Scott Miner for his appointment to the Executive Committee of the Alameda County Arts Commission.

Our talented students in the Orchestra, Band, Chamber Choir, and Concert Choir — along with the dedicated Music faculty — for their sold out holiday performance at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

Jeff Baker for his leadership and hard work while serving as Acting Vice President of Student Services.

Scott Vigallon for leading the College’s work on the Distance Education retention study by the System Office.

**KUDOS: Student, Faculty & Staff Recognitions**

**Values Statement**

Las Positas College thrives as a teaching and learning community committed to integrity and excellence.

To nourish this environment and the communities served, we:

◊ promote and celebrate lifelong learning◊ anticipate and meet the needs of the ever-changing workplace◊ demonstrate social and environmental responsibility◊ promote tolerance and mutual respect in a diverse community◊ foster a climate of discovery and creativity◊ hold firm to the belief that each of us makes an astonishing difference
Global/Social Responsibility

*LPC Has It Made In The Shade... Solar Shade Structures, That Is*

After much planning and input from the campus community, Las Positas College is engaged in the most visible of its sustainability efforts to date. Over the Winter Break, installation of the photo-voltaic (solar) shade structures began in Parking Lots E and H. When completed, this project — which saw significant involvement from our Sustainability Task Force — will provide approximately 750 covered spaces and generate about one megawatt of electricity.

*College Selected To Serve As Cooperating Collections Center*

LPC has been designated a Cooperating Collection of the Foundation Center of New York. As such, the College will offer access free of charge to the Center’s detailed information on grant-makers and how to apply for grants, and provide non-profits and underserved populations with training and tools to become successful grant-seekers. The Foundation Center, established in 1956, is the nation’s leading authority on organized philanthropy and its core collection profiles more than 91,000 grant-making entities across the country.

Respect for Diversity

*ISP Orientation*

Last week, our International Students Program (ISP) welcomed 20 new members of the LPC family to campus. Over the course of the three-day orientation, the staff introduced the students — representing ten different countries — to College programs and services, as well as helpful information to assist with the transition to their new home away from home. As in previous semesters, the ISP staff invited faculty, staff, and administrators from the College and District to attend and personally greet the new students.

*CCN Speaker Series*

In celebration of Black History Month, Campus Change Network (CCN) will hold the first of its 2009 Speaker Series events featuring noted literary figure, Ishmael Reed, on February 7. Dr. Reed, who has taught at Yale, Harvard, Dartmouth, and UC Berkeley, is recognized for a style that challenges literary conventions and highlights various forms of oppression. He is a noted novelist, essayist, playwright, songwriter, and musician.

Adapt to Change

*Changing Times And Changing Needs For LPC Students*

All around us we see signs of the challenges brought on by our nation’s struggling economy and hear stories about the impact on the students and community we serve. One telling indicator is the significant increase in the number of financial aid applicants over the last two years. In a semester to semester comparison, the College received approximately 34% more Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in Fall 2008 than it did in Fall 2007. In contrast, the difference between Fall 2006 and Fall 2007 was only about 6%.

As a result of this growing need, there has been an obvious jump in the workload of our Financial Aid staff, who — faced with nearly double the number of office visits across that two-year period — have risen to the occasion to assist students. Several College groups, including the LPC Foundation, Veterans First Initiative, Textbook Task Force, and Presidential Advisory Council have begun to explore and establish associated educational expenses, such as textbooks, and ways to help ease the burden for our students.
Make a Difference

Campus Security Keeps College Safe And Informed
LPC’s Department of Campus Safety & Security recently published a newsletter outlining protocols to assist faculty, staff, and students dealing with emergency and non-emergency issues and communicating information to our officers. The newsletter also contains important dates to remember, including those related to parking permits and our new smoking policy. The publication coincides with the review of LPC’s Security Master Plan and the upcoming implementation of several components contained therein, such as the new fire alarm system, emergency phones, and a television signal.

TEC Talks Career Trends
Several weeks ago, the Tri-Valley Educational Collaborative (TEC) invited local high school teachers and business leaders to a panel discussion held at the LVJUSD Offices. As TEC’s lead fiscal agent and program co-director (with Tri-Valley ROP), LPC helped coordinate the meeting, which featured panelists addressing major regional and national career trends and key traits leading to students’ success in the workplace.

