ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

September 9, 2026| 2:45 pm – 4:45 pm | Room 21147 + Zoom for visitors

Agenda Item – Zoom information at end of agenda

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE

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: 7

Non-Voting Members:
President: Ashley McHale
Student Government: TBD
Faculty Association: Heike Gecox

Voting Members:
Vice President: Ashley Young
Secretary: Collin Thormoto
Treasurer: Catherine Suarez
A&H: Justin Garoupa, Catherine Suarez
BSSL: Joanna Jen, Felipe Ponce, Collin Thormoto
PATH: Susan DeFuniak
STEM: David Montelongo
Student Services: Kimberly Burks, Gabriela Discua
Part Time Representatives: Valerie Connors, Jeff Judd

1. **Call to Order:** 2:48 pm

2. **Review and Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve (Justin Garoupa)/seconded (Catherine Suarez)/Discussion (Agenda items 6.1 & 6.2 to be tabled until Michael Peterson joins meeting. Agenda item 6.3 to be tabled until next meeting.)/approved unanimously

3. **Review and Approval of Minutes (August 26, 2026):** Change 10.3 assignment from Ashley Young to Ashley McHale/Motion to approve as amended (Ashley Young)/seconded (Kimberly Burks)/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 (Collin Thormoto)/seconded (Ashley Young)/approved unanimously

   5.1 Program Review Coordinator Selection Committee: Ashley McHale

6. **First Reading** – moved to after agenda item 10

7. **Second Reading/Voting** - none

8. **Discussion Items**
   8.1 Student Discipline Hearing Panel Designees (5)
   Academic Senate has been asked to identify five faculty members to serve on an as-needed student disciplinary hearing committee. David Powers from STEM, Robin Roy from BSSL, and Catherine Suarez from A&H volunteered. One volunteer from each remaining division (PATH, SS) is needed.

   8.2 Senate Goals for 2026-2027
   A fifth goal of supporting collaboration between Counseling and academic pathway faculty was inadvertently omitted from the agenda but will be added as a goal moving forward. Task forces for each goal will be created and involvement is open to all faculty members.

8.2.1 Supporting ethical and appropriate use of AI in our classrooms
Current task force volunteers: David Montelongo and Collin Thormoto

8.2.2 Ensuring accreditation standards
Assess RSI and accessibility in online classes in preparation for next accreditation cycle. Current task force volunteer: Sue DeFuniak

8.2.3 Researching feasibility of First-Year Experience cohorts
Review retention and student satisfaction data before recommending an approach. Current task force volunteers: Ashley Young and Justin Garoupa

8.2.4 Supporting DEIAB practices
Identify ways Senate can meaningfully support DEIAB practices. Current task force volunteer: Felipe Ponce

Motion to reopen agenda and amend moving agenda item 10 before agenda item 9 (Ashley McHale)/Seconded (Collin Thormoto)/approved

10. Reports

10.1 CTE (Melissa Korber)
The first CTE meeting agenda for the year will include continued review of the comprehensive local needs assessment, recommendations from Pathways 2 Careers consultants, and navigation tools for students and faculty.

10.2 Treasurer (Catherine Suarez) – no report

10.3 President (Ashley McHale)

- Faculty volunteers are needed for several upcoming hiring committees; all participants must have completed required HR training. Upcoming positions include:
  - District Executive Director for Economic Development Contract Education
  - District Payroll Manager
  - Dean of Economic Development
  - Dean of BSSL
  - Vice President of Student Services
  - Confidential Executive Assistant for Vice President of Student Services
- Review and provide feedback for upcoming BP and AP updates for Chancellor’s Council. Current items include recordings, conflict of interest, teleconference meetings and Brown Act requirements, and capital construction.
- Senators should submit proposed agenda items to Ashley M. no later than the Thursday prior to meetings.

6. First Reading

Items 6.1 and 6.2 both relate to AB 1705 and are also being considered by Chabot’s Faculty Senate with the goal of potentially advancing resolutions through the statewide Academic Senate plenary meetings.

6.1 Proposed Resolution: Revisiting default placement rules for math ASCCC Resolution
This resolution calls for reconsideration of current math placement practices. Discussion focused on

limitations of traditional standardized testing, reliance on high school grades/coursework, and current placement requirements based on a student's major.

6.2 Proposed Resolution: Clarifying math expectations of transfer students ASCCC Resolution
This resolution is to get clearer guidance regarding UC math expectations for transfer students.

6.3 Proposed Resolution: Fiscal support for proctoring centers at college campuses – tabled until next meeting.

9. Wellness Break – skipped

11. Good of the Order/Announcements
LPC Games currently has 7 members. Fundraising should begin earlier for student scholarships, classified appreciation, and teaching and service awards; suggested donation will be $30 for each full-time faculty member. There are some nonfunctioning clocks in buildings 2400 and 1000. There will be an upcoming Day of the Dead trip through Community Education.

12. Adjourned: 3:39 pm

13. Next Regular Meeting: September 23, 2026

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

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87217426985

Dial: +1 669 900 6833
Meeting ID: 872 1742 6985