Las Positas Connection

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

August 2016

#### LPC Offers Classes Off Campus in Tri-Valley Neighborhoods

LAS POSITAS

This fall, our community can take advantage of classes even closer to home. Seven classes are being offered in our service district neighborhoods:

- Introduction to Health, Livermore High School
- Stars and the Universe and Religions of the World, Village High School, Pleasanton
- Ethics and General Psychology, Dublin High School
- Lifespan Psychology and The Science of Nutrition, CLPCCD Office in Dublin at 7600 Dublin Blvd.

For information, please visit the online class schedule.

"Whatever you can do, or dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Begin it now." —Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

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## Welcome to the New Academic Year!

#### **Students Benefit from Many Facilities Updates and Renovations on Campus**

On August 17th, LPC welcomes students to the 2016-17 academic year—with many campus renovations completed or underway, thanks to voter-approved Measure B. Following are some of the highlights.

Original campus buildings 100, 200, and 300 have been demolished and site work is underway for the new Academic Classroom Building 100, which will provide much-needed additional labs and classrooms.

Renovation of Building 700 is complete, including a 30-person Macintosh Computer Laboratory for the Visual Communications classes and dark room, studio, and work space for Photography classes.

Demolition of the old Building 1000 has made space for an Americans with Disabilities walkway and landscaping in the area between the Student Services and Administration Building, Bookstore, and Veterans Resource Center.

Modifications to the Mertes Center music practice rooms have improved the acoustic performance and sound separation of the choral and instrument practice areas.

The interior of Building 2100 has been updated with new carpet, paint, lightbulbs, office furniture, and ceiling tiles.



LPC's banner in Pleasanton's Stoneridge Mall gets the word out to our community.



LPC Veterans First Program representatives visit with Congressman Eric Swalwell.

### Veterans Program Reps Visit Washington, D.C.

LPC's Veterans First Program continues to be recognized as a model of best practices for community colleges throughout the nation. LPC representatives traveled to Washington, D.C., in July to participate in a series of presentations and information sessions. Selected colleges from throughout the nation were invited to provide input and suggestions to encourage the development of support services and to advocate for resources and funding for student veterans. During their visit, LPC representatives also met with Congressman Eric Swalwell, second from right. From left are Veterans First Program Coordinator Todd Steffan and student veterans Trevor Kincy and Destiny Goddu, Student Veterans Organization President.

# Summer Heats Up with Tech

LPC Partners with National Labs, AFA to Serve High School and LPC Students

LPC was the community's resource for technology education opportunities this summer. Following are a few of the offerings.

Cyber Technologies Academy. Instructors from Sandia National Laboratories came to LPC to teach the academy for high school students, who took their first step toward becoming part of the next generation of cybersecurity experts.

**CyberPatriots CyberCamp.** The Air Force Association's program held at LPC is a five-day boot camp for high school students, including a practice CyberPatriots competition. The program is designed to excite students about STEM career opportunities and teach them important cyber defense skills through hands-on instruction and activities.

**Community College Technology Academy.** LPC students enjoyed a weeklong, hands-on workshop in 3D printing at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and also got a behind-the-scenes tour of the labs and met LLNL scientists and engineers.



Principal Cybersecurity Research and Development Engineer at Sandia National Laboratories, Steve Hurd, teaches cybersecurity to area high school students in one of LPC's computer labs.



LPC students gather around their instructors (center, wearing ties) and a 3D printer during the technology workshop at LLNL.



### **Firefighters Train in First Live Burn at LPC**

LPC's 26th "Wildland Academy" held a successful live burn at LPC for the first time on June 9th. "The first burn ever conducted on district property was highly successful and offered our students advanced skills performance opportunities second to none with regards to community colleges and including CAL Fire, our accrediting body," said Fire Service Technology Program Coordinator Ron Johansen. In addition to training firefighters from across the region, the modest burn on about two acres reduced costs of campus weed abatement. The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department approved and monitored the burn, which was also approved by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. Maintenance and Operations provided perimeter protection before the burn. Congratulations to our firefighters and instructors on this extraordinary training!

### LPC VP Named President of a Community College

LPC's Vice President of Student Services Diana Z. Rodriguez has been named president of San Bernardino Valley College. "We will miss Diana and are grateful for her many contributions to the college," said LPC President Barry A. Russell, Ph.D. "She leaves a legacy of expanding student services and improving access to educational resources for all students, regardless of their economic or cultural background."

