



Honors Program Committee Minutes

November 17, 2025

Recorder: Jennifer Siders

LPC Mission Statement	LPC Planning Priorities 2024		
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 life-long learning.	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.
Chair/s	Faculty Association (1)	SEIU (1)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Siders <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irena Keller			
Academic Senate (2)	Classified Senate (2)	Student Senate (2)	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sidhant Parashar <input type="checkbox"/>	
Vice Presidents	Deans	Faculty	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Simotas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A&H: Marty Nash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student Services: Rafael Valle <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STEM: Alain Olavarrieta <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PATH: Paul Sapsford <input type="checkbox"/> BSSL: Dan Cearley	
Classified Professionals	Guests		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aubrie Ross	<input type="checkbox"/> Jason Maxwell <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rifa Sipai <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cheryl Cheung Zara Mukhtar Kloe Situ	<input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Wings Brooks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robin Roy <input type="checkbox"/> Jean O'Neil -Opipari	

Attendance (Quorum = 5)

Agenda Item	Information/Discussion	Action/Assigned To
1.	Call to Order 2:34 pm.	
2.	Review & Approve Agenda . Motion to approve (Aubrie Ross)/seconded (Michelle Simotas)/ discussion (none)/approved	
3.	Review & Approve Prior Minutes. October Minutes: Motion to approve (Rafael Valle) /seconded (Paul Sapsford)/ discussion (none)/Marty Nash & Aubrie Ross abstain, all other approved September minutes: motion to approve (Michelle Simotas)/ seconded (Rafael Valle)/ discussion (none) Aubrie Ross abstained, all other approved.	
4.	Action Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote on Honors Certificate and PSLOs: Motion to approve (Alain Olavarrieta)/ seconded (Rafael Valle),/ discussion (none)/ approved. • Irena proposed Honors Certificate and two Honors seminar courses to Curriculum committee (11/17/25) and they were approved. • Vote on the final Mission Statement, SAOs: Minor changes made to wording of mission statement and decided to leave off SAOs since they are already something that will be done during Program Review. Motion to approve (Alain Olavarrieta)/ seconded (Rafael Valle),/ discussion (none)/ approved. • Vote on new GPA requirements to enter the program: Having a hard cut off for GPAs was discussed: LPC students 3.0 to 3.5 need a letter of rec, but have to be 3.0 or above. High school students need a letter of rec with GPA 3.25-3.75. Dual enrollment – GPA & transcripts and at least 12 LPC units. Motion to approve (Alain Olavarrieta)/ seconded (Rafael Valle),/ discussion (none)/ approved. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LPC symposium date and subcommittee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BHC submission due date is February 17 ○ BHC will get acceptance letters after March 15 before April ○ BHC is May 2nd (Saturday), tentatively chose April 29th for LPC Symposium, 5th Wednesday so more faculty should be free. Zara will check with Student Government to see if they are having a meeting on that date. Symposium 3-6pm like last. Subcommittee for symposium will start meeting after winter break. Michelle Simotas and Robin Roy expressed an interest in being on the subcommittee. 	
5.	<p>Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ali Fund for National Conference in STEM – how to proceed? Aubrie will send reach out to Helen/Foundation about status of the scholarship • A Capstone Project idea – Honors independent Study? Discussed adding Honors Capstone Seminar that could be taken credit/no credit, similar to Concurrent support for math classes – faculty get paid for teaching those, unlike an independent study course where faculty are NOT paid. Would need to submit a course outline. 	
6.	<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing Peer-Mentorship Program, ready to go, just needs to take care of a few liability/FERPA considerations 	
7.	<p>Information Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking points for division meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requiring Honors students based on Fall performance. ○ Reminders about completed Projects Reports – due 12/12/25 • Contracts for Spring will be assigned before next meeting 	
8.	<p>Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flex Sessions Report – thoughts for next time, keep the same format with two sessions. • NCHC conference updates • Honors Courses in Spring 2026 – filling up • Updated on Honors Statistics: 336 in Fall, 401 currently • Publication subcommittee, next Monday (11/24/25, 2:30pm) • Fundraising Updates • Outreach report: club fair, high school counselors event, and open house. Faculty is the best way to recruit the right students. 	

9.	Good of the Order	
10.	Future Agenda Items Picking date for LPC Symposium End of Year celebration – subcommittee? Zara checking with Josue about schedule	

Meeting adjourned at 4:02

Next meeting: March 16th