



LAS POSITAS
COLLEGE

CONNECTION

December 2025

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President



Expanding Our Reach: Las Positas Approved as a CVC Teaching College

Las Positas College has been approved as a Teaching College on the California Virtual Campus Exchange, which now allows students across California to enroll directly in LPC's fully online courses after local priority registration. This designation strengthens LPC's ability to stabilize and grow enrollment while contributing more visibly to the state's online education network.

Two factors will increase LPC's prominence on the Exchange. Courses that complete the Peer Online Course Review process receive a Quality Reviewed badge that places them higher in student search results and tends to improve both fill rates and student outcomes. Courses with Zero Textbook Cost also receive special visibility and help remove cost barriers that often affect persistence and completion.

To support the transition, LPC has created a clear service model for students who enroll through the Exchange. Students receive core services from their home college and can access tutoring, disability services, and other academic support through LPC. A new CVC Exchange webpage consolidates guidance for students and the staff who work with them.

This milestone reflects strong cross-district collaboration and sustained leadership from instructional technology, counseling, and enrollment teams. Becoming a Teaching College expands opportunities for students across the state while reinforcing LPC's commitment to high quality, accessible online education.

In This Issue:

1. Las Positas College Approved as a CVC Teaching College
2. LPC Students Published and Aired on KQED and NPR
3. LPC Business Club Earns Awards at FBLA Conference
4. LPC's Fall Open House Draws Strong Attendance
5. Talk Hawks Win Bear Cub
6. LPC Fall Athletics Shine
7. Year End Breakfast big success, featuring 2X the bacon



How It Works for Students Throughout California

1

Search for online courses offered at other California Community Colleges when you can't find what you need at your own college.

2

Add the class you're looking for without filling out a new application.

3

If eligible, your registration will be confirmed within minutes!

Six LPC Students Published and Aired on KQED & NPR Youth Perspectives Series

KQED

npr

PBS

Six Las Positas College students were selected for publication by KQED as part of its Youth Perspectives series, a statewide platform that amplifies student voices on issues shaping their lives and communities. Five of the essays have already aired on public radio. Two of the selected writers are Puente students, with the remaining essays coming from an English course. Students were invited to the KQED studio in San Francisco to record their pieces, and each received compensation for their work.

The student essays reflect a range of personal and timely topics. Bryan Llanos writes about guiding his parents through complex immigration paperwork. Andrea Ibañez explores the challenges of mastering English grammar as an immigrant. Andrea Solis examines rebuilding a sense of identity after a mental health crisis. Jaden Vassallo critiques the affordability of the United States healthcare system. Esmeralda Reyes writes about reducing overconsumption, while Valeriia Shykarenko reflects on adjusting to life in the United States after immigrating from Ukraine.

KQED is one of the largest public media organizations in the nation and serves as a major NPR and PBS member station for Northern California. Its Perspectives and Youth Perspectives series offer short, first person commentaries broadcast on public radio and published online.



Andrea Ibanez



Andrea Solis



Esmeralda Reyes



Jaden Vassallo



Valeriia Shykarenko



Bryan Llanos

LPC Business Club Earns Awards at FBLA Conference

LPC Business Club students earned three awards at the Fall California Future Business Leaders of America State Business Leadership Conference in San Diego on November 8 and 9. Competing against students from two and four year colleges, LPC teams won second place in the Finance Case Competition and second and fourth place in the Entrepreneurship Pitch Competition.



Twenty eight LPC students attended the conference, which included business speakers, workshops, and five competitive events. Elena Minasyan, state FBLA president and LPC chapter director of events, credited the students' preparation and teamwork for the strong results.

The LPC Business Club, a chapter of FBLA, now includes 81 members from across majors and offers workshops, presentations, and leadership opportunities. These statewide recognitions highlight the strength of LPC's business program and the growing engagement of its student leaders.

New Fall Open House Draws Strong Attendance

Las Positas College hosted its Fall Open House on November 15, shifting the event from spring to fall to reach high school students at the moment they are exploring college options and applying to four year universities. The change proved effective. Approximately 425 attendees visited campus, making it one of the strongest fall recruitment events LPC has held in recent years. Families moved through a full schedule of activities, including information sessions on transfer pathways, financial aid, and the Honors Transfer Program.

An Academic and Resource Fair brought together faculty and staff from every major instructional and student support area, offering visitors direct access to programs across Arts and Humanities, STEM, Public Safety, Early Childhood Education, and more. Students and families also met representatives from key support programs, including the Career and Transfer Center, Financial Aid, Middle College, DSPS, Veterans First, and culturally focused learning communities.



Throughout the day, student Ambassadors led active campus tours, while specialized tours showcased the Performing Arts Center, Public Safety Complex, and the new Horticulture and Viticulture facilities. The welcoming atmosphere was amplified by LPC Student Government's Igloo Coffee Station at check in and the strong energy from faculty and staff across campus.



By moving the event into the fall recruitment cycle, LPC is now positioned as a viable, attractive, and affordable option during the critical decision window for prospective students and families. The turnout and engagement levels demonstrate continued community confidence in LPC and reinforce the college's role as a top educational institution recognized for strong academic, transfer and career pathways.

LPC Talk Hawks Win Bear Cub Invitational

The LPC Talk Hawks Forensics Team earned top honors at the Bear Cub Invitational hosted by Santa Rosa Junior College, finishing first among 21 competing colleges and universities. This marks the team's second consecutive tournament championship this season, underscoring the strength and depth of LPC's competitive speech program.

Students competed in novice and open divisions across multiple speaking and interpretation events, bringing home numerous individual awards. Standout results included first place finishes in Novice Informative Speaking, Novice Speech to Entertain, Open Impromptu Speaking, and Novice Communication Analysis, along with several second and third place awards across persuasive speaking, duo interpretation, prose, poetry, and communication analysis.

The team is coached by Jim Dobson, Tim Heisler, and Brendan Sullivan, who continue to guide one of the most consistently successful community college forensics programs in the state.



LPC Athletics Shine in an Exceptional Fall Season



LPC athletics delivered an impressive Fall 2025 season marked by major team and individual achievements. The Women's Swim and Dive team captured the Coast Conference Championship, adding another title to a program known for depth and consistency.

Men's Soccer also posted one of its strongest seasons, finishing 13–5–5 and ranked 14th in the nation. Team captain Arteen Arianmanesh earned First Team All American honors from United Soccer Coaches, and goalkeeper Sahib Sandhu received All Regional recognition, reflecting the program's growing competitiveness.

The season also included a career milestone for Men's Basketball Coach James Giacomazzi, who recorded his 400th career win, a benchmark that underscores his long standing leadership in California community college athletics.



LPC Mission

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.

College 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.

LPC's Annual Year End Breakfast



LPC administrators hosted the annual end of year breakfast on Thursday, December 4 to thank faculty, classified professionals, fellow administrators, and student leaders for their work throughout the year. The event was held for the first time in the new Cultural Community Center, which provided a warm and welcoming setting for the celebration.

This year's menu expanded to include waffles and double the bacon alongside the traditional breakfast offerings. Administrators added a playful touch by wearing Big Red themed aprons and participating in a photo project that required each of them to climb into a cardboard box so their portraits could later be assembled into a image grid.

The gathering offered a simple but meaningful opportunity for colleagues to connect, reflect, and close the calendar year in a spirit of appreciation and community.

