



ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

February 22, 2023 | 2:30 – 4:30 pm | Room 1687 + zoom for visitors

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.

LPC 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.

LPC Academic Senate Quorum: 8

Non-Voting Members:

President: Sarah Thompson
Student Government: Lara Weidemeier
Faculty Association: Heike Gecox
Admin.: Rifka Several

Voting Members:

Vice President: Collin Thormoto
Secretary: Dave Wagner
Treasurer: Ashley Young
BSSL: Robin Roy, Daniel Cearley
A & H: John Kelly, Peter Kuo, Kisha Quesada Turner, Katie Eagan
STEM: Michael Peterson, Ashley McHale
PATH:
Student Services: Christina Lee, Jill Oliveira
Part Time Representatives: Jeff Judd

- 1. Call to Order:** meeting called to order at 2:35 pm
- 2. Review and Approval of Agenda:** motion to approve agenda: moved/seconded/ discussion: strike 10.5, information is in report; add approval of three senators with just cause as part of the agenda approval/motion to approve with changes: moved/seconded/approved

Senators with just cause to zoom:

Robin Roy: ill, no one is in room
Katie Eagan: ill, no one is in room
Dan Cearley: ill, no one is in room

- 3. Review and Approval of Minutes: February 8, 2023:** motion to approve minutes/seconded/approved

4. Public Comments

Rifka Several: Reminder to ask you students to apply for scholarships; close date is March 9

5. Action Items

5.1 Faculty Hiring Prioritization Revised Criteria (Heike Gecox): criteria posted on website: Motion to approve: moved/seconded/approved

5.2 Career Exploration and Preparation Certificate (Jill Carbone): proposal and SLOs/PSLOs posted on website: Motion to approve: moved/seconded/approved. Rifka will send Jill an email about this approval.

- 6. Consent Items:** Motion to approve 6.1: moved/seconded/approved

6.1 VP of Academic Services Hiring Committee: Craig Kutil and Soraya Renteria

7. Reports

7.1 LPC Student Government (Lara Weidemeier): Club Fair is tomorrow with a "spring theme." A speaker will present on April 11. Applications are available for next year's student government positions. There was good student participation at last night's board of trustees meeting.

7.2 CTE (Melissa Korber): see Apprenticeship Scorecard PPT on website. They are finding the apprenticeship programs are costly, and with low enrollment. The decision was made to stop seeking these out. Discussion on how accurate the faculty and administrative investment is on the requested updates and changes. A new vice president of academic services may choose to review this. The one program still active is Tesla

Solar (not motors). They will be discussing mini-grants at their next meeting.

7.3 SLO Committee (John Rosen): at the last meeting, they looked at the SLO sections of the program review process and discussed changes. The committee has a Flex Day workshop on writing the next three-year plan (they are in year three now). CurricuNet Meta exploration: they are waiting for another demo to be scheduled. If the Curriculum Committee approves, the SLO Committee will need to go with this. Their two workflows must be able to be kept separate.

7.4 Program Review Committee (Nadiyah Taylor): report posted on the website.

7.5 CEMC/DEMC (Sarah Thompson): no meeting since last Academic Senate meeting. Enrollment is up 3.5% which is encouraging.

7.6 Faculty Hiring Prioritization (Heike Gecox): no report

7.7 Accreditation Steering Committee (Kristina Whalen): no report

7.8 SEA Committee (Katie Eagan): SEA and MLEA meet on the same day. Committee members are signing up for projects to achieve the success metrics in the SEA 5-year program plan. Based on these sign-ups, a plan will be developed for next year.

MLEA: what kind of data do we want on disabled students' success? Discussion on working with IT for students to enroll in appropriate math courses. There will be major recoding in fall enrollment for math placement in the Pathways.

7.9 District Technology Committee (Bill Komanetsky): full report posted on the website. They will be able to get a LPC domain name: LPC.edu. Chabot will likely have Chabot.edu.

