

LPC Students Take Steps Toward Success

LPC's new priority registration process ensures that students start college prepared and informed. A component of the state's Student Success Act, the process requires students to complete three steps to get the highest priority for registration: online orientation, assessment, and student educational plan.

Online orientation: Provides information about academic programs, class registration procedures, student support services, and the assessment process.

Assessment: Determines where students start in the sequence of courses and how long it will take for them to earn a degree or transfer.

Student Educational Plan: Counselors are available throughout the summer to help students create their plans. Hours are: Monday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Other factors affecting priority registration include academic standing and the number of units completed. For information, please visit www.laspositascollege.edu/admissions/priorityregistration.

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"What we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from."

-T. S. Eliot

Congratulations, Class of 2014!

Graduates celebrated the completion of their LPC academic goals and the beginning of their new journeys at the college's 24th Annual Commencement Ceremony on May 31st. Setting an attendance record high, more than 1,340 graduates, staff, faculty, administrators, trustees, honored guests, friends, and proud family members packed the Physical Education Complex and overflow facility for the 10 a.m. ceremony. There were upwards of 900 applications for degrees and certificates.



Mary Laufer

Grads snap a selfie at LPC's 24th Annual Commencement Ceremony. Participants were encouraged to share their success at #LPC2014Grad.

LPC President Barry A. Russell, Ph.D. welcomed guests and introduced a video of LPC students extending welcomes in many different languages, representing the rich diversity of the student body. Remarks and addresses were presented by CLPCCD Chancellor Jannett N.

Jackson, Ph.D., Student Body President Christopher Southorn, Academic Senate President Thomas Orf, Ph.D., Classified Senate Co-President Todd Steffan, Valedictorian Rebekka Wiedenmeyer, and CLPCCD Board of Trustees President Hal G. Gin, Ed.D. Janet Lockhart, Past Chair of the LPC Foundation, presented the LPC Foundation Address. LPC honored Joan Seppala, Publisher of *The Independent*, with the Friend of the College Award.



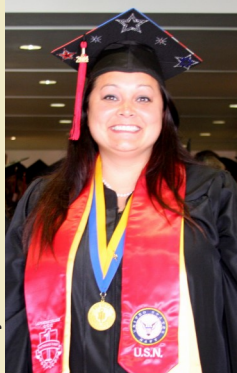
Mary Laufer

President Russell presents the 2014 Friend of the College Award to Joan Seppala, publisher of *The Independent* newspaper.

Thanks to everyone who made commencement a memorable and successful celebration: administrators, students, staff, and district employee volunteers; the LPC Fire Science Honor Guard; student veteran Matthew Dierking who led the Pledge of Allegiance; the LPC Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Ensemble; faculty announcers Michelle Gonzales and Karin Spirin, Ph.D.; and event organizer Student Services Executive Assistant Julie Thornburg.

Thank you, Scholarship Sponsors!

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1 Scholarship Ceremony

85 Donors

129 Students

305 Scholarship Awards

146,000 Dollars

Infinite possibilities for LPC students

Numbers reflect only part of the story. LPC's May 13th Annual Student Scholarship Ceremony is, ultimately, about helping make dreams come true. LPC extends sincerest appreciation to the organizations, businesses, and individuals who have invested in education by generously sponsoring scholarships for our students, giving them opportunities to realize their dreams and improve their lives and our community. Special thanks goes to supporters from our own LPC community and those who have increased their sponsorships, including the Osher Foundation which presented 30 \$1,000 scholarships this year.

The ceremony always is a joyous occasion, not just for the grateful students, but for the sponsors as well. "I think one of the main highlights is the many sponsors who are elated to come to the ceremony to personally present the certificates to their scholarship recipients, and who look forward to getting to meet the student during the reception," said ceremony organizer and Financial Aid Officer Andi Schreibman. "There are many students for whom this is the first time they have ever received public recognition and it means the world to them."

