



# Biological Sciences Advisory DRAFT Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2023 | 5:00 pm | 1687 or Zoom

## 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

❖ 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.

Committee Name	Quorum
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### Voting Members:

Chandra Khantwal

Dana Nakase      Yolanda Fintchesko

Dianna Maar

George Farquar

Jason Maxwell

Jean O'Neil-Opipari

Kai Blaisdell

Josie Sette

Kristen Wolslegal

Linnea Fletcher

Tom Orf

Nicholas Heredia

Nicole Shapiro

Petter Mattei

Pornima Rao

Robert Saul

Sahar El-ETr

Segal Boaz

Stephanie Sibert

Stevan Jovanovich

Sulatha Dwarakanath

Victoria VanderNoot

## Agenda Item

### 1. Call to Order

- Jason, Dana, George, Kai, Tom Orf, Nicole Shapiro (Blackhawk Genomics), Stevan, Nick Heredia, Diana Maar (email for new company), Yolanda

### 2. Review and Approval of Agenda

Moved Nicole, 2<sup>nd</sup> Segal, motion carries

### 3. Review and Approval of Minutes, March 30, 2023

George, Segal, Nicole, Tom abstain, Motion Carries

### 4. Industry Updates

- Emerging Trends, Industry needs
  - Tons of layoffs happening in this space
  - Hardest it has ever been to raise funds, will affect internships
  - Hiring experienced personnel could be easier now
  - Lot of talent on the market now
  - AS lab jobs become more scarce, marketing, sales, and other careers may open
  - Diversity of skills is very important, degree does not matter as much
  - Bench jobs scarce; what is the next step
  - Regulatory positions may be an opportunity
  - Shortage in clinical labs, talk about a shortage of technicians. Need to be licensed in the state of CA (CLS) (To do CPR, toxicology)
  - Share this info with LPC counselors
- Internship/Employment Opportunities

### 5. Program Report

- Enrollment (slides)
  - LPC enrollment up 15% from fall, 2022
  - Biology enrollment up
- Updates on ATE Grant (Bio-bagdes)
  - New biotech experiences incorporated into bio majors
  - In future students will learn to build LinkedIn profile and can add digital badges to it
  - Students get badged in the first couple of semesters
  - Micro balance training important
  - Skill – how to buffer

- Can you make a solution of a specific concentration and volume
- Would like to incorporate serial dilutions into cell and molecular biology class
  - Understanding the limitations of tools
- Fear of math is a problem, lack of skills built during COVID
  - It's okay to be bad at math, just don't be afraid of it
  - Check each other
  - Have students remember key equations
- Teach proper lab skills: washing, closing down the lab at the end of the day, proper chemical handling
- Is LPC connected to developers building affordable housing (EIR)? Construction requires environmental impact reports (ecology, zoology).
  - Yolanda will look at contacts through the city of Livermore
  - Grants available for outdoor, environmental work (bird counting, owl habitat, etc)
- Offering Bioinformatics & Field Biology this Spring
  - Watching enrollment, probably won't have leeway for enrollment numbers
- Update on Biotech Bootcamp follow-up
  - 2 weeks full or almost full
  - Transition from camp to noncredit course
    - May make general enrollment easier
    - Noncredit course offered this summer
    - Funding more stable
- Biology and Botany positions will be posted during the Spring semester
- Angel new full time biology/anatomy instructor
  - Allied Health position
  - Botanist position
- Update on STEAM Building
  - Smith Group architecture firm
  - Early in the process
  - Fall, lab design, and building design meetings
  - Forward-facing flexible lab space that people from off campus can use- still in planning phase
  - 7 labs
  - Three major concepts for project
    - Canopy
    - Terrace
    - Crossing

## 6. Good of the Order

- Nick and George had a great time guest speaking at the Biotech Bootcamp
  - Kai also learned something new
- Diana values her community college experience and the solid base it gave her.
- LPC college rankings, #1

## 7. Adjournment

- Moved by Nick and Jason 2<sup>nd</sup>, adjourned at 6:00

## 8. Tentative date for next regular meeting:

Thursday, May 16, 2024, 5:00 – 6:30 PM hybrid