



ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

January 22, 2025 | 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm | Room 21147 + Zoom for visitors

Agenda Item – Zoom information at end of agenda

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.

Academic Senate Quorum: 7

Non-Voting Members:

President: Ashley McHale
Student Government: Sophia Sucato
Faculty Association: Heike Gecox

Voting Members:

Secretary: Collin Thormoto
Treasurer: Catherine Suarez
BSSL: Robin Roy, Collin Thormoto
A&H: John Kelly, Catherine Suarez
STEM: Anita Bhatia, David Montelongo, Jennifer Siders
PATH: *vacant*
Student Services: Ryan Eckles, Julie Nguyen
Part Time Representatives: Valerie Connors, Jeff Judd

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting called to order and quorum established at 2:32 pm
- 2. Review and Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve (Jeff Judd)/seconded (Julie Nguyen)/discussion (none)/approved
- 3. Review and Approval of Minutes (December 10, 2024):** Motion to approve (John Kelly)/seconded (Collin Thormoto)/discussion (none)/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 (Collin Thormoto)/seconded (John Kelly)/discussion (none)/approved
 - 5.1 Laboratory Technician Hiring Committee: Angel Contreras Cardenas and Dana Nakase
 - 5.2 Full-Time English Faculty Hiring Committee: Angelo Bummer, Michelle Gonzales, Meghan Swanson, Julie Nguyen
- 6. Action Items:** None
- 7. Reports**
 - 7.1 LPC Student Government (Sophia Sucato): None
 - 7.2 CTE (Melissa Korber): The CTE committee will meet next week. There have been several Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) requests received and new classes have successfully completed the process.
 - 7.3 SLO (John Rosen): None
 - 7.4 Program Review (Karin Spirn): None
 - 7.5 CEMC/DEMC (Ashley McHale): None
 - 7.6 Faculty Association (Heike Gecox): The FA and the Chancellor have signed an MOU regarding the adoption of a compressed calendar beginning Fall 2026, with a winter intersession beginning

January 2026. There is also a section regarding penalties for late grade submissions. HGecox read directly from the MOU to explain the potential loss of seniority for full-time and part-time instructors who do not submit grades in a timely manner. Counseling reported several students having been dropped from Spring 2025 classes due to absent Fall 2024 grades in prerequisite classes. Absent or late grades may also affect a student's transfer plans and financial aid status. David Powers added that there were 11 LPC sections with late grades in Spring 2024. This number grew to 36 LPC sections in Fall 2024. HGecox stressed that extenuating circumstances that lead to late grade submission are understandable but this should not be a persistent issue.

Questions:

- When are grades considered late? Anything submitted after the published deadline is considered late. For Fall 2024, the due date was January 6th so any grade submitted after 11:59 pm that day was late. Ed Code dictates these guidelines and Admissions and Records rely on meeting deadlines in order to roll grades. This time between the end of the semester and the grade submission deadline will narrow with the move to a compressed calendar. Once an instructor fails to submit grades by the deadline, it moves from a grade submission to a grade change, which is more time intensive.
- Is this for any term or just intersessions? This is for any term.
- For full-time faculty, is the seniority penalty applicable for summer overload only? It is applicable for all overload.

7.7 District Technology (Jeff Judd): The committee will meet on the second Friday in February.

7.8 Professional Development (David Powers): Professional development is typically funded through an annual general fund budget. We received additional funds this year from Student Equity and Achievement. Since these are not general funds, they must be used for related events. Many upcoming conferences either do not qualify for SEA funding or do not have detailed schedules to show specific equity-related activities so we have used general funds; there is no additional general funding available at this time to support future conferences that do not qualify for SEA funds. The hope is to swap the conference funding back to SEA funds when a more detailed schedule is released to show equity-related content. It is important to note that this requires more than the use of the word "equity;" the conference needs to have a strong focus on closing student equity gaps, or similar topics.

The committee will meet in February to discuss transitioning spring flex day into a workday to prepare for the upcoming compressed calendar. This would be similar to college day with a communal meeting before splitting off for discipline meetings and individual work. The goal is to still have a communal lunch. Question regarding how this would affect instructors who teach after 4:00 pm and part-time instructors? This would not change from the typical flex day protocols.

7.9 A.I. Honesty (Catherine Suarez): None

7.10 Treasurer (Catherine Suarez): None

7.11 President (Ashley McHale): Vice Chancellor Nicholas spoke about the Governor's January budget proposal; see the board docs for his presentation.

Notable highlights include:

- The budget is balanced with a small surplus but this will likely change as this is only the initial budget
- There is a proposal to spend approximately \$100 million to build and scale up CPL
- There are concerns regarding the Southern California fires and the aftereffects putting pressure on the budget

A proposal is being discussed regarding SCFF metrics being based on a 1-year average as opposed to the current 3-year rolling average. Several groups are advocating for this change and there will be future discussions with state representatives. The district is actively planning for the transition from Hold Harmless to SCFF. Enrollment is up 9%; Pell Grants are up 29% and Promise Grants are up 22% despite not increasing in headcount, which shows that promotional efforts have been effective. This data shows that, were we not under Hold Harmless, we would have significantly increased our funding. Question if this data is district-wide? Yes, this data is cumulative for both campuses.

7.12 Divisions

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

8. **Wellness Break** (5 minutes): Not taken

9. **Old Business**

9.1 Microsoft Office License for Part-Time Faculty and Students: This remains an ongoing issue. Relay any feedback or concerns to Ashley.

9.2 Bylaws and Constitution (Thormoto): The contents of the Constitution and Bylaws are reversed – the majority of details should be housed in the Bylaws since they are easier to amend. The majority of proposed changes involve moving Constitution content to the Bylaws.

Notable proposed changes include:

- Changing the 1/5 representation vote for part-time faculty to be either equivalent or near-equivalent to a full-time faculty vote
- Removal of Past President and President-Elect positions
- Addition of Vice President and duties

9.3 Sanctuary Campus Statement (McHale): The language from the previous resolution will be updated to include most recent college statistics and remove references to the Livermore Police Department since their website's language regarding reporting immigration status to federal agencies has changed and no longer appears to strongly align with our resolution. Ashley plans to propose a cleaned-up draft at the next senate meeting.

10. New Business

10.1 Board Resolution 09-2425 (McHale): The board moved to uphold our district values at the December 17th board meeting. Several board members expressed concern for our students given the current political climate, which tells us that they are “on pulse” with LPC’s thoughts. Question if there are specific written policies regarding what will and will not be done regarding sharing information with federal agencies and allowing ICE officers on campus? Ashley is not aware of any official written policies but will check. Jeff Judd recalled seeing verbiage for faculty regarding what to do if an agent comes to the classroom but we should check if this advice is still valid. Ashley plans to meet with VP Ho in February and will discuss this further.

11. **Good of the Order/Announcements:** Ashley McHale was congratulated for a successful first meeting as Academic Senate President.

12. **Adjournment:** 3:14 pm

13. **Next Regular Meeting:** February 12, 2025

ZOOM LOGIN: This will be the same for every Academic Senate meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82457062184>

Phone one-tap: US: +16694449171, 82457062184# or +16699006833, 82457062184#

Meeting ID: 824 5706 2184