Vision 2015: Writing Our Future History

During LPC’s afternoon session of Convocation, the campus community got an overview of the upcoming strategic planning process. Dr. Jim Gioia, DSPS Counselor and coordinator for the initiative, provided a glimpse of Vision 2015: Writing Our Future History and shared an overview of the framework and timeline that will shape the work to be done. On September 18, participants will engage in a Visioning Day at which they will begin to explore and articulate what the institution will be and do as the academic, cultural, and social center of the Tri-Valley region. This endeavor will be centered around the College’s new Strategic Goals, the themes of which have been incorporated into the design of the Board Report: Teaching & Learning, Institutional Advancement, Accountability, Economic Development, Resource Development & Allocation, Academic & Professional Excellence, Diversity & Pluralism, Communication & Infrastructure, Community Life, and Sustainability.

Faculty, staff, administrators, and students — along with members of the external community — will have opportunities to have a role in laying the foundation for the future of Las Positas College, serving as Co-Chairs, Focused Group Members, and/or Walk-Through Reviewers as the initiative continues into Spring semester. Upon completion of this “engaging and participatory process” that “brings all of the critical voices to the table,” the College will have developed a comprehensive Strategic Plan to steer the development of annual operational plans and provide the structure and support for institutional assessment and effectiveness.

KUDOS: Student, Faculty & Staff Recognitions

- Chris Lee, Dean Baker, Vice President Luster, the Student Services team, M&O, IT, ASLPC, our helpful District colleagues, and the many faculty and staff who put together another successful, record-breaking EXPO
- Kirti Reddy, Community Development Liaison, for her efforts in leading the plans for Community Leadership Day; Jenna Heath, Elizabeth Noyes, and our staff in IT, M&O, Administrative Services, and the Office of the President for their contributions
- Layne Jensen for her work coordinating our role as host site for the quarterly meeting of the California Commission on Economic Development, hosted by Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi
- Leslie Gravino and the LaP-TechS for being featured on a segment of KRON news
Global/Social Responsibility

**LPC Promotes Sustainability And Conservation — One Drop At A Time**

Over the last several years, LPC has advanced its “green” endeavors through operational practices, the formation of a Sustainability Sub-Committee, adoption of new smoke-free campus guidelines, and installation of the photovoltaic shade structures. The College is now furthering those efforts by encouraging faculty and staff to reduce their usage of bottled water. Students attending EXPO were each given newly designed LPC stainless steel water bottles they can use on-campus and in their everyday lives; faculty and staff also received the water bottles at Convocation.

According to materials from Arizona State University — a nationwide leader in the area of “green” initiatives and home to ASU’s Global Institute of Sustainability — a move away from plastic bottles is recommended for numerous reasons, such as lower cost over time, materials used, energy required for manufacturing, and fuel to transport, just to name a few. Members of our Strategic Horizon Network (SHN) team were able to hear from ASU reps at the last SHN Colloquium, at which they learn about these and other successful programs. The hope is that these little changes can add up to make a big “astonishing” difference, for both our College and global community.

Respect for Diversity

**College To Host Congressional Candidates**

On Friday, August 28, Las Positas College will play host to an all-party debate of candidates for the 10th Congressional District. To date, twelve of the fourteen candidates — representing five major political parties — have confirmed their participation. This will give voters an opportunity to hear directly from the candidates on a host of issues, just four days prior to the special primary election on Tuesday, September 1.

During the first hour of the debate, the moderator will ask questions submitted by voters via email and Facebook, as well as those developed by panel members from various parties including, but not limited to, the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, the Libertarian Party, the American Independent Party, and the Peace & Freedom Party. The second hour will feature questions put forward by the audience.

LPC welcomes the chance to open its doors to community members from all political perspectives and to provide them with information to help them make an informed decision. The debate is open to the public, and admission is free.

Adapt to Change

**Welcome Week**

In the weeks leading up to the start of Fall semester, the College held its traditional orientation activities to welcome the newest members of the campus community. The International Students provided a two-day session for a record 33 new students representing 16 countries. As another notable milestone, EXPO attendance reached new heights with more than 500 students participating in workshops including financial resources, transfer, majors and career exploration, student life, and keys to success.

Our nine new full-time faculty members participated in a two-day orientation featuring presentations from Academic Services, Student Services, Staff Development, the Library, the Innovation Center, Academic Senate, and Faculty Association; the previous week, their adjunct counterparts were offered an evening session to acquaint them with College processes and resources.

Finally, the Welcome Center continues to serve as a “one-stop shop” resource to conveniently and efficiently help students with questions about Admissions & Records, Financial Aid, and Counseling.
Make a Difference

*College Connects And Celebrates At Convocation*

During the LPC afternoon session of Convocation, faculty, staff, and administrators came together to communicate and connect before kicking off another academic year. Dr. Pollard began the program with a presentation entitled, *(Re) Claiming Our Interconnectedness: Moving From I to We,* which further explored the concept of the “Abundance” model and the potential impact and transformative properties it could have on our work and on our ability to serve our students and community. Her remarks were interwoven with video clips — some informational or humorous, others touching and even inspirational — designed to provide context for and examples of abundance in action.

