



# ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

August 27, 2025 | 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm | Room 21147 + Zoom for visitors

## Agenda Item

### 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

- ❖ Affirm LPC's unwavering commitment to equity by deepening campus-wide engagement, enhancing professional development, embedding equity-minded practices in decision-making, assessment, and accountability processes; and building capacity to resolve inequities.
- ❖ Increase student success and completion through sustainable college practices, processes, academic support, removal of barriers, and focused professional development.
- ❖ Establish a knowledge base and appreciation for health and wellness in the workplace; create a sense of urgency about wellness; prioritize wellness in decision-making, assessment and accountability; and build capacity to support wellness.

### Academic Senate Quorum: 8

#### Non-Voting Members:

*President:* Ashley Young  
*Student Government:* TBD  
*Faculty Association:* Heike Gecox

#### Voting Members:

*Vice President:* Ashley McHale  
*Secretary:* Collin Thormoto  
*Treasurer:* Catherine Suarez  
*BSSL:* Joanna Jen, Felipe Ponce, Collin Thormoto  
*A&H:* Justin Garoupa, Catherine Suarez  
*STEM:* Anita Bhatia, Moh Daoud, David Montelongo,  
*PATH:* Susan deFuniak  
*Student Services:* Kimberly Burks, Ryan Eckles  
*Part Time Representatives:* Jeff Judd, Peter Zimmer

- 1. Call to Order:** 2:31 pm
- 2. Review and Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve (Ashley McHale)/seconded (Collin Thormoto)/discussion (none)/approved
- 3. Review and Approval of Minutes (May 28, 2025):** Motion to approve (Ashley McHale)/seconded (David Montelongo)/discussion (none)/approved
- 4. Public Comments (3 minutes):** *This time is reserved for members of the public to address the Academic Senate. Please limit comments to 3 minutes. In accordance with the Brown Act, the Academic Senate cannot act on items not already on the agenda. None*
- 5. Consent Items:** Motion to approve (Collin Thormoto)/seconded (Catherine Suarez)/discussion (none)/approved
  - 5.1 ECE Program Development Coordinator Hiring Committee: Lyndale Garner, Nadiyah Taylor
  - 5.2 Curriculum Approval: 8.18.25
- 6. Action Items:** None
- 7. Old Business:** None
- 8. New Business:** None
- 9. Wellness Break** (5 minutes) moved to after item 10.6.
- 10. Reports** (5 minutes each) – **determine reporting schedule (2<sup>nd</sup> and/or 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday)**
  - 10.1 LPC Student Government (TBD): None
  - 10.2 A.I. Honesty (Catherine Suarez): Catherine and Kat King plan to meet with representatives from neighboring high school districts to further discuss AI usage with hopes that outgoing high school students will have a stronger understanding of AI ethics upon entering college.

The Livermore Public Library has requested an AI workshop presentation for their staff. Question if this was requested for library staff to assist LPC students? They would like information for

assisting all students/patrons who visit the public library. Question if they specified particular AI topics? They would like a general presentation; the presenter will likely be Catherine, Kat, or an LPC librarian. Question if Traci Peterson should be looped in since she manages community partnerships? Yes, she will be notified.

10.3 CEMC/DEMC (Ashley McHale): Question regarding the meaning of the acronyms? EMC means “enrollment management committee.” CEMC is college-specific and DEMC is district-wide. Ashley also explained the purpose of these committees. The most recent dashboard data from DEMC was shared, which shows that both colleges have increased fill rates. Question if Ashley McHale (as opposed to Ashley Young) will continue to attend meetings and report out to the senate? Yes.

10.4 CTE (Melissa Korber): Vicki Shipman reported that the current funding source (Perkins and Strong Workforce) is dwindling. This is affecting the college’s bottom line because the sources have funded other projects that used to be covered by general funds. Melissa and the new CPL liaison, Jeff Weichert, transferred duties over the summer. Several apprenticeships are coming through the district office, which are often tied to CPL. Vickie found grant funds that may fund a dedicated counselor to create SEPs with this study body, which is a requirement under board policy. Question regarding who one should reach out to for help with Credit by Examination? They should reach out to Jeff, who is trying to streamline the paperwork process.

