

LAS POSITAS CONNECTION

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community | April 2017

Barry A. Russell, Ph.D., Las Positas College President

Community Invited to LPC

LPC invites current and prospective students and the greater community to campus for two events this spring to learn more about our programs and services. Special invitations are extended to high school and middle school students and their families, teachers, and counselors; adult learners; and professionals seeking career advancement.

> **Majors Fair** Wednesday, April 19 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**Mertes Center**

Free parking in Lots A and B

Discuss majors and career options with faculty, learn about Student Services, and meet reps from four-year colleges and universities, including UCs and CSUs.

Career Exploration Open House Wednesday, May 3 4:00-7:00 p.m. **Throughout campus** Free parking

Get guided tours of the campus, visit with faculty and students in discipline-specific facilities, and meet reps from student clubs.

In This Issue

- Paramedic Initial Accreditation
- Black College Tour
- Majors Fair and Open House
- Student Services Administrators
- Faculty Achievements
- LPC News Notes
- Student Scholarship Winner
- Maker Space Making Makers
- Topping Out Ceremony
- Best of the Best Gala
- Swim and Dive Success
- Calendar

Paramedic Program Awarded Initial Accreditation

New Program Achieves Milestone, Provides Emergency Response to Students



LPC's new Emergency Medical Services Paramedic Program has been awarded initial accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. While confirming compliance with national standards, accreditation also allows our graduates to take the licensing examination. Kudos to faculty Jane Moorhead and Sebastian Wong, along with Dean Nan Ho, for their efforts in achieving this milestone. In other news: With support from LPC and district administrators, the Paramedic Program has stepped up to help paramedic students at the recently shuttered Fast Response school by offering them admission to our program.

LPC Students Travel on Black College Tour

Eighteen LPC students recently visited nine Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across five states in the 2nd Annual HBCU Transfer Tour. At one college, eight LPC students were offered on-the-spot admissions that also included offers of financial aid. Accompanying the students were the following chaperones: Workability III Employment Developer Terrance Thompson, Counselor and Transfer Center Director Michelle Zapata, English Instructor Angelo Bummer, and Women's

Basketball Coach Clarence Morgan. Many thanks go to our generous tour sponsors: Stepping in the Right Direction tour company and LPC's Student Equity, Transfer Center, Athletics Program, Follett Bookstore, and Student Services.



Meet Our Two New Student Services Administrators

President Russell is pleased to announce that two new administrators will join the LPC family in Student Services.



William Garcia

William Garcia has accepted the position of Vice President of Student Services. He comes to us from El Camino College, where he has served as Dean of Student Support Services since January 2013. Previously, he held a number of positions, including Associate Dean

of Student Services, Director of Student Services, Adjunct Instructor, and EOPS and Care Director at the College of the Sequoias. Mr. Garcia holds a Master of Art in Educational Administration with an emphasis in Higher Education from Santa Clara University and a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University.



Nessa Julian

Nessa Julian, Ed.D., is our new Director of Student Equity and Success. She comes to LPC from the City College of San Francisco, where she served as the Associate Dean of Student Activities. Since 2004, she has worked in various roles within higher education,

including Student Center Manager and Club and Organization Advocate, Acting Director of Student Services, and Assistant Director and Interim Director of Leadership, Experience and Programs. Dr. Julian holds a Doctorate of Education, Education Leadership and Community Leadership from CSU Fullerton, a Master of Education in College Student Affairs from Azusa Pacific University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from CSU San Marcos.

Congratulations to Instructors on Their Achievements

LPC applauds the recent achievements of two faculty members: Spanish Instructor Catherine (Suárez) Dunbar and Mass Communications Instructor Marcus Thompson II. Ms. Dunbar was inducted into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame on April 1 for her many significant activities and extensive work in education—

educating and empowering students inside and outside the classroom. Mr. Thompson, a sports columnist for the Bay Area News Group, penned his first book, *Golden: The Miraculous Rise of Steph Curry*. He held a book signing and discussion at LPC. For more information about the book, please contact buckleygs@gmail.com.

LPC News Notes

Welcome. LPC recently welcomed four new employees to the campus: Samantha Portea, Biological Sciences and Chemistry Laboratory Technician; Silvino Tibi, Financial Aid Advisor II; Jessica Owyoung, DSPS Counselor; and Josefina Bolufer Cervero, Laboratory Technician for Horticulture and Viticulture /Enology. Winners. LPC's Talk Hawks won second place for community colleges and fifth place overall at the international speech competition in Peru. Workshops. Faculty are presenting highly popular workshops on how to spot fake news. The next one is at 10:00-11:30 a.m., on Tuesday, May 2, in the Library. Women. LPC's Public Safety Club hosted an outstanding Women in Public Safety Symposium, featuring women (some of them LPC alumnae) in police, fire, paramedic, and law careers. Web. LPC hosted the All IT Academy Day Competition for high school students, who worked in teams and

learned about fixing and protecting the internet. Welding. Amador Valley High School students visited the Welding Lab during their spring break to learn about hydraulic and pneumatically operated machines. Watch. Our student veterans star in a new LLNL video, Vets to Tech, showcasing our Engineering Technology Program, which last month won the 2017 East Bay Innovation Award: http://bit.ly/2oRPGf0. Worthwhile. AGS is holding a Military Drive to support Pleasanton Military Families. Look for the blue collection barrels in Buildings 1600, 2400, and 600. For a list of items, please visit http://bit.ly/2oL3Cus. Wins. At a recent journalism convention, the student magazine Naked earned highest honors, the award of General Excellence. A number of LPC student journalists also won awards and recognition. Wellness. Psychology and the Psi Beta Psychology Club hosted NFL Hall of Fame member Charles Haley who spoke at LPC about living with bipolar disorder.

