



LAS POSITAS CONNECTION

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community | February 2019

Roanna Bennie, Las Positas College Interim President

Welcome to Spring Semester Students and Staff!

Lunch with Interim President Bennie



Staff with Ms. Bennie, enjoying lunch.

Interim President Bennie opened the doors to her home and hosted a lunch for all of Las Positas College's Classified Professionals on January 10th. This was an opportunity for staff to be up close and personal to the President's Office.

Ms. Bennie's objective was to ensure that all new and existing staff felt they could call upon her office for any items they wish to discuss as well as enjoy some time creating connections with others in all classified areas of the college, personally and professionally.



Ms. Bennie welcoming her guest

Veteran and Donor's Reception for Cycling 4 Veterans

Veteran groups who volunteered at the "Cycling 4 Veterans" event on October 6, 2018 were honored with a reception on January 30, 2019. In attendance were Livermore Lab Foundation, LPC Students Veterans Organization, Blue Star Mothers of America, and Pleasanton Military Families. Also present were representatives from Congressman Swalwell's Office, AT&T Veterans, Stars for Heroes, Valley Veterans, and CMIT Solutions-Pleasanton.



Veteran Timothy Leach with his children Abigale, Matthew and Sariah.

Two beneficiaries also became financial supporters. The Sentinels of Freedom and the Livermore Rotary Rave have graciously re-donated their grant to the LPC Foundation. Student Veterans attending shared their personal stories of military service and how they were able to transition back to civilian life with the help of the variety of services offered by the Veterans First Program at LPC. We thank all of our Veterans for serving our country and protecting our rights.

Meet the New Interim Chancellor

The Board of Trustees of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District named Mr. Ronald P. Gerhard as Interim Chancellor of the District. Ronald P. Gerhard is a veteran higher education professional with over eighteen years of experience in community college administration. His professional expertise includes financial management, enrollment management and accreditation.



"We believe it is in the best interest of the district to name an interim chancellor at this time," said Mr. Edralin J. "Ed" Maduli, Board President, "Mr. Gerhard has a long history with the California Community Colleges and will help us stay the course until such time that we can launch another national search for a permanent chancellor."

Las Positas College welcomes Mr. Gerhard to his new role!

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Response Ready Competition



LPC hosted a public speaking and debate tournament for homeschool students, ages 12 to 18 on January 11 and 12. There were 250 students in attendance, from all over California, Nevada, Arizona, and even two participants from Michigan. The students competed in Team Policy Debate and a variety of speech events, including

Persuasive Speaking, Extemporaneous Speaking, Dramatic Interpretation, and more.

At this event, students earned points that count toward earning a spot at the National Tournament. The event was directed by Katie Herche (Philpott) a former LPC student who also competed for the LPC Forensics Team— Talk Hawks. This is the fifth year Las Positas College has hosted this community event.



Participants registering for events

Las Positas Men's Basketball Team Ranked in the Top 10

LPC men's Basketball team is currently ranked #7 in Northern California and #20 in the state with a record of 18 wins and only 4 defeats.

The notable current state rankings for LPC players are John Ketchel (Freedom High, Oakley), ranked #1 for assists in the State, Michael Hayes (West High, Tracy), ranked #3 scorer in the State, and Michael Hayes (West High, Tracy), ranked #5 rebounder in California.

Keep up the good work and Go Hawks!



LPC Students Participate in Women's March Tri-Valley

The City of Pleasanton was host to its first ever Women's march held January 19, 2019 in downtown Pleasanton. The goal of the annual marches is to advocate legislation and policies regarding human rights and other issues, including women's rights, immigration reform, healthcare reform, reproductive rights, the environment, LGBTQ rights, racial equality, freedom of religion, workers' rights and tolerance. This year's formal march was held in Washington, D.C., and over 100 other marches were planned for cities across the country.



At the City of Pleasanton march there were several speakers including Angela Vasquez, Las Positas College Inter Students Club chair, who spoke from her experiences as a self described dreamer and advocated for the support of undocumented students. *"My ultimate goal is to ensure that I have a voice for undocumented students all around campus because I've felt alone at some point... and I want to make sure that nobody else at Las Positas College thinks that they are alone just because of their status,"* she said. *"No person should ever feel like an outcast just because of where they came from."* Ms. Vasquez was joined by Alisha Shaik, Las Positas College student and the rally's emcee, and Lylah Schmedel, Las Positas Student Gov., President and Black Student Union, Public Relations, Director.

From left, Lylah Schmedel, Angela Vasquez and Alisha Shaik, were among the youth leaders at Pleasanton's Tri-Valley Women's March, held Saturday. (photo courtesy Andrew Shotland www.pleasantonweekly.com)

LPC Gifted Student Making Headline News



Photo Courtesy of Mrs. Quazi

Kairan enjoying his time in New York. Pictured at Time Square

If you haven't heard of student Kairan Quazi, he is the 10 year old that attends Las Positas College while also attending 4th grade at Helios school for gifted children. Recently, Kairan has been making headline news for his IQ that sits above the 99.9th percentile, putting him at 0.1% of the world population that is known as profoundly gifted.

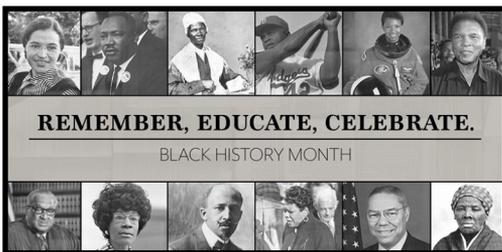
He recently was a guest writer for *Huffington Post Personal* and got to celebrate his birthday in New York as a guest on *Good Morning America*. Since his collaboration with *Huffington Post* he has been featured in a multitude of newspapers and news articles including, *Pleasanton Weekly*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *KTUV Channel 2*, *SFGate.com*, and *Yahoo News*.

