



LAS POSITAS
COLLEGE

CONNECTION

January 2026

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

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President



District Dominance: Las Positas Men's Basketball Takes Care of Business vs. Chabot



Las Positas College's men's basketball team claimed bragging rights in a spirited district showdown, defeating sister college Chabot **83-68** this past Wednesday night at The Nest. The win improved the Hawks to 16-1 overall and 3-0 in Coast Conference-North play, keeping them tied for first place with top-ranked City College of San Francisco. Ranked ninth in the state, Las Positas continues to establish itself as one of California's top programs.

The Hawks appeared firmly in control after building a 16-point halftime lead, but Chabot made things interesting early in the second half, trimming the margin to four. Las Positas quickly responded, however, turning up the defensive pressure and reclaiming momentum behind the leadership of its sophomore core.

Jaden Woodard led all scorers with 23 points, while Kodey Weary added 19 and Richard Banks contributed 18. Freshman center Ted Bigg-Wither made his presence felt on both ends of the floor, protecting the paint and helping shut down Chabot's comeback attempt as the Hawks pulled away late.

Chabot was led by Zion Yeargin with 20 points, but the night belonged to Las Positas, which reminded its district rival that The Nest remains a tough place to play. The teams will meet again on February 6, when Chabot will look for a little revenge...and Las Positas will look to keep the rivalry trophy right where it belongs!

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Alan Lewis

Student Pitch New Ventures at Pitch Night



Las Positas College hosted a Fall 2025 Pitch Night for students in the Entrepreneurship course, giving emerging founders the chance to present their business ideas to panels of faculty, staff, friends of the college, and local business leaders.

Each student had five minutes to pitch and two minutes for questions from judges, with six teams presenting in each breakout room. Judges evaluated presentations using LPC's pitch rubric, which covers clarity of language, organization, content strength, delivery, visual design, and feasibility, as well as the quality of answers during the Q and A.

A total of six groups competed, creating a lively evening that blended innovation, presentation skills, and real time feedback. Judges commented on the high level of preparation and creativity across the proposals, and students used the post event networking time to connect with mentors and community partners.

The top prize of \$500 was awarded to Maria Aung, with second place and \$300 going to Mohammad Nowrozy, and third place and \$200 going to Katie Buerke. The prize funding was made possible through a generous donation from former LPC student and local business owner Richard Howard, who also served as a judge. The event brought strong energy to the Entrepreneurship program and highlighted how community support and applied learning create meaningful opportunities for LPC students.



LPC Student Honored with ITV DreamMaker and RiskTaker Award



Las Positas College student Sidhant (Sid) Parashar was selected as the college's 2025 honoree for Innovation Tri Valley's DreamMakers and RiskTakers Awards, a regional recognition that celebrates young innovators from local school districts, TVROP, and LPC. The award highlights students whose work demonstrates creativity, innovation, and a commitment to solving real world challenges.

Sidhant was recognized for leading the development of a collegewide mentoring program that uses artificial intelligence and machine learning to match students with mentors who share similar goals and experiences.

His project is designed to strengthen support networks for international and community college students, groups that often face additional barriers to academic and career advancement. His broader research blends mathematics and social justice, including analysis of immigration policy and the development of a new investment model intended to widen financial access.



Sidhant's work has already received national attention. He has been invited to present at conferences hosted by UC Berkeley, the University of Pennsylvania, UC Riverside, and Metropolitan State University of Denver. His selection as LPC's DreamMaker and RiskTaker honoree reflects the college's growing culture of student innovation and the value of partnerships like Innovation Tri Valley that shine a spotlight on emerging leaders in the region.

A small team from Las Positas College recently visited UC Davis to explore new opportunities for students interested in transferring into the university's nationally regarded Viticulture and Enology program. The LPC group included Paula Checchi, Dean of STEM, Brianna Lopez, Faculty and Department Chair of Viticulture and Winery Technology, Craig Kutil, Articulation Officer and Mathematics Professor, and Chip Woerner, Director of Marketing.

The visit grew out of outreach from Brianna Lopez, who has been working with UC Davis partners to help align LPC's curriculum with UC Davis transfer requirements and to improve the credit mobility of students pursuing viticulture and enology. UC Davis faculty and staff offered to host LPC for an in depth look at the program's facilities and to discuss academic pathways, career opportunities, and ways to strengthen collaboration.