Vickie predicts that CTE funding will be replaced by a similar federal workforce-related program in the future.

2025 CTE summer camps were well-attended and raised funds.

10.5 Curriculum (Craig Kutil): Craig discussed the recent Common Course Numbering (CCN) changes and provided information regarding the next phase of CCN. ASCCC and CCCCCO were hopeful that CCN would solve transferability problems but this has not necessarily been true, particularly because the UC system is not fully on board. Anticipate upcoming legislation regarding course outlines, which may further reduce curricular flexibility. Major curriculum changes are on the horizon.

Course SLOs will now go through Curriculum Committee although PSLOs will continue to go through the SLO Committee. Question if Craig will now report SLO changes and answer SLO-related questions? No, these will continue to be addressed by the SLO Committee. The Curriculum Committee will only approve or deny what appears on the course outline of record.

Craig is still considering how to move forward with no unit value labs. Administration has acknowledged that curriculum decisions like these should generally be under the purvey of the Faculty Association and Curriculum Committee.

Craig also spoke to the following updates:

- Curriculum sunset policies are now published and enforceable.
- The program proposal policy process needs to be looked into and revised.
- Plans to request the creation of a future Curriculum Technician position (either full-time position or via reassigned time) to assist faculty with writing curriculum. This would cut down on reassigned time for the Curriculum Chair.

- The recent One Big Beautiful Bill Act will affect financial aid, which will in turn affect CTE-related Certificates of Achievement that are currently eligible for financial aid.

10.6 Distance Education (Kat King): The committee had significant changes in membership due to retirements and sabbaticals so the first meeting acted as a brief orientation for new members. There are still several vacant seats, including a seat for a part time faculty member. The committee has shifted to the third Friday of the month as to not conflict with DEMC meetings.

LPC recently joined a cohort to become a teaching college for CVC Exchange. The main project during Spring 2025 was to align our practices with CVC's practices for seamless hosting of students from other colleges. The completion of this project has stalled due to District IT becoming overwhelmed with other pressing projects. They hope to resume this project in September.

Kat and POER lead, Angelo Bummer, along with Vicki found CTE funding that can be used for training to assist instructors in aligning their existing online course material with CVC's online rubrics. The hope is to have a cohort of ten instructors (five in fall and five in spring) begin this academic year. Angelo already sent out a call for applications, which are due August 28<sup>th</sup>. Those who complete the program will receive a digital sticker indicating that their online class has been quality-reviewed; their class will also appear higher on the list in the CVC catalog.

Questions:

- How long is the program? It will be approximately a semester-long project but it may extend longer if needed.
- Do we have guaranteed funding beyond this year? No.
- Is this only for asynchronous online classes? Any online class is eligible (asynchronous or synchronous) as long as there are no mandatory in-person meetings.

Kat encouraged attendees to remind their colleagues of the new Zoom storage policy, which will delete all cloud recordings from July 31, 2024 and earlier. The first deletion cycle will be October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Question if this includes recordings within a copied Canvas class that have been added to a new Canvas shell. Yes, if the recordings were saved in Zoom storage. Studio recordings should be fine for now.

Generative AI workshops and tools are part of an ongoing conversation across the state. AI/educator partnerships are being announced but CLPCCD does not plan to partner without full discussion and vetting. Question if LPC plans to utilize free AI tools for students? The committee plans to look into this technology. Question if the district can partner with an AI check software to provide accounts for all instructors? The colleges already utilize Turnitin, which provides AI checks. The district likely will not want to sign on to other software due to the current budget crisis but relay specific recommendations for the committee to research. Question if the committee is aware that some instructors, specifically within social sciences, are considering no longer teaching online courses due to AI concerns? They are aware and are brainstorming ideas for combatting AI misuse in online classes. Many are of the belief that online class offerings should continue for accessibility purposes.

**9. Wellness Break (5 minutes): returned at 3:50 pm**

10.7 District Technology (Jeff Judd): Another member from LPC is needed; they do not have to be a member of Academic Senate.