There are problems with the zoom installation of apps; a policy is being developed on this. Bruce Griffin is recommending not downloading apps at this time.

Elucian Experience (parallel for ClassWeb for at least a month) is almost completed (March 15 is live date). Training will be offered. The interface is greatly improved (the back end is the same). Bill will bring up the roll out planning at their next meeting.

IBM is stopping support for a lot of software so we have to move toward cloud solutions.

State security funding is coming; some is pre-determined.

Multi-factor authentication will be implemented for better security.

Questions about T-Mobile cell access; all carriers were notified and need to respond. AT&T and Verizon are now available.

7.10 Guided Pathways (Kristy Woods): Phase 2 Canvas sites for student communications is being worked on (one email a week to increase sense of belonging). The site development will be a template for all the Pathways. There will be an opt in for program guide links for communicating with students.

They attended the District IT meeting about manually inputting students into their sites. The Elucian Experience preview will be at the April steering committee meeting, to be used in the fall.

Continued work is being done for phase 3 – student success teams. What will this look like? We want this to be appropriate to our LPC culture and individual student needs. The focus is on being effective. Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Institute is providing one year funding along with coaching.

7.11 District Compressed Calendar Committee (Kisha Quesada Turner): sample schedules are being created by the district-hired consultant. They are consulting with other colleges to inform their discussions. There is a goal for the decision to be made in this semester.

7.12 Professional Development Committee: report posted on website. Reminder that all Spring Flex Sessions (March 16) will be on campus, none via zoom.

7.13 Treasurer (Ashley Young): Ashley reserved a table at the Pleasanton Farmer's Market, March 11 and 18, to distribute information on LPC programs and the March Campus Open House.

7.14 President (Sarah Thompson)

Feb. 21 Board of Trustees Meeting: Thanks for so many LPC attendees, including students, both as speakers and witnesses. She has never attended a board meeting with this kind of intensity. There was a focused effort from Trustee Reynoso to be disruptive. He sent a flyer to encourage support, however, these speakers were not from our district nor our community. Many did not understand the issue on the table, and accused the board of corruption and racism. Our speakers understood the issue and spoke to it in an informed manner.

Trustee Reynoso did not respond cogently during the censure process. He was asked to listen during the process following his presentation, but kept interrupting. The district lawyer explained the censure process, which is not a grievance process so would not involve a lawyer as Trustee Reynoso wanted. The board expressed their dismay at his behavior. As this is an elected position, he will continue in his position.

During the meeting he passed out a flyer about the board president indicating he was associated with Chinese spying. He talked about the other boards he had been asked to leave.

The board voted 6 – 1 (Reynoso dissenting) to censure Trustee Reynoso. One member of the public accused the board of being racist in a threatening manner; security had to clear the room. Security receives high praise for their handling of this meeting.

Trustee Reynoso left the meeting after the vote and was declared absent.

Additional comments from senators on the board meeting:

- Security did a very good job of keeping control.
- One attendee said they were involved in the San Francisco board recall effort.
- The board was thanked for their professionalism, for putting students first, and supporting an equity infused environment at both campuses. Words matter.

- This was a disheartening example of bigotry, cynicism, stirring negative emotions, and appealing to right-wing media as a victim.
- Regarding the flyer about Chinese spying: it was an outlandish way to stir emotions.

When public comments and the vote was over, the meeting started at 8:50 pm for representatives to give reports. As Trustee Reynoso had left, the meeting returned to calm.

Sarah acknowledged Dr. Whalen, how much we will miss her and how much she contributed to LPC.

Sarah commented on the censure proceedings: Reynoso said this was a “lynching process and I felt lynched.” This was a totally inappropriate comments with no acknowledgement of this term’s meaning to African Americans and the wider community.

Sarah read the quote from Jimmy Carter, who dedicated his life to helping those in need, protecting those who need protecting (in part): I have one life and one chance to do something to make a difference. She praised the board for their action; this is a moment to be proud of as a district. However, these distractions will continue to take time and energy away of our important work for students.

