



ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

April 24, 2024 | 2:30 – 4:30 pm | Room 21147 + zoom for visitors

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.

LPC Academic Senate Quorum: 8

Non-Voting Members:

President: Ashley Young
Student Government: Aanya Joshi
Faculty Association: Heike Gecox

Voting Members:

President-Elect:
Vice President: Collin Thormoto
Secretary: Christina Lee
Treasurer: Ashley McHale
BSSL: Robin Roy, Daniel Cearley
A & H: John Kelly, Catherine Suarez
STEM: Jennifer Siders, David Montelongo
PATH: Scott Miner
Student Services: Christina Lee, Julie Nguyen
Part Time Representatives: Jeff Judd, Valerie Connors

1. **Call to Order:** meeting called to order and quorum established at 2:37 pm.
2. **Confirmation of Senators attending by Zoom:** none
3. **Review and Approval of Agenda:** motion to approve (Ashley McHale)/second (Christina Lee)/discussion: none/ approved
4. **Review and Approval of Minutes (April 10, 2024):** *attached* motion to approve (Ashley McHale)/second (Collin Thormoto)/discussion: none/approved; one abstention
5. **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 these items. NONE*
6. **Action Items:**
 - 6.2 Approval of revised SLO Committee Charge, presented at last meeting: motion to approve (Ashley McHale)/second (Julie Nguyen)/discussion: shared governance question regarding determining quorum; where to find the governance documents that are searchable; page 22 of shared governance handbook: "an unappointed seat does not count when determining a quorum"/motion to table/motion to call for a vote (Ashley McHale)/approved
 - 6.3 Approval of LPC Climate Action Plan Academic Senate Resolution presented at last meeting: motion to approve (Ashley McHale)/second (John Kelly)/discussion: none/approved
7. **Consent Items:** none
8. **Reports**
 - 8.1 LPC Student Government (Aanya Joshi)
 - 8.2 CTE (Melissa Korber): the committee met yesterday with West Ed Consultants who are putting together the local comprehensive needs assessment; the draft is due mid-May. They are trying to get data from faculty, students and advisory committee members. Please fill out the form Vicki Shipman sent out. Melissa prepared an email for faculty to distribute to students; Vicki is preparing the email for advisory committee members.

Question about the advisory board input: should these be available earlier next year to send on to CTE?

8.3 SLO Committee (John Rosen)

8.4 Program Review Committee (Nadiyah Taylor)

8.5 CEMC/DEMC (Ashley Young)

Heike Gecox: for spring we are up 15.1% over last year's enrollment at this time. We have just started summer and fall registration.

The New Hawk event was very successful; 375 registered with 200 walk-ins. Students were able to register and sign up for classes on the spot. The outreach team was well organized. There were two parent presentations and campus tours. This will be a continuing event, with staffing planned for an attendance of 500.

8.6 Faculty Hiring Prioritization (Heike Gecox): they met in March for a computer science emergency replacement due to a resignation. This was sent to the president who is not hiring at this time. In April a library emergency replacement due to retirement was sent to the president; no final decision has been made.

For the replacement form we want to report headcount by discipline and FTES over FTEF to create data.

8.7 District Technology Committee (Jeff Judd):

- Continuing CRM Recruit Revise training.
- Banner migration has provided more data encryption.
- The district is working on an electronic communications guide policy. Text cannot be your only mode; email will be the main communication method for district and campus.
- How often should mass emails be sent out to prevent saturation? A committee is addressing this.
- Patricia Shannon from Chabot gave a presentation on student use of AI and detection methods. She requests a district policy regarding AI use by students. Chabot has a "Jedi council" regarding AI; Jeff suggests we reach out to them, so AI policies are created cross-campus. Question about the work Catherine Suarez and Katie Eagan have been working on.

8.8 Guided Pathways (Christina Lee)

- Four Lead positions for next year have been filled:
Guided Pathway Coordinators will be Jill Carbone and Nadiyah Taylor
GP Technology and Ambassador Coordinators will be Jared Howard and Kristy Woods
- Guided Pathways Steering Committee meetings will be shifting from 1 pm – 3 pm to 11 – 1 pm, still on the 3rd Fridays of the month. This move is to accommodate committee members who have to attend the standing District and FA committees.

8.9 Professional Development Committee (David Powers)

8.10 District Compressed Calendar Committee (Craig Kutil)

8.11 Division reports:

A & H members want to talk to the Academic Senate regarding the GE task force on local AA/AA-T degrees. The advice is to start with public comments as this matter will go first to the Curriculum Committee before Academic Senate. They may want to talk to (or submit by writing) concerns to the Curriculum Committee for public comments.

Catherine spoke to her students: How do they feel about GE requirements? Should US history from high school count for college credit? Overall, they wanted to take college level US history and they approved the GE requirements.

STEM: STEM degrees are heavy in units, and they are requesting data from Chabot and other colleges. They have questions about students attending both Chabot and LPC.

BSSL: focused on the AA pattern, fewer requirements/more options would make it easier to graduate. Can categories be combined? If both easy and hard courses are a choice, do we want to guide toward the most important courses?

Student Services: counselors are on the task force. There are differing opinions, but they are all represented on the task force.

8.12 Treasurer (Ashley McHale): thanks for everyone's contribution to the successful Classified Appreciation Event! Thanks to Ashley Young for her party planning. It was well attended. Ashley is not running for Treasurer next year; consider being nominated.