At LPC he is enrolled in psychology and statistics, and plans to graduate in two years to pursue a degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The *SFGate* wrote that*In the spring, he'll begin working with a Fortune 500 tech company to develop the next generation of adaptive communication systems (the device that gave physicist Stephen Hawking a voice). Quazi can't reveal the name of the company for a few more weeks, while HR decides upon his title and his hours ...*

Las Positas College feels honored to have such a talent be part of the learning community and hope its students, staff and faculty can inspire him.

How LPC Celebrates Black History Month

By Lylah Schmedel, President of LPC Student Government and BSU PR Director



As time goes on, people of color continue to make history, despite the past that still holds some of its biases in the present. Since 1965, the number of black individuals in Congress has increased significantly and continues to increase with great advancement. In 2008, the first African American President of the United States, Barack Obama, was elected and then re-elected in 2012. In 2019, the House of Representatives is comprised of 12% black members; the highest percentage in American History. These facts truly show the essence of the time period we are currently in

and give us accurate insight to what the future will hold. As our youth and students of color continue to learn, grow, and make history, we must always look at the amazing progress they have made as a whole.

I wish to highlight that Black History Month at LPC encourages members of our student body to feel welcome at a school where they may not be the majority and to provide the opportunity for others to learn more about the cultures they may not understand or possibly overlook. To improve on the academic success of all individuals at LPC, we must ensure that all are well-represented and feel included in campus culture. Black History Month, which I hope will continue to be celebrated for the rest of LPC history, is just one step (among the many already taken) towards inclusion for our students of color.

Beginning February 4, Las Positas College will showcase a dynamic series of speakers, artists, activities and events in celebration of Black History Month. The planning committee, comprised of students, faculty, staff and administrators in partnership with the LPC Psychology Club, have selected the theme of *"Unmasking the Culture"* to provide a central focus to the month's programming. Noted speaker, Founder and Executive Director of *"The Ever Forward Club"* Ashanti Branch will be the keynote speaker and serve as the finale for Black History Month: *Unmasking the Culture* at Las Positas College. We hope you can join us!



Ashanti Branch

1440.org/faculty/ashanti-branch-meal

Calendar

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

February 4	Black History Month— Campus Read Launch*
February 5	Internship Fair
February 6	Chill & Chat
February 6	Men's & Women's Basketball at Ohlone
February 6	Umoja "Spring Back"
February 7	Brian Copeland's performance "Not a Genuine Black Man"*
February 8	Performing Arts Student Show Case
February 8	Men's & Women's Basketball vs. Chabot
February 12	Stanford Blood Drive
February 13	The Market
February 13	Women's Basketball vs. San Mateo
February 13	Job Fair
February 15	Men's & Women's Basketball at San Francisco
February 19	The Drowsy Chaperone
February 20	Jazz Ensemble & Orchestra
February 20	Women's Basketball at Skyline
February 22	Men's Basketball at Cañada

* For more Black History Month events scheduled please visit www.laspositascollege.edu

Thank you for Your Service!

On January 16, 2019 the Board of Trustees President announced that longtime trustee Mr. Carlo Vecchiarelli decided to retire from the Board.



Trustee Vecchiarelli's long history and service to Chabot-Las

Positas Community College District began 50 years ago. In 1968 he became a faculty member in the science department at Chabot College. He taught until becoming the dean of admissions in 1975-a position he held for over twenty years. Most recently, the District has benefited from his leadership as a Trustee since 2004. Mr. Vecchiarelli has represented Area 5, which includes Pleasanton and Dublin. He has served as Board President three terms throughout his Board tenure.

"On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank Carlo for his dedication and leadership to our students and community," said Mr. Edralin J. "Ed" Maduli, President of the Board of Trustees.



Farewell Dr. Thomas Fallo

We want to thank Dr. Thomas Fallo for his leadership and service to Chabot-Las Positas Community College District. Dr. Fallo served the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District as Interim Chancellor since September 2018, after an unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees August 21, 2018.

LPC News in Brief

Measure A Open House: - Las Positas College will share its updated Draft Facilities Master Plan (FMP) with the Las Positas College and Tri-Valley community on **February 6, 2019**.

Developed to include priority projects that fit the needs of the educational future of the campus, the FMP is a result of Measure A, which authorized the sale of \$950 million of capital improvement bonds to help the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District (CLPCCD) fund major projects.

Designed to be a living document that will be reviewed and updated every six years, the FMP provides the appropriate action steps necessary to guide the development of the Las Positas College campus. Additionally, the FMP identifies guiding design principles for the development of buildings, outdoor spaces, mobility and infrastructure upgrades, as well as physical improvements envisioned for the campus.

The draft plans will be on display for staff, faculty, students and community members to view and provide comments until **March 15, 2019**. As well as to note their preference on which projects should be prioritized prior to the FMP receiving final approval from the Board of Trustees.

Cyber Generations: LPC Community Education and the AFA (Air Force Academy) are offering training to senior computer users and enthusiasts. The course is divided into an introduction and four sections: Password Management; Common Internet Threat; Internet Scams and Fraud and Social Media Safety. The AFA is in their eleventh year of National Youth Cyber Education Program and they are offering this same cutting edge, current knowledge and training to senior computer users and enthusiasts.

For more information please visit www.laspositascollege.edu.



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Students First