



ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

October 8, 2025 | 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm | Room 21147 + Zoom for visitors

Agenda Item – [Zoom information at end of agenda](#)

LPC Mission Statement

Las Positas College is an inclusive, learning-centered, equity-focused environment that offers educational opportunities and support for completion of students' transfer, degree, and career-technical goals while promoting lifelong learning.

LPC Planning Priorities

- ❖ Affirm LPC's unwavering commitment to equity by deepening campus-wide engagement, enhancing professional development, embedding equity-minded practices in decision-making, assessment, and accountability processes; and building capacity to resolve inequities.
- ❖ Increase student success and completion through sustainable college practices, processes, academic support, removal of barriers, and focused professional development.
- ❖ Establish a knowledge base and appreciation for health and wellness in the workplace; create a sense of urgency about wellness; prioritize wellness in decision-making, assessment and accountability; and build capacity to support wellness.

Academic Senate Quorum: 8

Non-Voting Members:

President: Ashley Young
Student Government: TBD
Faculty Association: Heike Gecox

Voting Members:

Vice President: Ashley McHale
Secretary: Collin Thormoto
Treasurer: Catherine Suarez
A&H: Justin Garoupa, Catherine Suarez
BSSL: Joanna Jen, Felipe Ponce, Collin Thormoto
PATH: Susan deFuniak
STEM: Anita Bhatia, Moh Daoud, David Montelongo,
Student Services: Kimberly Burks, Ryan Eckles
Part Time Representatives: Jeff Judd, Peter Zimmer

- 1. Call to Order:** 2:31 pm
- 2. Review and Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve (Ashley McHale)/seconded (Joanna Jen)/discussion (none)/approved
- 3. Review and Approval of Minutes (September 24, 2025):** Motion to approve (Ashley McHale)/seconded (Peter Zimmer)/discussion (change Ashley McHale to Ashley Young at the beginning of agenda item 8.2)/approved with one abstention
- 4. Public Comments (3 minutes):** *This time is reserved for members of the public to address the Academic Senate. Please limit comments to 3 minutes. In accordance with the Brown Act, the Academic Senate cannot act on items not already on the agenda.* None
- 5. Consent Items:** Motion to approve (Peter Zimmer)/seconded (Catherine Suarez)/discussion (none)/approved
 - 5.1 Fire Service Technology Faculty Hiring Committee: Lisa Everett, George Freelen, Heike Gecox, Ashley Young
 - 5.2 Curriculum Approvals: 9.29.25
- 6. Action Items:** None
- 7. New Business**
 - 7.1 HSI Program Status
HSI Director Dr. John Gomez shared that the district received a letter from the Department of Administration (DOA), which confirmed that the college's HSI grant will not be refunded effective immediately. The first year of the five-year grant ended on September 30, 2025. We have enough remaining funds to carry over until September 30, 2026, which is allowable according to the letter from the DOA. Part time counselors and student ambassadors paid through the grant will continue through September 30, 2026 but there will not be remaining funds for anything else. There is already opposition and pushback led by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU). Question for how this will impact the pathways project? It will affect the stipend that is provided to participating faculty. The shift will now be to focus on the 12 hired student ambassadors who have each been assigned five hours per week to a specific pathway while also providing proactive outreach, like providing campus tours. There is also a student ambassador

club where students can volunteer their time to assist with duties.

7.2 Academic Software Purchase Process & Canvas LTI 1.1 Sunsetting Timeline

District CTO Bruce Griffin shared a presentation (available on academic senate website). With the sunsetting of LTI 1.1 and move to LTI 1.3, Canvas-embedded tools will need to be installed at the district-level. There will be a robust vetting process to confirm tools meets higher education standards. Once a tool has been vetted and adopted, any instructor can utilize the tool. Instructors will need to complete an academic software integration request form (draft form available on academic senate website) for any desired Canvas-embedded tool. This process can take time so instructors will be encouraged to submit requests well before the semester begins.

Questions:

- Is the motivation for change due to security/privacy? The main reason is because Canvas is changing to 1.3 soon and we want to get ahead of the 1.1 sunset. The other reason is due to our upcoming accreditation. We want to have a robust vetting system in place.
- When will 1.1 officially sunset? There is no official date but many large publishing companies have already shifted to 1.3 with some smaller companies following suit.
- If an application/tool is already vetted, does an instructor need to check if it is ready for 1.3 and request access? If it is already established and adapted to 1.3, access should continue seamlessly. Reach out to Kat King to double check.
- Companies are not always required to disclose when changing privacy standards. Will there be a practice in place to confirm that tools/apps are still in compliance with our standards? For now, it will just be the initial check and then we will have to act on good faith. We will maintain a level of due diligence,

7.3 Compressed Calendar Draft of Schedule Blocks and Class Times

Ashley Young shared the draft block schedule (available on academic senate website). Ashley McHale shared concern for 4- and 5-unit large lectures that span two blocks. Is there a possibility to adjust starting and/or ending blocks in these cases? Additionally, a class will likely be more desirable to students if it begins at 8:30 am rather than 8:00 am. Who can we communicate these requests to? The deans have an understanding that the block schedule is a guide and not necessarily a requirement. Talk to your dean if you have a compelling reason not to align with the suggested schedule.