Creative Thinking

LPC Extreme Makeover: Website Edition
As the District embraces the look and feel of its new web portal, The Zone, our College website is getting a makeover of its own. The redesigned site, launching at the beginning of the new semester, is now comprised of group-specific sections aimed at helping visitors quickly navigate and find the information they need. Whether a high school student, adult learner, community member, or current LPC student, online info-seekers will discover content geared toward their particular needs or area of interest. The new and improved website is the result of more than a year of work by our Webmaster, Elizabeth Noyes, using what’s known as a “people-oriented design” and input from the campus community.

Talk Hawks Host Tournament
For the first time, our Forensics Team will host a speech tournament here at the College. The competition features debate teams from Chabot, Solano, Columbia, Diablo Valley, Modesto, and Ohlone Colleges, as well as the University of the Pacific. They will have their final round judged by a panel of LPC administrators and faculty this Friday. Go, Talk Hawks!

Lifelong Learning

New Program Could Bring “Surge” Of Students To Campus
Last month, the State Chancellor’s Office approved Las Positas College’s new Associate in Science degree and Certificate of Achievement, both in Surgical Technology. The program prepares students to become Certified Surgical Technologists (CST), who assist surgeons in medical operations and serve as members of operating room teams. Based on data from the California Employment Development Department, CSTs are among the top twenty fastest growing occupations in Alameda County. With employer demand, and a focus on preparation for direct career placement, our Surgical Technology program is liable to see considerable student interest. Thank you to Dr. Neal Ely and his staff, our Biology faculty, and our Allied Health program personnel for their leadership and hard work toward making this happen for our students.
Facilities Update

Central Utility Plant
Southland Industries, the design-build contractor, is remobilizing and expects to commence site work for the Central Utility Plant the first week of February 2009.

Maintenance & Operations Facility
Construction of Carports A & B are complete. The pre-engineered shop and warehouse building is now installed and interior improvements are underway. Existing M&O shop and storage facilities have been relocated from their historic location to the new site to allow construction to commence on the IT Building. The M&O office building supplier has defaulted on their contract and their surety has taken over responsibility to deliver this building. The schedule to finish the M&O office building is under negotiation with the surety, Liberty Mutual/Guardian Group. The surety will provide temporary facilities to accommodate the M&O Offices to allow construction to commence on the Child Development Center.

P.E. Phase III (Outside Loop Road)
Document submittal to DSA for permit review took place September 29, 2008. DSA has issued comments on fire / life safety; structural and access comments have not yet been issued. Upon issuance of all comments the A/E team will respond and resubmit to DSA for final approval. The project will be bid with three options as the budget for the complete project as designed is inadequate.

Photo-voltaic (Solar) Parking Structure
Over the 2008 Winter Break Chevron Energy Solutions (CES), our design-build contractor, fenced off a total of 300 parking stalls in Lots H and E to complete core drilling and placement of structural supports for the photo-voltaic shade structures. Effective Tuesday January 20, 2009, 150 of the 952 total spaces will be unavailable for use due to construction activities. Both the vertical steel columns and the horizontal “T” bars to support the photo-voltaic panels are in place at H lot and approximately 50% of the “T” bars are in place at E lot. You will see installation of the final T bars at Lot H followed by installation of the photo-voltaic panels themselves over the Spring Term, with completion expected March 31, 2009.

Student Services & Central Administration
Direction to utilize the traditional design-bid-build delivery method for this project was issued in November 2008. Five Architectural firms qualified for Student Services projects via RFQ-A06 will be invited to interview in February 2009. Architect selection and Board of Trustees authorization to award a design contract are anticipated to be complete March 2009. The design and construction schedule will then be finalized.

Multi-Disciplinary Education Buildings
This project is complete. Rework of stucco and building enclosure systems is required and will be performed by the contractor. Design of the remedial work is underway and will be issued to the contractor for completion by Summer 2009.

Child Development Center
On December 18, 2008 eleven General Contractors submitted bids. A recommendation to award the general contract to Lathrop Construction of Benicia has been submitted to the Board of Trustees for their consideration at the January 20, 2009 meeting. The Richo / Campus Copy Center will be relocated to the campus Quad, near Building 1200, to allow construction to commence, anticipated to break ground in late February 2009.

Aquatic Center & Soccer Field
The synthetic turf multiuse/soccer field is substantially complete and the College has taken beneficial occupancy. Final landscape planting and lawn areas were completed in November 2008 at the multi-use playing field, as well as the necessary handrail/guardrail installations around the field walkways. The Aquatic Center has continued with the construction of the Pool House. The shell has been completed with roofing activities underway. The ceramic tile work for the two swimming pools was completed, as well as the installation of the mechanical systems. Occupancy of the Aquatic Center is currently scheduled for January 2009.