10.8 Faculty Association (Heike Gecox): The FA is still in contract negotiations but made progress throughout the summer. Articles 10 and 18 have taken a lot of time. Heike assured attendees that discussions regarding AI and needed training are taking place. Question if the FA has looked further into the Bay Area Compact as discussed at the May 28<sup>th</sup> academic senate meeting? They are still waiting to connect with Sarah Thompson so it has not been discussed. Question if negotiations regarding part time faculty include reassigned time? Yes, it includes all aspects related to equity for part time faculty.

10.9 Faculty Hiring Prioritization (Heike Gecox): Requests are due September 17<sup>th</sup>. The committee hopes to meet prior to this date to discuss the request form. There is uncertainty if any hiring requests will be awarded this year. Heike clarified the meaning of Faculty Obligation Numbers (FON).

10.10 Global Engagement Task Force (Katie Eagan): The task force is currently recruiting interested students for a June 2026 study abroad trip to Spain. Katie will send out emails to schedule a time to promote the trip in classrooms. They will also promote by tabling at Welcome Back Week. Reach out to Katie if interested in learning more about study abroad or if interested in leading a Community Education trip.

10.11 Guided Pathways (Nadiyah Taylor & Jill Carbone): None

10.12 Honors (Irena Keller): None

10.13 Professional Development (David Powers): Preparations for October 23<sup>rd</sup> flex day are coming along well. David will email out another call for sessions; submissions are due September 23<sup>rd</sup> but early submissions are appreciated for scheduling purposes.

Full time faculty variable flex part 1 is due October 15<sup>th</sup>. Faculty will no longer be required to complete variable flex once the compressed calendar begins in Fall 2026.

DSPS alerted David to AB 2821, which requires community college districts to establish a Disability Access Training Program for college personnel as part of onboarding and annual training prior to the 2026-2027 academic year. He is unsure what the training format will look like but has reached out to the district for further discussion.

10.14 Program Review (Karin Spirn): None

10.15 SLO (John Rosen): None

10.16 Treasurer (Catherine Suarez): Most funds have been spent on last year's scholarships and classified appreciation event. Donations may be made directly to the Foundation office, via Venmo to Ashley Young or Ashley McHale, or via cash or check provided to respective division representative. Question on when donations are due? As soon as possible. There has been discussion regarding changing the format of the classified appreciation event, especially since it can be costly. The President's Office typically covers \$1,500 for food but recent food costs have exceeded this amount.

Questions:

- When are donations due? As soon as possible.
- Are these donations part of the fall fundraiser or is it a separate fundraising event? Either/both.

- Will the fall fundraiser be the same format or will it revert back to a competition between divisions? The competition is preferred over last year's opportunity draft, especially because all donations from last year were distributed.

10.17 President (Ashley Young): Ashley plans to review the senate's goals for this year.

LPC games representatives and a planning committee member are needed. Ashley McHale volunteered. Question when the event will be held? Ashley will report back.

The senate needs to research AI tools so we can be as knowledgeable as possible for our students. The district has committed to researching training opportunities, which can be incorporated into future flex day sessions. Senators are encouraged to get feedback and suggestions at division meetings.

Several committees still need representation so encourage participation from your division colleagues.

## 10.18 Divisions

- BSSL (Joanna Jen, Felipe Ponce, Collin Thormoto): None
- A&H (Justin Garoupa, Catherine Suarez): None
- STEM (Anita Bhatia, Moh Daoud, David Montelongo): None
- PATH (Susan deFuniak): None
- Student Services (Kimberly Burks, Ryan Eckles): None
- Part Time Representatives (Jeff Judd, Peter Zimmer): None

## 11. Good of the Order/Announcements

Ashley Young: Ashley welcomed the new senators in attendance. Senators are encouraged to communicate with Ashley and Suzanne if they wish to have agenda items added.

Felipe Ponce: Felipe helped direct many lost students in the quad last week. We should consider tabling in the quad in front of the library for future first-week tabling events.

Catherine Suarez: Suggestions are needed for what to do with pictures from the classified appreciation event.

## 12. Adjourned: 4:15 pm

## 13. Next Regular Meeting: September 10, 2025

**ZOOM LOGIN: This will be the same for every Academic Senate meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87800866487>

Meeting ID: 878 008 664 87