



# Academic Senate Minutes

August 28, 2024 | 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm | Room 21147 + Zoom for visitors

## Agenda Item

### 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.
- ❖ 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 Academic Senate

Quorum: 7

#### Non-Voting Members:

President: Ashley Young  
Student Government: TBD  
Faculty Association: Heike Gecox

#### Voting Members:

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

- 1. Call to Order:** meeting called to order and quorum established at 2:30 pm. No senators in Zoom attendance.
- 2. Review and Approval of Agenda:** motion to approve (Ashley McHale)/seconded (Robin Roy)/discussion (none)/approved
- 3. Review and Approval of Minutes (May 24, 2024):** motion to approve (Ashley McHale)/seconded (Robin Roy)/discussion? Requested that Item 6 be changed from Vice President to President-Elect.  
  
Motion to approve with above amendment: (Ashley McHale)/seconded (Robin Roy)/approved
- 4. 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
- 5. Consent Items:** motion to approve 5.1-5.4 (Ashley McHale)/seconded (John Kelly)/approved
  - 5.1 Early Childhood Assistant hiring committee: Lyndale Gardner
  - 5.2 Instructional Technology Coordinator hiring committee: Barbara Zingg
  - 5.3 STEM division Senior Administrative Assistant hiring committee: Jennie Graham
  - 5.4 MESA Program Coordinator, Senior Administrative Assistant hiring committee: Carlos Moreno and Jennifer Decker
- 6. Action Items:** None
- 7. Reports: determine reporting schedule – 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**
  - 7.1 LPC Student Government: Will report on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday  
None
  - 7.2 CTE (Melissa Korber): Will report on 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday  
CTE Committee met and were presented with data from Rajinder Samra regarding CTE outcomes (included data from Santa Rosa Junior College and LPC). LPC CTE post-program earnings closely

match state averages. 95% of CTE alumni report being satisfied or very satisfied with the program.

Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) benefits discussed – the state is pushing for CPL since it can help enrollment.

### 7.3 SLO Committee (John Rosen): 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

SLO Committee met and discussed transition to CurricUNET; CurricUNET operates similarly to current software but is aesthetically different and will allow LPC to have a centralized point for data (including Student Area Outcomes). CurricUNET is customizing a platform for LPC and debuted a sandbox demo for the committee. Changes were suggested and the committee will meet with CurricUNET again to view the next draft. The goal is to have the platform completed by the end of Fall semester.

### 7.4 Program Review Committee (Nadiyah Taylor): 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

Karin Spirn will now chair this committee. Committee meetings overlap with Academic Senate meetings so a written report will likely be sent for future communications. Program data packets are now available on the website and are due in November.

7.5 CEMC/DEMC (Ashley Young): David Powers pulled LPC-specific data from district reports. Fall 2024 enrollment is up 8% compared to Fall 2023 and fill rates are also higher (96% fill rate as of this week). Further growth will be required to ensure we remain on hold harmless.

Question regarding how we can be expected to improve when we are currently at a 96% fill rate? Growth is reviewed annually with frequent budgetary allocation discussions. Clarification that growth from one academic year is used to determine allocation two years later; Fall 2024 growth will determine what our allocation will be in Fall 2026 so our current budget was determined by Fall 2022. It is also important to note that both enrollment and productivity are targets in these discussions.

Question about potential issues with classes being full beyond the listed capacity and if we get extra “points” for going over capacity? There are many variables that go into determinations. Cross-listed sections were used as an example. One full class could have 3 cross-listed sections, one of which is completely full, another filled halfway, and the last empty; the empty section, if not cancelled, will show as 0 enrollment. Another example is if a class capacity is raised to accommodate additional students, but several students later drop, this results in the class appearing to be below capacity.

Question regarding what happens to the FTEF when a class is cancelled – does it go to a general pot or does it return to the respective division? Anytime there is a class cancellation, Academic Services determines where the FTEF can best be utilized.

7.6 Faculty Hiring Prioritization (formerly Heike Gecox, not yet determined who the replacement will be):  
None

7.7 District Technology Committee (Jeff Judd): None

7.8 Guided Pathways (Nadiyah Taylor [note: Kristy Woods listed on agenda but Nadiyah Taylor and Jill Carbone are now co-chairs]): Academic and Career Pathways can be viewed on Canvas by any enrolled student. Let Nadiyah or Jill know if access for faculty is requested.

Reminder that reaching out to students via Canvas, email, or Pronto is a good way for students to feel

connected, which can improve student persistence. Pronto can be enabled, which acts like a texting app, and auto-translates into other languages.

President Foster spoke about the HSI grant on College Day; we are still waiting on an official letter but hope to get the program up and running in October. There are plans to set up a student success hub in the 1600 building where students can drop in and get various questions answered. There are efforts being made to recruit student ambassadors to assist with event tabling and peer support.

7.9 Professional Development Committee (David Powers): Will report on 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

None

7.10 Removed – duplicate

7.11 Removed – duplicate

7.12 A.I. Honesty (Catherine Suarez): Presentation attached

This was recently presented to the Vice Presidents and Deans. The highlighted area shows LPC's current policy on A.I. plagiarism but it is not expansive enough. The policy needs to also include non-traditional forms of plagiarism (examples include plagiarized dances performed in dance classes and plagiarized paintings submitted in art classes). Students and faculty need to have a stronger understanding of A.I. in order to determine how it can effectively and ethically be used. Faculty needs to trust and embrace changing technology rather than fear and ban it from use. Perhaps this can be further discussed in a flex day session.

There is available funding for a small group of Academic Senate members to attend an A.I. workshop at Foothill College.

Question regarding if A.I. in relation to linguistic justice has been discussed? The plan is for the new policy to include language regarding English linguistics and have it reviewed by Michelle Gonzales and Erick Bell.

Question if the demonization of A.I. will be discussed (example of calculators being used in math class)? This will be addressed when a future committee is formed.

7.13 Treasurer (Catherine Suarez): Will report at both meetings

None

7.14 President (Ashley Young): Will report at both meetings

Notable topics from summer board meetings included a response to noise complaints for Chabot batting cages that may have sourced semi-inaccurate data and four board of trustee seats being up for election this year.

7.14 Divisions

- BSSL (Robin Roy, Collin Thormoto): None
- A&H (John Kelly, Catherine Suarez): None
- STEM (David Montelongo, Jennifer Siders): None
- PATH: None
- Student Services (Ryan Eckles, Julie Nguyen): None
- Part Time Representatives (Jeff Judd, Valerie Connors): None

8. Old Business

None

## 9. New Business

None

## 10. Good of the Order/Announcements

- Concerns regarding leaning on faculty to make campus-related announcements to students. Faculty may not always be able to disseminate information and students may miss out on opportunities (Welcome Week, for example). Global announcements are posted on Canvas but are usually related to items with deadlines, like graduation deadlines. Discussion regarding utilization of website calendar.

11. Adjourn: meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm

12. Next Meeting: September 11, 2024

## **Brainstorming for Academic Senate Goals (to be fully discussed in future meetings)**

- Health and well-being
- A.I. honesty
- Opening athletic facilities for faculty
- Increase Academic Senate senators
- More faculty involvement in committees
- Review bylaws and constitutions
- Create social opportunities for faculty