Board Report

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May Is A Month Of Mega-Milestones At LPC

On Saturday, Las Positas College held its first-ever Mega Day to assist Early Admission high school students prior to beginning their classes in the Fall. The event is aimed at assisting them with academic planning, enrolling in classes, and becoming familiar with the campus. Students met with counselors who helped them register after selecting their first semester classes based on their assessment results and interests. Many classified professionals, faculty members, and administrators volunteered their time to staff the event and serve the soon-to-be LPC students. The event was highly successful and much needed, as evidenced by the standing-room-only workshop for parents. Three days prior to Mega Day, there were almost 550 students confirmed to participate, and even more arrived that morning without an RSVP. This student-focused, one-stop shop approach was designed to set the stage for the participants to have a solid start to their college careers.

Meanwhile, the Student Services team is also working on plans for Commencement — the other bookend to students’ LPC experience. For some, it marks the end of their educational endeavors; for others, it marks the beginning of the next phase in their academic pursuits; but, no matter which milestone is reached, Graduation means a reason to celebrate student success in all its forms. The graduates will take center stage as they step forward to receive their degrees and certificates — excited about all of the ways they have and will continue to shine and achieve new milestones for years to come.

KUDOS: Student, Faculty & Staff Recognitions

- Julie Thornburg for being selected as the “What’s Right at LPC” recipient at the May Town Meeting
- Ted Kaye, Dana Richards, and the LPC Foundation Board of Directors for the success of the 8th Annual Best of the Best gala, which made its debut in the Mertes Center for the Arts
- Sharon Gach, John Ros, Rodney Ribaldi, Chuck Bender, Andy Marcoux, Jeff Nelson, Ethan Castor, and the LPC Olympic Committee for being nominated for the “What’s Right at LPC” award this month
Global/Social Responsibility

College Communicates About Campus Boulevard Project

Recently LPC students, faculty, staff, and administrators have had an opportunity to engage in dialogue around the plans for the Campus Boulevard. This project will provide an accessible pedestrian pathway through the center “spine” of the campus; it consists of three phases, and Phase I — currently under discussion — extends from the existing fire road between the PE Complex and Multi-Disciplinary Building down to the northeast corner of the Student Center. Based on feedback from the campus community during previous planning sessions, the Campus Boulevard “criteria for success” include: reflecting cultural diversity, responding to climate characteristics, creating learning opportunities, promoting social interaction, and addressing accessibility issues.

Respect for Diversity

“Aprendiendo” Outreach Event Makes Triumphant Return To LPC

On Saturday, May 21, Las Positas College will host its fourth “Aprendiendo A Triunfar” (Learning to Triumph) event for the Spanish-speaking community. The goal of this family-friendly initiative is to “inform the community of the educational opportunities available to all” at LPC, as well as to familiarize them with the programs and services at the College. Among the activities presented that day will be workshops on ESL, science, and photography, as well as supervised daycare. Special guests will include California State Assemblymember Joan Buchanan and Maria Leticia Gomez, News Anchor for Univision TV. All portions of the program are free and will be conducted in Spanish.

Adapt to Change

Colleagues Congratulated For Campus Contributions at 10-20-30

Earlier this month, the College paid tribute to long-time employees at the annual 10-20-30 Celebration. This event enables the campus community to recognize faculty, staff, and administrators for their exceptional service to students and the institution. In addition, several other honors are presented: Outstanding Classified Award (from Classified Senate); Outstanding Service Award, Distinguished Teaching Award, and 10+1 Honors (from Academic Senate); and the Part-time and Full-time Teacher of the Year Awards (from Student Senate). The program also includes an opportunity to recognize retirees for their contributions to LPC and District. Congratulations to the 10-20-30 honorees for 2010-11!

Make a Difference

Student Success Shines At Scholarship Ceremony

Last week Las Positas College devoted an entire evening to celebrating student achievement at the Annual Student Scholarship Ceremony. For the first time the event was held in the Main Stage Theater, providing ample space for all of the deserving scholarship recipients, proud family members and friends, and supportive staff, faculty, and administrators. The program included the presentation of more than 175 scholarship awards; many of the scholarships were presented by the donors, in most cases an LPC employee or member of the community.

Creative Thinking

Spring & Music Are In The Air At LPC

All around campus, the sights and sounds of Spring are in the air: the LPC roses are beautifully blooming, the students are diligently studying for finals, and the melodies of the Music Department are filling the Mertes Center of the Arts. The Spring Concert Series is once again in full swing, enabling students to showcase their talents for the College community. On May 4, the Orchestra & Wind Ensemble performed “Rhapsody in Blue” featuring Corrina Change on piano; that was followed by the Choral Concert last week. Next up — and rounding out the series — are back-to-back nights of jazz: Vocal Jazz on May 20, and Instrumental Jazz on May 21. Kudos to Cindy Browne Rosefield, conductor, and all of the musicians for the ‘note’-worthy entertainment!

Lifelong Learning

Symposium Highlights Honors Transfer Students

Last week, LPC held its annual research symposium to highlight the work of students in the Honors Transfer Program. Several students presented projects that they also had an opportunity to share a week earlier at the Community College Honors Research Symposium at Stanford. Steven Russo outlined developing a reducible method for creating a permanent microscope slide of the chromosomes from the salivary glands of a Drosophila fly; Nicole Naramura reprised her Stanford presentation, “Generation Facebook”; and Ethan Aines and Mena Tajrishi showed their work “Replicating the Primitive Camera of the 19th Century.” The photographs they took with this camera are on display in the alcove outside the MDB Lecture Hall.