Facilities Update

PE Complex
The leaks at various locations, including Faculty Offices, Dance Studio, and support spaces, have persisted despite various repairs. Testing is ongoing to identify root causes of the problems and to chart an effective course of corrective action. Test results are expected in the next two weeks. The current submitted schedule shows completion of landscape June 2008.

Multi-Disciplinary Education Building
During the January storms, leaks and water damage occurred at the Faculty Offices and Reading Room. As with the PE Complex, testing is ongoing to identify root causes of the problems and to chart an effective course of corrective action. Test results are expected in the next 2 weeks. The current submitted schedule shows completion of landscape June 2008.

Central Utility Plant
The Design Build contractor, Southland Industries, is working on schematic design for the Central Plant. The pathway for the utility loop has been approved. The contractor is scheduled to mobilize and commence work on the utility loop in April. The Board of Trustees resolved on February 19, 2008 to designate the M&O Facility as a non-school building, as it will not house faculty or students. Designation of the project as a non-school building will expedite the project schedule. The project will be designed to comply with all applicable codes, including seismic safety requirements and will be reviewed for compliance by a licensed California structural engineer.

Maintenance & Operations Facility
The Board of Trustees approved award of the contract for pre-engineered warehouse and support buildings at their January 5, 2008 meeting. Award of the contract for the Modular Office Building was approved by the Board of Trustees at their February 19, 2008 meeting. Engineering for both the pre-engineered warehouse and support buildings and the modular office building are now underway.

P.E. Phase III (Outside Loop Road)
The Schematic Design is underway and the design team hopes to finalize the facility layout and final elevations in March.

Parking Lot H
Design of the new parking lot is now underway. The Board of Trustees approved incorporation of photo-voltaic shade structures at their February 19, 2008 meeting. At that meeting the Board of Trustees also approved award of a design/build contract to Chevron Energy Services for design and construction of the photo-voltaic shade structures. To maximize efficiency consolidation of parking lot and shade structure elements into one project may be recommended.

Aquatics Center & Soccer Fields
The contractor mobilized on November 26, 2007. Work is underway, and significant progress has been made on excavation. An unusual number of rain days in January resulted in re-setting the 13 additional days from the contractor. The contractor also submitted request for additional days for more excavation work. Requests are now under review and, if appropriate, a contract extension will be issued.

Student Services & Central Administration
The Design Team completed Schematic Design and submitted required deliverables on January 3, 2008. Subsequently, upon advice of local consultants the college is reconsidering location of Food Service from the 3rd Floor. Design Development activities are on hold pending final resolution of Food Service location.
Global Responsibility

Earth Day Symposium
On Friday, April 11, Assembly Member Mary Hayashi will hold Green Innovations for a Clean California: A Community and Workforce Development Symposium at Las Positas College in celebration of Earth Day 2008. The event will feature presentations from many experts in the field of “Green Technology,” including representatives from academic and Bay Area companies. The Symposium will be held in the Multi-Disciplinary Building large lecture hall (room 2420) from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm.

LPC School Colors:
Red and Black
Green

Over the last few months, the College has been taking steps to reduce its paper usage wherever possible. As Bob Kratochvil reported to the Board in March, our monthly Town Meeting has eliminated all paper handouts with the creation of a site on the Internet, displaying all information electronically, and sending announcements via campus-wide email. Several other shared governance groups, including Planning & Budget and the Facilities Committee, have also gone “paperless.” Many of these efforts have been spurred on by the work of our Sustainability Task Force, which is also looking at issues of energy generation, and transportation and parking. This group also played a key role in the plans for the photo-voltaic shade structures into the new parking lot.

Respect for Diversity

BSU Black History Celebration
On February 28, the Black Student Union held its First Annual celebration of Black History Month, “Africa & Diaspora: We Are One.” The well-attended event featured musical and dance performances, African fashions, cultural traditions, and guest speaker Dr. Siri Brown.

CCN Retreat
Our Campus Change Network now has three years of equity work under its belt, and recently shared their accomplishments with 15 CCN teams from across the State. The group had the opportunity to present their successes and lessons learned, as well as plan next steps for the initiative with the other schools.

Creative Thinking

Spring Musical
The 2008 Spring production is Iron Curtain, a new musical comedy about a 1950s song writing competition, a new musical comedy about a 1950s song writing competition, the Soviets create a propaganda-based performance piece. This is only the third ever production at LPC in the Central Valley — performed by our Theater Department in 2004. The “Curtain” goes up on April 4 and runs on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through April 20.

Poetry Slam
On April 8, the Campus Poetry Slam will be held in the Student Center (1700) from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. There will be $200 in prizes available, and the Berkeley Slam Team will be on hand to conduct a free slam-writing workshop.

Lifelong Learning

National Science Bowl
The College recently hosted the Regional Middle School Science Bowl, and the 200 students, teachers, and parents in attendance. A team from Hopkins Junior High School in Fremont took home first place honors, and will be moving on to the National Science Bowl in Colorado. The event was covered by The Valley Times, which ran an article and photo in the paper the following day. As always, the College staff and faculty did an excellent job coordinating everything and making LPC shine.

Make a Difference

Categorical Site Visit
Several weeks ago, some of our Student Services programs underwent a Categorical Site Visit from the State. The visit team, including System Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Special Programs Linda Michalski and representatives from the field met with program staff, students, and administrators. The two-day visit resulted in numerous commendations, as well as some helpful recommendations. The process provided valuable feedback for the staff, and we expect to receive the written summary report from the State soon.

Learning in Triumph
On Saturday, April 12, Las Positas College will open its doors to the community for Aprendiendo a Triunfar II, the follow-up to its incredibly successful open house held in 2005. The day-long event, co-sponsored with St. Michael’s Church in Livermore, will once again be conducted in Spanish, and provide participants with an introduction to the multitude of academic programs, support services, and resources available to them at the College. Activities will include a financial aid workshop, tour of the campus, and lunch for all in attendance. In 2005 the open house drew more than 200 attendees, and this year’s sequel looks to be just as well-received by the community.

Adapt to Change

Listen and Learn
In an effort to gather broad knowledge about the College, community, its culture, and history, Dr. Pollard will kick off a “Listening Tour” across campus next month. This tour will consist of four open forum sessions at which faculty, staff, and students can share their thoughts on what they love about LPC.

Brain Awareness Week
Last week the Psychology Department celebrated Brain Awareness Week with demonstrations, student displays, and interactive projects. The annual event also featured an evening with scientist and author, Dr. Temple Grandin — a pioneer in the study of autism. Next month Kim Peak, “The Real Rain Man,” will make his third appearance at Las Positas College.

Lifelong Learning

Women’s History Month
As part of its Speaker Series, CCN celebrated Women’s History Month with a presentation from Dr. Doris “Ludi” Allen, a veteran of the Vietnam War. Dr. Allen engaged the audience with incredible stories of her military service, life experiences, and inspiring perseverance.