Since joining the LPC administrative team more than four years ago, Ms. Rodriguez has expanded the college's services to underserved student populations in the Tri-Valley area and increased support programs for students of all backgrounds. She played a key role in the college's designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution, which led to additional federal grant funding and yielded over \$2.3 million in new support for academic and student services programs. Ms. Rodriguez enhanced LPC's recruitment



Student Services VP Diana Z. Rodriguez, second from right, congratulates LPC's valedictorian, student body president, and student trustee at a Commencement. Her leadership at LPC has always exemplified our college motto: Students First.

and access strategies to reach underrepresented populations, especially the growing Latino population in our service area. She led campus-wide efforts to implement Puente and Black Student Union programs and hosted several major diversity events—such as the White House Latino Summit and the Northern California Black Student Union Roundtable—which brought national attention and regional recognition to LPC.

LPC is initiating a search for a new Vice President of Student Services.

#### Autism Awareness Advocate Temple Grandin to Speak September 15th

Since her first visit to LPC eight years ago, Temple Grandin, Ph.D., has become a great friend of the college—visiting classrooms, encouraging our students, and addressing parents' questions about their children with autism during her presentations.

Dr. Grandin will make her fourth appearance at LPC at 7:00 p.m. on September 15th in the Mertes Center. Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$15 for students and seniors at http://www. brownpapertickets.com/event/2569657. Get tickets early; they sold out in less than two days for Dr. Grandin's last visit. The event is presented by the Psychology Program and Psi Beta Psychology Honor Society Distinguished Speakers in Psychology Series.

Regarded as the world's most famous and influential person with autism, Dr. Grandin is a Colorado State University Professor of Animal Science, animal welfare advocate, best-selling author, subject of an award-winning movie, and an inspiration to thousands. She is also a fan of LPC and enjoys touring the campus during her visits.

"Temple has frequently commented on how impressed she is with our science labs and the hands-on nature of instruction the labs provide," said Psychology Instructor Ernest Jones. "She says our labs are superior to those she's seen in most four-year institutions.



Temple Grandin, Ph.D., presents at LPC five years ago.

She has also been highly complimentary regarding the quality of instruction she has seen here.

"Additionally, Temple has been very supportive of our students. Each time she has come to the college, she's gone out of her way to visit classes, both Psychology and Biology, and to have face-to-face discussions with students regarding their educational and career goals," Mr. Jones said. "LPC and the greater community are really fortunate to have such a good friend."

## LPC Calendar

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

August 15	CLPCCD Convocation, 8 AM – 5 PM, LPC Gym
August 17	Fall 2016 Semester Instruction Begins
September 3 - 5	Labor Day Weekend Holiday, no instruction
September 8	Performing Arts Faculty Showcase, 7 PM*
September 9	Guest Artist pianist Omri Shimron, 8 PM*
September 15	An Evening with Temple Grandin, 7 PM, Mertes Center. Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$15 for students and seniors at http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2569657
September 23	Student Music Recital, 8 PM*
September 27	Fall Flex Day, no instruction and offices are closed
September 30	Jazz Concert, 8 PM*

\* Mertes Center. Tickets and info: laspositascollege.edu/performingarts



Please see the Athletics website for Schedules. Go, Hawks!



How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying



Courtesy of Theater Arts

### **Did You Hear the News?**

Audiences raved about LPC's July outdoor musical *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying.* Directed by Theater Arts Instructor Ken Ross, this satire of big business was alfresco fun for the whole family, presented under the stars in LPC's newly-renovated amphitheater.

Following are some comments from the LPC community: "My family thoroughly enjoyed it! It was loads of fun and the cast, especially the leads, were terrific.... Lots of singing, great choreography.... The show was great!" Kudos to the actors, staff, and faculty in the Theater Arts Program who make the production a success!

#### LPC Packs Summer with Basketball Fun for Area Youth

Area youth had fun and pumped up their basketball skills with lots of summer opportunities at LPC. The Men's Basketball Program offered the following activities:

- Three basketball camps for youth ages 7 to 16
- High school boys varsity summer league
- High school boys varsity End of Summer Tournament

The Men's Basketball regular season begins at home November 3rd with the Tony Costello Tip-Off Classic.



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