Las Positas College Comes Alive
With An Abundance Of Activity

As the mid-way point of the semester draws near, things are in full swing at LPC: teaching and learning is taking place in classrooms, labs, and offices across the College; student life is bustling, adding energy to the campus and experiences for all around; faculty, staff, and administrators are actively engaged in institutional issues, district dialogue, and statewide strategy sessions; and activities and events are bringing people together, providing "lifelong learning" opportunities for the College community and Tri-Valley residents.

There is a lot happening and in the works at Las Positas College, from the Anthology and Festival of the Arts to zillions of student successes and zig-zagging fence lines. Following a stellar showcase of student talent at the March Town Meeting, the Talk Hawks are headed to the California State Championship Speech Tournament this week. The inaugural season of the Men’s and Women’s Swimming & Diving Team is well underway, with competitions being held in the Aquatics Center. Led by the ASLPC, students took their voices and message to Sacramento for the “March-in-March.” Faculty, staff, and administrators are busy with day-to-day responsibilities and involved in College-wide efforts (such as implementing the Strategic Plan, Program Review, and budget discussions and decision-making), and still find the time and energy to organize the LPC Inter-Constituency Olympics — an event designed to boost morale and support students.

Other events are also building bonds and encouraging educational endeavors: ASLPC held its annual Talent Show, the College hosted another installment of the LLNL/LPC Science and Engineering Seminar Series, and the Music Department organized a benefit concert to support its students and programs. Work continues on the Science Building expansion and completion of the Child Development Center; and later this month members of the campus community will gather to celebrate not only the groundbreaking for the Student Services & Administration (SSA) Building, a facility that will literally bring people and programs together, but also to celebrate what it means for the College. As the last scheduled project in the Measure B build-out, the SSA construction marks the end of one chapter in the LPC story and symbolizes the beginning of the next page in the College’s history.

Las Positas College continues to move forward through championships and challenges, through beautiful new buildings and bumps in the road, and through highlights and hitches — with collaboration, a commitment to students, and a sense of community.

KUDOS: Student, Faculty & Staff Recognitions

- Scott Miner for being selected as the “What’s Right at LPC” recipient at the February Town Meeting
- The Talk Hawks for the many awards earned at the Northern California Forensics Association’s Championship Tournament
- Everyone from Human Resources and elsewhere at District for holding the recent Health & Wellness Faire on campus
- The Men’s Basketball Team for earning their second playoff berth in five seasons
- Sharon Davidson, Sean Prather, and Jeff Nelson for being nominated for the “What’s Right at LPC” award this month
- Welcome to Corin Calica, the new Director of LPC’s Child Development Center

Board Report

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Global/Social Responsibility

Sending “Signals” To Keep Students Safe

Last week, the Student Health & Wellness Center sponsored a very unique performance at the LPC campus. “Sex Signals: The Real Life Funny Sort-of-Improv Show About a Guy, a Girl, Dating & Other Stuff” is a touring performance that uses improvisation, audience interaction, comedy, and facts to explore issues related to dating, sex, consent, and developing strategies to handle certain situations. However, students were not the only ones to benefit from the educational info included in the performance: just one week earlier, an overview of “Sex Signals” was presented to the campus community at Town Meeting, along with national data on the experiences reported by college-age students.

Respect for Diversity

Film Festival Is Sure To Be Fantastico!

In just a few weeks, Las Positas College will host the Third Annual Italian Film Festival. This year the theme of the LPC-sponsored event is “Unita: The Birth of Italia.” The program features two films directed by Luchino Visconti: on Friday, March 25, there will be a showing of Il Gattopardo (The Leopard) from 1963; on Saturday, March 26, attendees will view the 1954 film Senso. Both screenings will be held in the MDB Lecture Hall (room 2420). The aim of the event is to "recognize the contributions of Italian art, film, and culture" and share them with the campus community, Tri-Valley, and beyond. The first two years of the Festival were highly-acclaimed and well-received, and the third installment looks to be just as successful. Siete invitati!

Adapt to Change

The SSA Is Underway

Last month work got underway to prepare the construction site for the new Student Services & Administration (SSA) Building at LPC. This new 67,000 square foot, LEED Silver facility will centralize support services and resources such as Counseling, Admissions & Records, Financial Aid, the Career/Transfer Center, International Student Program, ASLPC, and the Cafeteria — all of which are currently spread out in five different places across campus. The building will also serve as the home for the offices of the President and Vice Presidents. To make way for the SSA, three buildings — 1200, 1500, and 1600 — were demolished to clear the site, leaving a very different look to the campus. A groundbreaking ceremony is planned for March 25 at 11:00 a.m., so that the College community can celebrate this next phase of campus development.

Creative Thinking

LPC Goes “Country”

Next month the Las Positas College Performing Arts Department will raise the curtain on the Phantom of the Country Opera, its 2011 spring musical. The production, a spoof of the Phantom of the Opera, tells the story of a young opera singer who travels from Italy to Nashville in the hopes of making it big on the country music scene. When the musical was performed as part of LPC’s 1997 theater season, the Contra Costa Times described the production as “one of the brightest, funniest, and most charming...to come around in some time.” This year’s production is bound to be equally embraced by the College community when it opens in the Main Stage Theater of the Mertes Center for the Arts.

Make a Difference

College Links With Community To Let Students Step Into The “Shadow”

For many years, Las Positas College has partnered with the Livermore Rotary Club to provide job shadowing opportunities for LPC students. Earlier this month, students were paired with a professional in their career field for a half-day of learning, networking, and experience building. The students were then able to attend the “Career Day” program at the Livermore Rotary Club meeting, featuring a presentation from Chancellor Kinnamon. Kudos to all of the student participants, the Rotary volunteers, and Scheanelle Green — Career & Employment Center Coordinator — for making an astonishing difference and helping broaden students’ horizons.

Lifelong Learning

LLNL & Theories & Biothreats, Oh My!

Yesterday LPC hosted the third installment of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory/Las Positas College Science and Engineering Seminar Series, which is designed to give LLNL scientists and engineers a chance to share interdisciplinary presentations and research findings with faculty and students at the College. This session, “The Power of Bioinformatics: Computer Scientists and Biologists Join Forces to Address Challenges of Evolving Biothreats,” outlined new technologies, post-9/11 biosurveillance, collaborations with the Center for Disease Control, and efforts to protect public health across the globe. The seminar was followed by an opportunity for students and attendees to have Q&A and dialogue with presenters.