



Honors Program Committee Minutes

March 16, 2026

Recorder: Jennifer Siders

LPC Mission Statement	LPC Planning Priorities 2025		
<p>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 life-long learning.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Increase student success and completion through sustainable college practices, processes, academic support, removal of barriers, and focused professional development.</p>	<p>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.</p>
Chair	Faculty Association (1)		SEIU (1)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irena Keller <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Siders 			
Academic Senate (2)	Classified Senate (2)	Student Senate (2)	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sidhant Parashar 	
Vice Presidents	Deans	Faculty	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Simotas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A&H Marty Nash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student Services: Rafael Valle <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STEM: Alain Olavarrieta <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PATH: Paul Sapsford <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BSSL: Dan Cearley 	

Classified Professionals	Guests	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aubrie Ross	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rifa Sipai <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cheryl Cheung <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrea Ibanez <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landon Rivero <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elli Tolentino	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jean O'Neil-Opipari <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robin Roy

Attendance (Quorum = 5)

Agenda Item	Information/ Discussion	Action/Assigned To
1.	Call to Order 2:30pm	
2.	Review & Approve Agenda <i>Motion approve (Jennifer Siders)/seconded (Aubrie Ross)/discussion (none)/approved.</i>	
3.	Review & Approve Prior Minutes <i>November minutes: Motion to approve (Alain Olavarrieta)/seconded (Andrea Ibanez)/discussion (none)/approved. (Dan Cearley and Jean O’Neil-Opipari abstain)</i>	
4.	Action Items <i>Discussion and Vote on budget for LPC Foundation \$10,000</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Conference Travel in CA: \$2000</i> • <i>Conference Travel National: \$3500</i> • <i>Journal: \$2000 (\$1300 production, \$300 DOI, \$300 PR, \$100 editing software)</i> • <i>LPC Symposium: \$1650</i> • <i>Medals/Awards: \$350</i> • <i>End of Year Celebration: \$500</i> <i>Motion to approve the budget (Alain Olavarrieta)/seconded (Dan Cearley)/discussion (none)/approved.</i> <i>May need to spend this money by July 1st, end of fiscal year. LPC Foundation Grants do NOT roll over.</i> Need a form for students to request reimbursement for conference travel. Las Positas Journal of Honors has been created. 1st issue coming out in May. Submissions are open.	<i>Jennifer Siders will work on form for conference travel reimbursements. (contact Jason Maxwell to see how MESA does it)</i>

<p>5.</p>	<p>Old Business <i>LPC Symposium Planning</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>abstracts due March 20th (this Friday)</i> • <i>next Symposium meeting is Monday, March 23, 2026 2:30-4:00 to go over abstracts and plan schedule.</i> • <i>4 rooms, 21107, 2110-9, 21111, and 21114 are already reserved (Jean)</i> <p><i>Honors Graduation Planning</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cost to use the decorated room in May \$2000! Too much, will do our own celebration during finals week.</i> • <i>suggestion to hold it up at Viticulture</i> <p><i>Flex Day Prep</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>first session - certification for people new to the program</i> • <i>second session - hear about different ways to offer honors, contracts, embedded honors.</i> 	
<p>6.</p>	<p>New Business <i>Honors Certification Clarifications</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Honors Seminar will meet once every two weeks. Will be offered in the fall - required for certificate</i> • <i>Recommend all honors students take it but not require it. Research Methods course in social sciences may be substituted but not Statistics.</i> <p><i>Community service hours</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>require 20 hours total BY Dec. 15th of the year before you transfer. This should be easier to keep track of then the 10 hours per year.</i> 	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Updates/Information Items <i>Talking Points for Division meetings</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Distribute LPC Symposium Flier - passed out at meeting</i> • <i>Ask faculty to volunteer to be judges</i> • <i>Announce Flex day sessions</i> <p><i>Honors Courses for Fall 2026</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Statistics, Ethnic Studies, Psychology, Humanities and Geology</i> <p><i>Updated on Honors Statistics: 443</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>UCLA TAP – 61</i> • <i>UCI - 41</i> • <i>Yale – 32!! (only 5 last year)</i> <p><i>Outreach: New Hawk Day April 18th and TriValley Innovation Fair is also April 18th - lots of outreach opportunities.</i></p>	<p>None</p>

8.	Good of the Order <i>None</i>	.
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Meeting adjourned at 3:55pm

Next meeting: April 20th 2026