The End Of An Era, A New Beginning & Infinite Possibilities

“Some may try and tell us that this is the end of an era. But what they overlook is that...everyday is a new beginning, and every sunset is merely the latest milestone on a voyage that never ends. For this is the land that has never become, but is always in the act of becoming.”

— Ronald Reagan

As is the case each year, Summer Session marks a transition for Las Positas College: it’s the end of the end of the academic year and a time to reflect, regroup, and recharge. This year, the summer also marks the end of an era for the institution, with well-deserved retirements and well wishes for colleagues embarking on other opportunities. However with every end comes a new beginning and, just like the lemniscate — the ribbon-like symbol for infinity — the end and the beginning often blend seamlessly into one.

While the College bids farewell to much loved members of the campus community — staff, faculty, and administrators who have made countless contributions to the organization and beyond — it warmly welcomes new members of the LPC family. This transition creates an opportunity to appreciate all that has been achieved, individually and collectively. It also gives a glimpse into the success still to come, and all of the potential that is yet to be realized: new faces in leadership roles, and new leaders emerging from all areas of the institution; building projects to transform the campus, and building on accomplishments that serve as a foundation for the future.

The end (and beginning) of an era brings change and, by definition, that means things may be different; but people, processes, and plans are dynamic, and will stretch to meet goals and needs of students and the community. And — like the lemniscate and the infinite idea it represents — the capacity of the campus community is unlimited, so the possibilities are endless.

KUDOS: Student, Faculty & Staff Recognitions

- M&O retirees Stan Barnes, Skeets Jennings, and Bob Kint for their years of service to the District and the astonishing difference they have made at Las Positas College
- Andrea Alvarado for accepting a position — and new opportunity — at Santa Rosa Junior College
Global/Social Responsibility

Operation Gateway III
Next month, the College will welcome new student veterans to campus at Operation Gateway III: A Veteran’s Transition to Success. This three-day orientation will feature presentations and workshops on: course and major planning, registration, financial aid, counseling, LPC programs and services, GI benefits, readjustment services, and community resources. Operation Gateway also provides returning veterans with a preview of the experience and sense of community they will have while pursuing their education at Las Positas College. In addition, there are book/supply stipends available for student veterans who meet the eligibility criteria. This event is expected to match the success seen in previous years, as the Veterans Program staff anticipates to have more than 40 participants in attendance.

Respect for Diversity

Annual Award Embraces Equity Efforts
For the fourth consecutive year, Campus Change Network (CCN) and the Office of the President are soliciting nominations for the annual “Diversity, Equity & Inclusion” Award. Based on the principles of CCN — Courage, Conviction, Compassion — the award is presented at Convocation to a member of the campus community who embodies the CCN Mission Statement and demonstrates a commitment to the College’s “respect for diversity.” As outlined in the award materials, this work can take many forms — from high profile activities to everyday kindnesses; from someone who develops innovative strategies or programs, to someone who simply goes above and beyond to meet the needs of others.

Adapt to Change

College Welcomes Colleague Back To Campus
LPC is pleased to welcome back a member of the CLPCCD family to join the College’s leadership team during 2011-12. Over the next year, Marge Maloney will serve as the Interim Vice President of Academic Services while the search is conducted for the permanent position. Ms. Maloney previously worked at LPC as the Interim Dean of Social Sciences and Physical Education and spent ten years at Chabot working as both the Dean of Social Sciences and the Interim Vice President of Academic Services; prior to joining the District, she worked for more that twenty years in various roles at College of Alameda. With her expertise and experience as a successful community college administrator, she brings great strengths to Las Positas College and its leadership team. Welcome (back), Marge!

Make a Difference

Unsung Heroes
Behind the scenes. Under the radar. Above and beyond. These phrases describe the qualities for which LPC’s IT team and the M&O staff on-site are known: working incredibly hard and providing indispensable help — often out of the spotlight — to make certain that College operations are optimal. Their efforts ensure that students, staff, faculty, and administrators have what they need to get their work done. Recently, over the course of only two days, these two departments joined forces to replace several hundred computers that had reached the end of their life-cycles — including 200 PCs in the Computer Center. With the time and planning involved, this was certainly no small undertaking, and it demonstrates the dedication of both departments.

Creative Thinking

Hawks Talk — And Read — Their Way To Additional Awards
Last month, four members of the Las Positas College Forensics Team competed in the American Readers Theater Association’s National Championships held at Mt. San Antonio College. These four talented Talk Hawks made up the cast of Voices and Choices, the readers theater written and directed by LPC faculty member and Forensics Coach, Janet Brehe Johnson. The piece focuses on the importance of choices people make in their lives. It was one of only four shows at the Championships that was nominated for Excellence in Achievement in Script. In addition, the performance earned the team the Semi-Finalist Award and the coveted Creative Innovation Award. Congratulations to the top notch Talk Hawks!

Lifelong Learning

Committee Captures Accomplishments & Sets Sights On Strategies For “Year 2”
Heading into its second year of existence — and the second year of implementing the College’s Strategic Plan — the Institutional Effectiveness Committee (IEC) spent time reviewing its work to date, as well as outlining plans for 2011-12 (”Year 2”). Based on feedback and status updates from the people and/or units assigned the responsibility of tracking the Strategies and KPIs, the IEC has developed recommendations for those the institution should prioritize for next year. In addition, through the in-depth work of its inaugural year, the Committee identified a revised list of Institutional Indicators and developed the structure and content for LPC’s annual Institutional Effectiveness Report.

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