In addition, the campus community was able to celebrate those among us “making an astonishing difference,” as several people were acknowledged for their extraordinary efforts and daily demonstrations of collegiality. Don Saugar (M&O) was recognized as the first-ever recipient of the “What’s Right At LPC” award; Dale Boercker (Math faculty member) was selected to receive the Campus Change Network Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Award; and Maureen O’Herin (English faculty member) is the 2009 recipient of the Milanese Award for Educational Excellence & Integrity.

*Creative Thinking*

*Community Leadership Day*

Recently, LPC held its inaugural Community Leadership Day, inviting Tri-Valley leaders to visit the College. The guests, including elected officials, Boards from Chambers of Commerce, and representatives from other local agencies and organizations, were treated to an overview of the College and community colleges at large. The program also consisted of presentations about new and significant programs in both Academic Services and Student Services, as well as a virtual tour of facilities projects under construction and in the planning phase. One of the event highlights was a panel discussion, during which a group of our students got to tell their own stories.

Community Leadership Day provided attendees with a day-long version of the “Las Positas College experience,” and the feedback garnered from their evaluation forms will enable us to build on the success of this first-time effort and enhance planning for next year’s event.

*LPC Weather Station*

For updates on the climate at LPC, look no farther than data generated from our own Campus Hill Vineyard weather station! Real time information can be accessed from the College website at: [http://www.laspositascollege.edu/viticulture/weather/Current_Monitor.htm](http://www.laspositascollege.edu/viticulture/weather/Current_Monitor.htm).

*Lifelong Learning*

*President To Brainstorm And Build Bridges At Gates Strategy Session*

Dr. Pollard has been invited to join other community college leaders in a strategy session organized by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. This group is being convened for “an in-depth, facilitated discussion about some fundamental challenges required to change the nature of the outcomes community colleges have been able to achieve, and to shift the focus from access to completion when measuring our success.”

Participants will explore what it would take to implement such a shift in focus, adopting a holistic approach to achieving student and institutional successes, and how to spread and share innovation within and across colleges. In addition, the strategy session is designed to obtain feedback on the plans that have been developed as part of the Postsecondary Success Initiative.
Central Utility Plant
The building structure is complete, and equipment is being set. Work is currently being done on the landscape.

Maintenance & Operations Facility
The Shop Building and Carports A & B are complete. The Modular Office is in place and interior and exterior finishes will be complete by the end of July. The exterior sidewalks are in place and the fire alarm and security systems will be finished by the end of July. The facility will be ready for occupancy the second week in August.

P.E. Phase III (Outside Loop Road)
DSA approval complete. Packaging of bid documents complete. CM at Risk construction starting in August.

Parking Lot H & Photovoltaic (Solar) System
The parking lot was completed for use in the Fall Semester 2009. All shade structures and solar equipment are installed. Wiring and interconnection of the components is complete and functional. Landscaping is complete and PG&E has installed a meter.

Student Services & Central Administration Building
Steinberg Architects were selected. Design has begun with user group. Meetings scheduled throughout the summer.

Multi-Disciplinary Education Building
Waterproofing, lathing, plaster, and flashing continues. Roof Hog Valley framing has started. Finish painting continues.

LPC Fire Alarm Upgrade
Fire Alarm Improvements are under way in Bldg. 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, 1000, 1300, 1400, 1700, 1900, 2000/2100, 2200, 2400 and 2500. Fiber optic cable is being pulled through out campus to interconnect the buildings together.

Child Development Center
Retaining wall footings have been poured. Building slabs are underway.

Science Building Phase II
Exterior studies have been submitted. Site layout and floor plan have been finalized. Projected submittal to DSA in November 2009.

Aquatics Center & Soccer Field
The shell and interior finishes, as well as roofing and exterior finishes of the Aquatics building have been completed. The pools have been filled with water and the filter system and mechanical systems are functioning. The Aquatic Complex was deemed substantially complete on May 22. Punch list work was completed in June.

District-wide Information Technology Building
The building exterior is complete. Interior finishes are underway.

Collier Creek Storm Water Outfall
Design documents are complete. Submittal to DSA for permit review was submitted in March with DSA approval June 2009. Construction to proceed in August 2009.

College Center for the Arts
Work continues to be on schedule. The structural steel frame for the Fly Loft is complete and steel erection is now directed to miscellaneous items for the next months. Interior finishes are taking place in segment A and rough in work is proceeding in segment B. Parking Lot B is paved and will be complete the first week in August with the Main parking lot on the South side of the building following. The Amphitheater is proceeding with concrete form work and concrete placement.

FACILITIES UPDATE