Congratulations to our scholarship recipients! Featured here, clockwise from top right, are the following winners. **Jesse Bowens** is the recipient of nine scholarships, including the Sandia National Laboratories and Livermore Chamber of Commerce College Student of the Year Award and the Silver Team Award for the Phi Theta Kappa California Community College Academic Team. This fall, she will transfer to UC Berkeley. **Matthew Dierking** won four scholarships: the Corporal Ken Logsdon (USMC) Memorial Veterans Scholarship, LPC Veterans First - LPC Foundation Continuing Scholarship, Associated Students of LPC President's Award, and Mayor Janet Lockhart/Osher Scholarship. **Ryan Matsumura**, winner of a Psychology Department Scholarship, will transfer to UC San Diego this fall. Navy Veteran **Ramona Peterson** graduated with three degrees from LPC and received three scholarships at the ceremony: the All-USA/Follett Scholarship, the Mary A. Henry Scholarship, and the Josefa Higuera Daughters of the American Revolution, Livermore Chapter Scholarship.



Mary Lauffer

Valedictorian Inspires Grads to Fulfill Their Purpose

Mary Lauffer



Chancellor Jackson (left) and President Russell listen to the address presented by LPC's 2014 Valedictorian Rebekka Wiedenmeyer.

She enrolled at LPC at the age of 14 as a home-schooled high school sophomore. This dynamic go-getter went on to earn a 4.0 grade point average and advance to editor-in-chief of the award-winning *Express* student newspaper—all while working at two part-time jobs. After four years at LPC, 18-year-old Rebekka Wiedenmeyer stood before her fellow graduates as their Valedictorian, presenting a commencement address in which she shared her experience and dreams, and encouraged grads to fulfill their purpose in life. Ms. Wiedenmeyer will pursue a major in journalism at California Baptist University this fall.

LPC Welcomes a World of Cultures

Even though she traveled 6,000 miles away from home, Anqi Jian said, “I have never felt alone here at Las Positas College. The environment is very friendly.” As an international student from China, Anqi Jian—or “Angel” as she is known to her friends—is one of 145 students enrolled in LPC’s International Student Program, which has attracted students from 38 different countries. The program seeks to enhance global connections, increase diversity and exchange of ideas, and encourage mutual understanding.

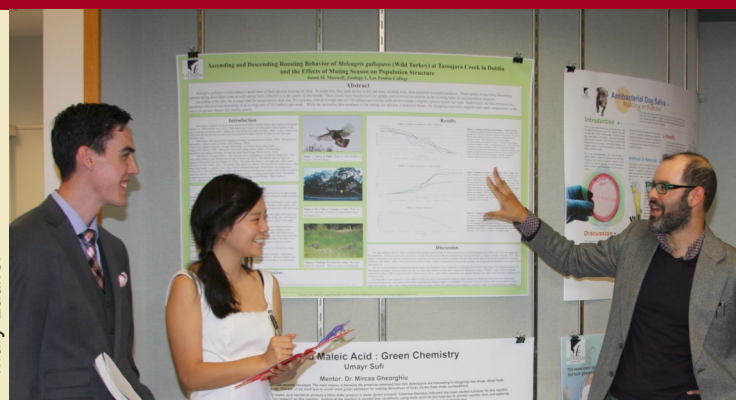
Ms. Jian said she chose LPC because her father’s friend, who lives in San Francisco, told her family about the quality of the college. She made the trip three years ago and just graduated from LPC with a major in biology. While she will miss friends she made at LPC and the fun she had as president of the international student club, Ms. Jian is excited about transferring to the University of California at Davis this fall where she will study clinical nutrition. “This is my dream university,” she said.



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LPC’s highly-regarded International Student Program welcomes students from across the globe. Anqi Jian comes to LPC from China, where her childhood dream was to attend college in California. She also is shown in a photo below describing her research at the recent Science Research Poster Session.

Poster Session Celebrates Original Science Research



Mary Lauffer

Science students at LPC were given a rare opportunity at a community college: to conduct original research and present it at a professional-level poster session.

