and second-year courses that serve to prepare for advanced, upper-division major courses

- Community colleges have articulation agreements with universities which identify appropriate courses to take

- www.assist.org
Electives
Electives

- Electives are transferable courses that may be used to meet unit requirements for transfer.

- Many majors, when combined with GE, will meet or exceed the minimum number of transferable units.

- Lists of transferable units to UC and CSU available in Counseling Office and on [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)
Total Transferable Units (UC and CSU)

60 units

- GE
- Electives
- Major Prep
The Student Education Plan (SEP)

- ALL students are encouraged to complete a Student Education Plan (SEP) during your FIRST semester at LPC

Benefits of the SEP
- Plan your path for degree and/or transfer
- Avoid taking unnecessary courses
- Ensure eligibility for certain programs, including Transfer Admission Guarantees
Transfer GPA requirements

- College courses, taken as a whole, are difficult, and universities consider this.
- Minimum Grade Point Average for upper-division transfer (60 transferable units):
  - University of California (UC): 2.4
  - California State University (CSU): 2.0
  - Private, independent, out-of-state: 2.0 and up
- Important: Many campuses, and certain majors, have higher GPA requirements for transfer (UC Berkeley, Cal Poly, nursing major, etc.)
- The stronger your academic record, the more options you will have for transfer.
Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)

- TAG agreements enable students to GUARANTEE transfer admission up to one year in advance, without obligation to attend.
- Very important to plan early! (SEP)
- LPC has TAG agreements with nine schools:
  - 6 of the 9 undergraduate campuses of the UC (UCD, UCI, UCSB, UCR, UCM, UCSC)
  - CSU Monterey Bay
  - Saint Mary’s College; University of the Pacific
TAG Requirements

- Certain number of transferable units required when signing the TAG (varies by campus)
- GPA required varies; range is 2.0 to 3.5
  - GPA required when signing TAG, and must be maintained during remainder of time at LPC
- Depending on major and campus, specific course and grades may be required before submission of TAG and/or before transfer
- Early SEP is critical to ensure eligibility
Example – UC Davis TAG (Part 1)

1. **First Year**: Complete 30 UC-transferable units by the end of the summer (SEP recommended);

2. Earn a 3.2 – 3.3 transferable GPA (depends on major and subject to change each year);

3. Complete the online TAG application in September, which includes planned courses for second year, and submit for LPC Counselor review and UC Davis approval;
1. **Second Year**: UCD will notify students of TAG status in November; complete online UC application for admission by November 30.

2. Complete agreed upon courses with required GPA, and follow any additional instructions;

3. If desired, accept offer of admission to UC Davis!
A Note About Transfer Degrees

- New degrees are in development that link our Associate Degrees with transfer to California State University campuses (AA-T and AS-T)

- Will not replace existing transfer options

- May or may not be the best option for students to pursue

- Consult with a counselor
FINAL POINTS

- Las Positas College graduates are highly sought after in many competitive fields
  - Surgical Technology, Welding, Automotive
  - Early Childhood Development, Computer Science

- Las Positas College transfer students, as a group, perform *as well or better* than students who started at the university
  - University GPA
  - Persistence rates (not dropping out)
  - Graduation rates
Before you go…

Please complete an evaluation form.
Thank you!
THANK YOU for considering Las Positas College as a potential pathway to meet your educational goals!

QUESTIONS?
Additional Questions and Contact Information

Michael Schwarz
925-424-1428
mschwarz@laspositascollege.edu