8. Old Business

8.1 Winter Intersession & Fraud Reports

Question if winter intersession will change operational dates this year? It will not change this year. The compressed calendar dates will dictate intersession dates moving forward.

8.2 Divestment Resolution

Ashley Young recapped the discussion from the previous senate meeting. It may be a good idea to hear back on the union's opinion before potentially signing off on the resolution. Justin Garoupa clarified that the union may not form an opinion since it will not involve a shortfall in pension or retirement benefits. If the divestment happens, the district would change the source of funding. Question for who manages these decisions? The Retirement Board of Authority. We could request that a Chabot faculty member who is knowledgeable about this resolution can speak to the group in a future meeting.

Justin pointed out that the final sentence of the resolution ("Resolved, the Chabot College Faculty Senate

recommends that the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District divest (withdraw all financial support from) corporations, investments, and entities financially benefitting from military and war in the US and abroad”) is very broad. Most large companies, either directly or indirectly, may fall into this category. Collin Thormoto suggested that perhaps we should draft an ethical investment policy with detailed specifics rather than adopting this resolution, or that we could consider changing this final line of the resolution if we choose to adopt it.

8.3 Textbook Access: None

8.4 Program Proposal Policy

Melissa Korber spoke with Craig and they will work on updates once program review has commenced in November. This item will be brought back as new business once a draft is ready.

9. Wellness Break (5 minutes)

10. Reports (5 minutes each)

10.1 LPC Student Government (TBD): None

10.2 A.I. Honesty (Catherine Suarez): Anita Bhatia and Joanna Jen expressed interest in joining the AI Honesty subcommittee. Joanna also shared information about Brisk, which is a Google Docs plugin that creates a video of a student’s writing progress in Google Docs. This can be used in conjunction with Turnitin since it would allow an instructor to review the video timestamp as indicated on the Turnitin flag.

10.3 CEMC/DEMC (Ashley McHale): CEMC recently met but the FTEF allocation results won’t be provided for review until November. Discipline plans also won’t be available until November and will be due to deans in February.

10.4 CTE (Melissa Korber): None

10.5 District Technology (Jeff Judd): None

10.6 Faculty Association (Heike Gecox): None

10.7 Global Engagement (Katie Eagan): report published on academic senate website.

10.8 Guided Pathways (Nadiyah Taylor & Jill Carbone): None

10.9 Program Review (Karin Spirn): report published on academic senate website.

10.10 SLO (John Rosen): None

10.11 UnDocuAlly (David Montelongo): The committee will meet as needed since Rosa Lopez is now fully established as the Cultural Community Center and Undocumented Student Support Center Coordinator. Undocumented student support week is coming up.

10.12 Treasurer (Catherine Suarez): STEM is ahead in the fundraiser competition with 44% participating

full-time faculty and \$290. A&H is at 8% with \$50. Student Services is at 29% with \$75. BSSL and PATH are at 0. Remind colleagues to include their information on the Google Form after donating so donations can be tracked. Kimberly Burkes created a flyer that will be dispersed after a minor edit.

10.13 President (Ashley Young): Faculty, particularly part-time faculty, discussed their concerns with the negative impacts of discussing subject-relevant controversial topics in their classes at the most recent Teaching Institute gathering. Some instructors are concerned about potential student retaliation. Collin shared that AB 715 was approved, which could potentially bar faculty from discussing items related to the Israel/Palestine conflict. This will impact K-12 but could also potentially impact community colleges. Question regarding what topics in particular were mentioned at the gathering? One example is the discussion of white supremacy in an ethnic studies class. Felipe Ponce shared an experience from another college where a relevant, but controversial, statement in his class reflected negatively on him during an evaluation. Question if the concern stems from how the discussion will be presented outside of class by a student? Yes, and perhaps this discussion should also include what students are allowed to use or share outside of the classroom. The concern isn't what the district or college will do since we are protected by academic freedom, rather it is concerns about what the outside public may think depending on the way the content is portrayed by a student.

10.14 Divisions

- A&H (Justin Garoupa, Catherine Suarez): None
- BSSL (Joanna Jen, Felipe Ponce, Collin Thormoto): None
- PATH (Susan deFuniak): None
- STEM (Anita Bhatia, Moh Daoud, David Montelongo): None
- Student Services (Kimberly Burks, Ryan Eckles): None
- Part Time Representatives (Jeff Judd, Peter Zimmer): None

11. **Good of the Order/Announcements**

Ashley McHale shared that MESA will host an Earth Day tabling event on October 14th and that the faculty team for the LPC games has been finalized. Members include Peter Zimmer, Felipe Ponce, Joanna Jen, Ashley McHale, Fede Borghesi, Kai Blaisdell, Chris Lee, and Sarah Thompson. Karin Spirn and David Powers are alternates.

12. **Adjourned:** 4:03 pm

13. **Next Regular Meeting:** October 22, 2025

ZOOM LOGIN: This will be the same for every Academic Senate meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87800866487>