The agenda included a tour of the Robert Mondavi Institute's winery and laboratory spaces and conversations about drone technology in vineyard management, followed by a session focused on articulation agreements and advising support for transfer students.

The LPC group met with Dr. Ben Montpetit, Department Chair, along with Alejandra Hernandez, Student Recruitment and Communications Coordinator, and Elizabeth Price, Undergraduate Program Advisor. The visit underscored the strong alignment between LPC's viticulture program and UC Davis's transfer expectations, and it opened the door to further partnership planning in spring.



Winter Intersession Delivers Strong First-Year Results

* Las Positas College's first-ever Winter Intersession, held from December 20 through January 17, concluded with strong outcomes and positive student feedback. Designed to give students a flexible way to earn credit during winter break, the pilot term exceeded expectations in both enrollment and performance.

The college offered 35 fully online course sections, which reached a 95% fill rate. In total, Winter Intersession generated 135 FTES supported by 6 FTEF, resulting in a productivity rate of 21, an especially strong showing for a short-term academic session.

Operationally, the intersession ran smoothly with no major issues reported. From a student perspective, feedback was very positive. Several students noted that the courses were rigorous and substantive, emphasizing that the content felt "legit" and not watered down despite the compressed timeline. Most students enrolled in one course, with a small number taking two or more.

Overall, the successful launch of Winter Intersession demonstrated strong student demand, academic integrity, and operational viability, positioning it as a valuable addition to LPC's academic calendar moving forward.

Winter Intersession

CATCH UP OR GET AHEAD
Use your Winter break to fill a gap or get ahead on your degree with a fast, online course.



December 20, 2025, to January 17, 2026

Strengthening LPC's Presence in Local High Schools

LPC's Outreach and Marketing teams have launched a coordinated effort to strengthen LPC's visibility inside the counseling offices of local high schools. The initiative focuses on meeting students where they make decisions about college and careers by upgrading the physical presence of LPC materials in those high-traffic advising spaces. To date, the team has visited seven of the ten high schools in the service area and has significantly expanded or refreshed LPC's footprint in each location, in some cases doubling the amount of information available to students.



Emerald HS in Dublin **Before**



Emerald HS in Dublin **After**

The effort is built around a “takeover” model in which Outreach and Marketing collaborate with each high school's counseling manager to design a customized installation plan. Each school receives a tailored kit that reflects its student interests and space constraints. The updated kits include more than 40 new trifold brochures highlighting LPC academic programs and departments, an overview brochure titled Dream Big, Start Here, as well as flyers, posters, stickers, and acrylic display stands that present information in a clean and accessible format.

By improving visibility across multiple campuses, LPC is positioning itself more clearly as a smart and high value option for local students planning their next steps after graduation. The project also reinforces the college's ongoing relationships with counseling teams in the region and creates a more direct pathway for students to learn about programs, transfer opportunities, and support services at LPC.



Tracy HS **After**

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

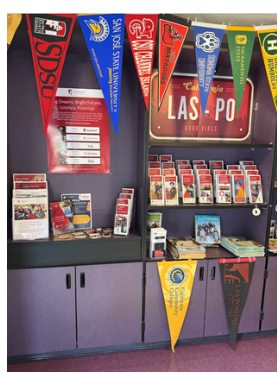
Affirm LPC's unwavering commitment to equity by deepening campus-wide engagement, enhancing professional development, embedding equity-minded practices in decision-making, assessment, and accountability processes; and building capacity to resolve inequities.

Increase student success and completion through sustainable college practices, processes, academic support, removal of barriers, and focused professional development.

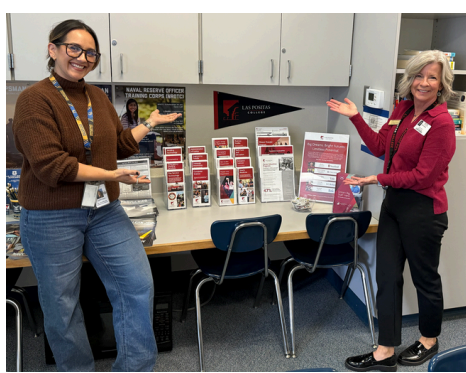
Establish a knowledge base and appreciation for health and wellness in the workplace; create a sense of urgency about wellness; prioritize wellness in decision-making, assessment and accountability; and build capacity to support wellness.



Amador HS **Before**



Amador HS **After**



Foothill HS **After**