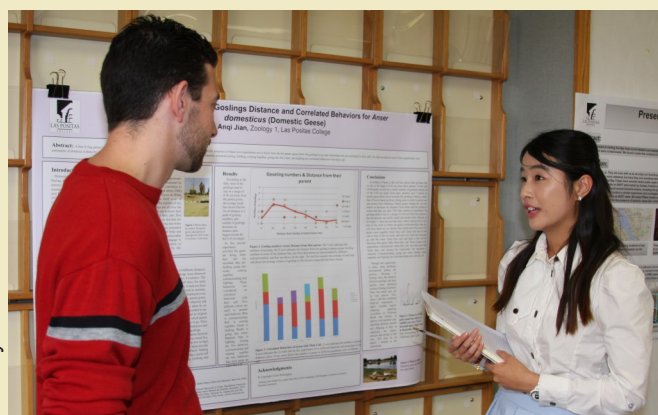
LPC’s May 20th Undergraduate Science Research Poster Session featured 55 posters, representing the work of more than 140 students in diverse fields such as Biology, Chemistry, Marine Biology, Math, Microbiology, Psychology, and Zoology.

Energy, enthusiasm, and excitement were palpable as students shared their research with each other and the many guests who attended and asked questions about the work. Honored guests included representatives from Lawrence Livermore National Security (LLNS) which generously funded the printing of the large, professional-quality color posters.

Many thanks go to sponsor LLNS; the Library, which hosted the session; the many faculty who mentored the students; and Biology Instructor Nan Ho who organized the event celebrating LPC’s culture of original scientific research.



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key dates...

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

June

16-July 25 6-Week Summer Session
16-Aug 8 8-Week Summer Session

August

18 Instruction Begins for Fall Semester

Please note: LPC will be closed during the summer on each Friday through August 1st, 2014.

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Hawk Pride Soars at Awards Banquet

Kudos to our dedicated athletics coaches and staff and to all students who participated in LPC athletics this year. Congratulations to the following student athletes who won awards at the 3rd Annual End-of-Year Athletic Banquet and Awards Night on May 16th: Female Athlete of the Year, Donna Rotella, Swimming and Diving; Female Scholar Athlete, Nichole Maria Cui, Swimming and Diving; Male Athlete of the Year, Abraham Espinoza, Cross Country; and Male Scholar Athlete of the Year, Jacob Contreras, Basketball. Mr. Contreras also was the first recipient of the Coach Costello Basketball Scholarship at the Annual Student Scholarship Ceremony.



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Class of 2014: The Zargi Brothers

LPC Family Success Story

Brothers Follow Big Sisters to Graduation

After a childhood in war-torn Afghanistan, the Zargi children realized an American dream and graduated from college, only a few years after arriving in California. Sisters Maria (left) and Neelofar are pictured here with their father after last year's commencement. Their younger brothers, Baktaz (left) and Houshmand followed in their sisters' footsteps and graduated at this year's commencement. LPC congratulates the Zargi family!



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Class of 2013: The Zargi Sisters, with their Father

LPC Offers Veterans New Engineering Tech Program

LPC is taking applications now for a new Engineering Tech Program for Veterans beginning this fall semester. Developed by LPC in partnership with engineers at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), this two-year Associate in Science Degree program will give student veterans the skills and experience they need to qualify for Engineering Technologist positions at national laboratories, NASA, and other public and private agencies.

"We are proud to partner with LLNL to create a local pipeline of qualified people for these jobs," said LPC Veterans First Coordinator Todd Steffan.

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE



He said Engineering Technologists earn about \$50,000-\$60,000 per year.

As part of the program, students will benefit from a paid internship, guaranteed

registration, and additional student support, tutoring, and counseling. Coursework, which is specifically designed for the program, includes courses in Math, Engineering, Welding, and English. The program provides skills training in welding, machining, fabrication, prototyping, and engineering. Most all courses are approved for G.I. Bill benefits.

Applicants must be veterans and must be eligible to take Math 55 (Intermediate Algebra) in the fall semester. For more information, please visit Mr. Steffan at the Veterans First Office in Building 1000, email him at TSteffan@laspositascollege.edu, or call 925.424.1571.



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