Congratulations: Tenure was awarded to: John Kelly, Chris Dudzik, Russell Jensen, Carlos Moreno and Jeff Judd.

8. Presentations: Sarah Thompson (see presentations posted on the website)

8.1 Top Impediments to Retention (tabled from last meeting) How can we address both external and internal threats?

External Threats: chiefly focusing on AB1705. This has transformed two of our biggest enrollment disciplines (math and English), and smaller departments cannot increase enrollment to make up for this. One of the components is the pressure for students to enroll in math and English – in transfer level courses - in their first year of enrollment. Throughput in these courses is up, but success is down (per chancellor’s office data, which does not include those students who withdraw.)

Attrition has a huge effect on enrollment; we need to be aware of students who drop out before starting attendance. PPIC state-wide data shows that lack of success leads to non-reenrollment for 50% of students attempting college level English and math. Students who were older, LatinX, and first generation were disproportionately affected.

It would be good to have more data: two years pre-AB1705 and two years post-Covid. We can put this forward to Rajinder for his queue.

What strategies could/should we consider?

- Abandoning recommended first-year protocol recommending enrollment in math and English, especially for at risk students or students who were not successful in high school courses
- Allow students to experience courses they can be successful in: first year as exploration (however, students need a declared major for financial aid, how about “Liberal Studies” being added?)

- Create attachment programs for students not in established learning communities; creating a personalized caring community from day one at LPC (this is part of the Persistence Project)
- Building support networks as a priority

Guided Pathways maps might be reconsidered: What math is recommended for each program, certificate, degree, and when in the pathway?

The way AB1705 is written, students will be locked into math courses that satisfy their course or transfer requirements. If they have multiple degrees or majors there are multiple math requirements. Or if they are exploring majors, they may want to hold off on a math course until they have decided on a major.

Question: can this be made a college priority? It requires whole-college collaboration to address all the facets.

Kennedy and Associates Assessment: one point of weakness is we don't consistently use project managers; this is an area requiring dedicated management.

Next meeting: will continue discussion on internal threats to retention.

Vote on tabling the items identified as "tabled" below: moved/seconded/approved

8.2 Diversifying enrollment practices: tabled

9. Old Business

9.1 Updates from Academic Senate Advisory Committees: tabled

- Best Retention Practices (Jeff Judd)
- Staff Appreciation Event (Ashley Young)
- CLIP Program for Part-time Faculty (Sarah Thompson)
- Part-time Diversification Strategies (Sarah Thompson)
- Open House/Social Event (Dan Cearley)

9.2 Discussion - Local Degree Revisioning: AA and AS: tabled

10. New Business

10.1 Need faculty readers for Academic Senate scholarships (Rifka Several) – Rifka will send message to Senators

10.2 AP 6625 Art, Exhibits, and Displays in Public Places (posted on website): tabled

10.3 Updates on OER/ZTC- affordable text book solutions task force (Kali Rippel): they are in phase 3 and received a grant of \$180,000 so a task force is needed. \$20,000 is planned to go to faculty to learn about OER and get support for these materials.

She will send out an email seeking members. Recommend that Anette and Sui to be on the task force for their financial knowledge. Sarah suggests this task force become a Presidential Task Force, which would be an advisory committee to the President.

We need to look at the programs that are dependent on income from Follett bookstore.

- Textbook costs spring 22 – 23 averages dropped from \$64 to \$55 and continues to drop.
- Courses using OER and ZTC increased from 38% - 46%.

10.4 Outcomes of Kennedy and Associates Enrollment Assessment: tabled

10.5 Guided Pathways Discussion (Kristy Woods): items covered in report.

11. Announcements/Information Items

12. Adjourn: motion to adjourn: moved/seconded/approved

13. Next Meeting: March 8, 2023