Pre-Nursing Student Wins Top National Scholarship



Jen Sarkany

Jen Sarkany, who grew up in Dublin, started taking classes at LPC while she was a sophomore in high school. Since then, she has succeeded in campus leadership roles and in her rigorous pre-nursing studies. This month, she was among only 50 community college students nationwide to be named a Coca-Cola Community College Academic

Team Gold Scholar, earning a \$1,500 scholarship. She hopes to use this award to study nursing at the University of San Francisco. Ms. Sarkany credits LPC's Alpha

Gamma Sigma (AGS) Honor Society as a stepping stone on her path to success. She held leadership positions of increasing responsibility and met other inspiring students. "These role models helped me to see that I'm in control of my future and capable of accomplishing great things," she said.

Ms. Sarkany has an abiding connection to LPC. "I have taken classes at other colleges but always returned here because of the quality of education I've received. I always knew college was for me and I've worked hard over the years to make it possible," she said. "As a low-income student with a disability, funding my education has been far from easy. I will never forget the hope and quality education Las Positas has given me."

Makerspace Making Makers in Multiple Majors

How can students take concepts to reality while learning valuable skills to become job ready? One innovative solution is LPC's new Maker Space in the Engineering Lab, Room 1822 of the Science Building. In Maker Space, students are learning how to take their ideas and actualize them, while developing problem solving and troubleshooting skills, which are in high demand in the job market, especially in engineering and additive manufacturing. Students in a number of majors—engineering, geology, and art, for example are using the Maker Space to bring their ideas to life. The space offers new equipment and tools, including 3D printers. Engineering Laboratory Technician Andrew Lozano is responsible for acquiring much of the new equipment, including a 3D printer provided through the Dale & Ted Kaye Innovation Grant.



A student views the Engineering Program's recent exhibit in the Library, featuring a 3D printer and projects from the Maker Space and Engineering Club.

You're Invited to the Building 100 Topping Out Ceremony



Please join us in celebrating a construction milestone for our new Academic Classroom Building 100. LPC will hold a Topping Out Ceremony at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 20, in front of the Mertes Center, Building 4000. The public is invited. Funded by Measure B, the new 41,041-square-foot, two-story building will provide much needed classroom and lab space: 12 classrooms, six computer labs, an anthropology lab, and a large lecture classroom. Completion is scheduled for May 2018.

CALENDAR

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

April 19	Majors Fair, 10 AM-2 PM, Mertes Center
April 20	Topping Out Ceremony, 10 AM, near Mertes Center
April 22	Best of the Best Gala, 6–10:30 PM, Mertes Center
April 26	Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Campaign, http://laspositascollege.edu/files/docs/events/denimday.pdf
May 3**	Career Exploration Open House, 4-7 PM, across campus
May 4	Student Music Showcase, 7 PM*
May 11**	Celebrating Music Concert, 7 PM*
May 19	Stories and Speeches, 7 PM*
May 22 -26	Final Examination Period
May 26	27th Annual Commencement Ceremony, 6 PM, Gym
	*Mertes Center. Tickets and details: laspositascollege.edu/performingarts

**LPC will host the traveling war memorial *Remembering Our Fallen*, from 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 3, to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 11, in Building 1700, Room 1726. Hours are 10:00 a.m.– 6:00 p.m. Monday – Friday and 10:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Come to the Best Gala!

14th Annual Best of the Best Gala
April 22, 2017
6:00 – 10:30 p.m.
Mertes Center for the Arts
Tickets: http://www.lpcfoundation.org/news-events/foundation-events



The LPC Foundation's annual gala is almost here! Purchase tickets now for \$125 by visiting the above website. The event

benefits LPC's students and programs and supports our mission of providing the highest quality education for our community. Following is the gala schedule:

6:00 p.m. Welcome Reception, catered by Posada restaurant, with Livermore Valley wines, music, and silent auction 7:45 p.m. Las Positas College Performing Arts Showcase

9:30 p.m. Sparkling wine and dessert

Swim and Dive Rides Wave of Success into Conference Championships

It's no April Fool's joke. As of April 1, swimmers from each of the Hawk men's and women's teams are ranked first in the state in their respective races. That's not all. The men's 200-medley relay team has the fastest time in the state this season of 1 minute, 38.87 seconds. In a recent meet, the men finished second and our women



Best in State! Hawk freshmen Amaya Batiza is ranked number one in the state in her race.

finished first. LPC Swim and Dive will be riding a wave of success into the April 20-22 conference championships. In other Hawk news: LPC recently hosted the Hawk High School Invitational, with 14 schools in attendance from the Central Valley and Bay Area. Get more news on the <u>Athletics</u> website.



Best in State! Hawk sophomore Matt Lee is ranked number one in the state in his race.



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