8.13 President (Ashley Young)

She attended the state plenary last weekend; highlights include:

- Faculty diversity was discussed; suggesting internships – having students becoming tutors to better reflect the student body
- There is a state grant for increasing diversity (Peralta, Lake Tahoe have received this) and we can see how to get this grant. Increasing our part time diversity should be addressed.
- The Rising Scholars program is for prisons, not jails, as there has to be 6-8 courses offered and inmates have to be housed for the duration of the course.
- There was a session on sustainability.
- AI session: looking at using AI for innovation and justice for disabled, and equity in general, and teaching technology skills needed in the future. AI reflects our society, so bias is built in. It needs to be reviewed for bias and be accessible on phones. Suggestion to have AI be a Flex Day keynote. ASCCC has an AI resource document.

At the last board meeting Dan Cearley made his LPC Climate presentation. Wyman Fong is retiring

LPC and UC Merced signed a Promise agreement to increase transfers.

9. Old Business

9.1: Academic Senate Elections updates (Christina Lee and John Kelly): Candidates are Ashley Young, President, Ashley McHale for president elect and Collin Thormoto for secretary. Looking for a treasurer candidate, and part time representatives. They are setting up the online voting for early May 6 -13 for confirmation voting at our last meeting on May 22. Valerie Connors and Jeff Judd are nominated for part time representatives. Catherine Suarez is nominated for Treasurer.

Candidate statements will be distributed.

9.2 Part time faculty presentation updates (Ashley Young): Presentations on benefits will be held next Thursday, Friday, and Monday. Emails were sent to all part timers with the zoom links, and Jeff will follow up with part timers. No plans yet for recording sessions.

9.3 Academic Senate statement regarding the Compressed Calendar - Division feedback, and feedback received from Dan Cearley (Ashley Young):

A & H: recognized there was a spread of opinions from faculty; no clear action to be taken. Request more information from students and classified about their resolutions (both were regarding needing more information, which may not exist or have not been collated).

STEM: a series of statements was presented and no consensus for the Academic Senate to report on. Should we use students to gather more information, such as an honors project?

BSSL: their statement would generally request more data; is this going to come from top down in the future? What research is available for colleges using a compressed calendar? How does this show up in our contract? We have to work a certain number of days per contract. They thought not to stop the discussion but review available research. No significant improvements have been presented.

Student Services: Mixed responses regarding the alternative compressed calendar. Need more information before making the decision (i.e., how would a sample schedule look like especially for science/math majors). Others felt there wasn't sufficient data that showed students performed at or at a better rate in a compressed calendar. Wondered whether or not students would be successful in a faster paced term while taking 15 units.

Overall, we want more information, and this could be an honors project for students. Ashley and Robin will discuss this.

9.4 Academic Senate subcommittee updates: will continue meeting next semester

Credit by Examination

AI and Student Plagiarism

Common Syllabus

Part time Faculty Equity

Increasing Faculty Diversity

Faculty Professional Development to Increase Student Retention and Completion

10. New Business

10.1 Division input for FA: items to bring up for next contract (Heike Gecox): email her.

Issues raised:

- concern with workload regarding compensation
- lower class sizes
- more reassigned time

Issues for club advisors: faculty volunteer for club advisors; student life is necessary, so advisors are needed; how hard it is to get paperwork through for club reimbursements (receipts not accepted, for example). At times students and/or faculty have to pay for club expenses or wait for months to be reimbursed.

When faculty are on sabbatical, they are called back to campus for part of their responsibilities – this is already covered in the contract; you can teach for overtime, but you can't be made to attend meetings, etc. When there are one-person departments, they are discouraged to take sabbatical. Question about sabbatical replacement hires? There have been full time sabbatical replacements in the past.

10.2 Academic Senate awards committee (Outstanding Service and Distinguished Teaching): Robin Roy, Catherine Suarez and Ashley Young. Forms will be sent out for nominations and the committee requests statements. The review committee selects the two awardees to be presented on College Day.

10.3 Substantiative Change for DE (Scott Vigallon): attached

The application was reviewed. This application was required because we have a high percentage of students taking DE courses or courses with a DE component (50% or higher).

10.4 Review of Academic Senate Constitution: attached

Any changes would be voted on by the entire faculty. Items to review:

Part time faculty voting: add "part timers who have taught 3 units in the current academic year are eligible to vote;" question about determining eligibility, how would this be tracked?

Can IT pull this list?

President elect position: the idea is that they would become the president in the future. This is a misleading term; it is really the vice president. The idea was that there should be an informed president elect who would assume the presidency.

This was to be a four-year cycle: president elect acting as a vice president; then assumes presidency for two years; then becomes past president for a year. The past president role has not been successful.

Question about vice president: the president can appoint a new officer confirmed by the Academic Senate if there is no president-elect.

Discussion tabled until fall.

10.5 Review of Academic Senate Bylaws: attached

The names of the constitution and bylaws should be reversed. We should look at models.

Discussion tabled until fall.

11. Announcements/Information Items

AGS convention: David Powers was awarded the outstanding advisor award; our two students attending won scholarships: the Walsh and Coffee Scholarships

12. Adjourn: meeting adjourned at 4:24 pm.

13. Next Meeting: MAY 8, 2024