

LPC Mission Statement

Las Positas College is an inclusive learning-centered institution providing educational opportunities and support for completion of students' transfer, degree, basic skills, career-technical, and retraining goals.

LPC Planning Priorities

- ❖ Implement the integration of all ACCJC standards throughout campus structure and processes.
- ❖ Establish a knowledge base and an appreciation for equity; create a sense of urgency about moving toward equity; institutionalize equity in decision-making, assessment, and accountability; and build capacity to resolve inequities.
- ❖ Increase student success and completion through change in college practices and processes: coordinating needed academic support, removing barriers, and supporting focused professional development across the campus.

Horticulture Advisory

Members Present:

Carole	Frost
Cindy	Angers
Gina	Bonanna
Jacquie	Williams- Courtright
Jean	O'Neil-Opipari
Laura	Cornett
Lynn	Monica
Maryl	Moore
Michael	Soares
Nan	Ho
Regina	Brinker
Tom	Fuller
Tyler	Coen
Victor	Ruesga

Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order - Welcome and Introductions, 5:05**
Jean O'Neil-Opipari (LPC), Marlyn Moore (LVJUSD), Regina Brinker (ret LVJUSD), Nan Ho (LPC), Eric Santos (Brightview), Cindy Angers (LPC), Carole Frost (LPC), Lynn Monica (former Sunflower Hill), Victor Ruesga (Garden Whisperers)
2. **Review and Approval of Agenda** - Motion by Nan to approve, Carole seconds, approved unanimously
3. **Review and Approval of Minutes** - October 24, 2019, Motion by Nan to approve, Marilyn seconds, approved unanimously
4. **Industry Updates**
 - **Training and Hiring Needs**

Eric – Hiring freeze as customers reduce services, hopefully will not have to furlough anyone. Confusion if Landscaping is an essential service. Some cities not allowing landscaping to be done unless it impacts health and safety. Starting to impact people economically, confusion around small bus. Loans, employers cannot continue to pay employees, Scary right now.

Nan- How many employees will be affected?

Eric – Impacts vary from state to state. MI landscaping is not essential, CA it is, comply with CDC guideline. Staggered start times, cleaning equipment

Carole – Similar situation at Alden Lane. Cannot keep nursery open. Trying on-call orders, probably have full time to cut hours and cut staff. Not sustainable

Cindy – meeting with other landscape architects, how long? Could be Spring, Summer and maybe Fall.

Victor – similar challenges, can put people in nursery, getting the nursery up to speed, but no buyers, rotating landscape employees into nursery. Of 6 projects had to shut down 4. Clients are leery. Day to day process. Business since the late 70's, but this is different. Finances, revenue is trickling in, don't want to have to furlough. Applying for grant /loan, long term process.

Lynn- Sunflower Hill, classes shifting to online, figuring ways to do online videos, donating the produce. Positive, since only staff can go, Restart home garden. LPC might want to consider shifting to at home gardening for now online.

Regina – great idea to sell produce

Lynn – looking at ways to box produce to reduce interaction

Nan – do you have a place to donate to

Lynn – donate to Open Heart kitchen, Tri Valley Haven, Culinary Angels.

Nan – Hiring not a big deal right now. Are there training needs? Something that we wished we had in the workforce.

Lynn – use of technology needs to be part of the education process.

Carole – this situation is torture, because not technical

Lynn – opportunity for LPC to teach people who have been in the business for a while, new technology

Marlyn – different ways to promote business

Eric – on irrigation side, technology advancing quickly, smart controllers, pressure regulation coming, commercial maintenance, use of automated mowers, industry moving in that direction. Currently 4 guys on a truck 3 mowers of different sizes. Now 1 guy in a truck, but mowers are automated, guy starts the mower.

Lynn – sun flower hill one-acre farm, farmer maps out field, rows, map out crop planting. Uses lots of tools. Help farmers with planting, software? Uses free tools, will let you know. Tracking planting, harvesting, etc. Well managed. Sketch Up used for map

Cindy – LPC would love to learn more. For Landscape design use hand drafting. Use Word or excel. Love to have Auto CAD. Need for Photoshop. Hard to incorporate technology in one semester class. Cross list AutoCAD with Interior Design. AutoCAD needs to be its own class.

Nan- because AutoCAD cross listed interior design and Hort students can benefit. Think about how to incorporate technology. Many opportunities, home garden, technology, smart controllers, auto mowers

* Follow up with Horticulture and drone program

- **Emerging Trends**
- **Internship Opportunities**

Cindy – this semester 3 students interning in hort yard. Projects they can do safely at home (getting academic credit and being paid)

Lynn – one or two students working in garden until shutdown

Victor – open to interviewing interns in the nursery, production management, retail/whole sale nursery, fertilization, irrigation, pruning, a lot of care regardless of the ability to sell. Want to meet with someone to learn more about internship process. Cindy will talk to Victor about internship process.

Nan – can connect Victor to students

Victor – what level of hort is being taught at LPC?

Carole – doing a lot of the training that Victor is talking about, sustainable landscape, irrigation, next semester into to hort

Victor – need to be able to pay certified landscaper \$60/hour to make it worth their while. Some sort of program that interests students in landscape maintenance (irrigation, lighting, fertilization). Hard to hire maintenance employees, properly trained personnel, LPC can train students. Work with Susan Bellinger, if she knew **somebody who enjoyed measuring projects would be very helpful. Can give CAD wizzes work.** Herbaceous plant (plant id) material would be great.

Nan – hearing from many areas the need for CAD

Lynn – does LPC only teach organic management? Backyard gardening probably mostly organic, pest management, fertilization. Does LPC teach process to become organic certification requirements

Carole – LPC teaches both techniques, always teach IPM, stress organic methods

Nan- students may not know that certifications are offered. Other courses market certifications preparation. Horticulture needs to include that information into marketing

Marlyn – industry standards taught so that student can get certification. Need to market course preparation for certifications.

5. Faculty Report

• Enrollments

Carole – enrollment 16 students, many students taking for their own enjoyment. Many students in the industry trying to get raises and promotion. Several students in industry that want to be certified. Pay raise usually go with certification. Tom mentioned Hort therapy, but Carole does not have that background. Online classes are a huge challenge. This week doing a Zoom class. Technology is a challenge. Hard with hort because you physically need to get your hands on the plants.

Nan – working hard to increase enrollment. Trying to run 3 classes a semester (18, 16, 11). Normally cap at 20. Want to run classes so that students can complete degree.

Went online in 2 days. Most of CTE and STEM is hands on. Hoping to hold a class in summer. Faculty developed relationships with students. 100% online in summer. Can faculty really meet the needs online. Turf grass class was pulled. Also cancelled the Adaptive Horticulture this semester. Hope things go back to normal in the fall.

Courses not approved for online learning so entire system got blanket approval for online for Spring, Summer and possibly fall. Students and faculty did not sign up for online.

Thank you for support and advice. Adaptive Hort on schedule for Fall, 2020.

Horticulture facility: growing grounds, green house, shade house, at top of campus. Relatively simple building, do not know when will break ground. Classes 2021? Understanding industry needs helps to inform building. Farm to table with Nutrition. Build out Ag side.

Tom – change name of program so students understand what the program is. Send info to advisory board

Regina – can LPC become a test center for certifications and drones

Action item for LPC – horticulture therapy training

6. Recommendations from Advisory Board

7. Good of the Order

8. Adjournment: 6:40 by Nan Ho

9. Next Regular Meeting: Tuesdays September 29, 4:30 tentative