



# LAS POSITAS CONNECTION

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community | July 2019

Roanna Bennie, Las Positas College Interim President

## Las Positas and Chabot College Receive California Community College Grant

Chabot and Las Positas colleges have been named two of 70 colleges throughout California to receive grants from the Improving Online CTE Pathways program developed by California Community Colleges' California Virtual Campus - Online Education Initiative. Nearly \$506,000 in total awarded to improve online learning outcomes and offerings. LPC's grant, totaling \$177,187, will be allocated to develop a fully online Supervisory Management certificate of achievement, provide for faculty professional development and fund course accessibility coordination.

"Giving students more options for online education is a priority for Las Positas College," said Dr. Kristina Whalen. "Not every student can study in a traditional classroom setting. Disabilities that make it difficult to attend classes on campus, lack of transportation, childcare issues, demands at home and work schedules have traditionally prevented students from enrolling in college. The more opportunities we provide for students to study when and where they can, the more students we'll be able to serve. Receiving this grant allows us to create our first completely online certificate program, further develop our faculty, and help us fund coordination that will allow us to optimize course accessibility for our online students."

Operated by Foothill-De Anza Community College District, CVC-OEI is focused on student success in California's community colleges through innovative online learning practices. Its primary focus is to increase the number of transfer degree awards by the state's community colleges. Chabot College offers over 120 degree and certificate programs, nine are fully available online, and LPC has over 85 degree and certificate programs, with four degrees fully available online.

LPC's grant project will begin July 1 and run through June 30, 2020.



California Community Colleges

California Virtual Campus - Online Education Initiative

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## Congratulations to the Middle College High School at Las Positas College!

The Middle College Class of 2019 ceremony was held Tuesday, May 28th at 7PM in the Las Positas College's Mertes Center for the Arts. There were 66 graduates representing not only LPC, but three local school districts - - Dublin Unified, Livermore Valley Joint Unified, Pleasanton Unified as well as six different high schools. This is Middle College's third, and largest class. In the fall of 2019 the LPC Middle College High School is welcoming 70 students to the class of 2021, and is expecting the scheduled return of 70 students from the class of 2020.

All students will participate in their own high school graduation. Approximately 45 of the 66 graduates plan to continue their education at LPC in the fall to meet transfer requirements. Other graduates will be attending a variety of CSU, UC, private and out of state colleges and universities.

We challenge you to be lifelong learners! Never stop learning exploring growing, and challenging yourselves to be your best!



Photo courtesy of Amy Brown

# Las Positas College Fire Academy Graduation

Bottom: Cadets, class of 2019 (stock) Top: Ron Johansen addressing the crowd on graduation. (Facebook)



Congratulations to the first graduating class of Las Positas College Fire Academy!

At the graduation ceremony 29 cadets received their certificates of completion and some received their associate degrees, as the crowd of friends, family, faculty and administrators cheered them on. A very special and significant speech by the former LPC Fire Service Technology Coordinator, Ron Johansen was given to all who attended. Mr. Johansen has been an inspiration to many.

LPC is very proud of these cadets and their bright future. We congratulate you and wish you well on your continued success!



# HSI, Umoja, and Puente End of Year Celebrations

Congratulations to Umoja, HIS Gateway to Success, and Puente for finishing off their year and holding their year end celebrations at LPC that included student recognitions.

Las Positas College is proud to be designated a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) by the United States Department of Education. Their mission is to expand educational opportunities and improve the academic attainment of Hispanic and low-income students. The Umoja Community is a two-semester college success program and learning community that provides a dedicated support system to help students reach their academic goals and life purpose. Students have a dedicated counselor and a host of faculty who are readily available to guide and serve them. Students will experience college success and English curriculum focused on the African-American experience through literature, history, and artistic modalities. The Puente project is a learning community with the goal of increasing the transfer-going rate of educationally disadvantaged students through counseling, English, and mentoring.



*Umoja students with counselor and faculty*



*HSI-Gateway to Success students and program director*



*Puente students and program director*

## Veterans First Program Supervisor is Honored with Certificate of Achievement

Todd Steffan, Supervisor of the Las Positas College Veterans First Program was awarded a Certificate of Achievement by the Bay Area Student Veteran Leadership Council in recognition of his exemplary dedication to and support of student Veterans at Las Positas College for the 2018-2019 academic year. He was nominated by students that are members of the Bay Area Student Veteran Leadership Council. Colleges and universities from all over the Northern California Bay Area participated in the nomination process, but LPC's own Todd Steffan was the recipient.

Mr. Steffan has been a fulltime employee with Las Positas College since 2004 and has served in many capacities all while improving the student Veterans programs at LPC.

The Las Positas College Veterans First Program provides support services to Veterans of the armed forces including those who have served, are currently serving, and dependents and spouses. The program is primarily responsible for administration of veterans educational benefits programs; yet, it provides other resources and contacts such as career planning, financial aid, transition counseling services, and other needed services for our returning Veterans.



*Todd Steffan, Supervisor of LPC Veterans First Program*

**Congratulations Todd Steffan on this amazing award and thank you for all you do for our Veterans!**

### Chabot Las Positas Community College District Welcomes Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Student Success

Dr. Theresa Fleischer Rowland was approved by the Board of Trustees and began service at the Chabot—Las Positas Community College District on June 3. She brings experience as a teacher, tutor, advisor, case manager, job developer, community college counselor and administrator to the role.

Prior to her role at CLPCCD, Dr. Fleischer Rowland served as Associate Vice Chancellor of Instruction at City College of San Francisco, an institution serving approximately 65,000 students. Additionally, she spent six years with the Foundation for California Community Colleges/ Career Ladders Project as senior director and worked to improve state policy and student success impact through large-scale community college initiatives.



*Las Positas College would like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Fleischer Rowland.*

### Meet the Las Positas Community College's Newly Appointed Academic Vice President

Dr. Kristina Whalen is the Las Positas College's new Academic Vice President. She was approved by the Board of Trustees on June 18 and will be joining the College in early July.

Dr. Whalen previously served as City College of San Francisco's (CCSF) Associate Vice Chancellor of Instruction, Enrollment Management and Instructional Support Services. Additionally, she held the positions of CCSF's Dean of the School of Fine, Applied and Communication Arts, Department Chair of Speech Communication and Student Learning Outcomes Coordinator. Prior to CCSF, Dr. Whalen also worked as a coordinator for Leading from the Middle, a leadership development program currently mentoring LPC's campus leaders through the college's Guided Pathways work.



*The Las Positas College family is very excited to have Dr. Whalen and looks forward to her input and influence on campus.*

# Calendar

Please visit our website for more details about the latest news and events.

- July 16 The Market Food Pantry
- July 17 Aids Project East Bay
- July 18 Operation Gateway XI
- July 19 Operation Gateway XI
- August 15 Convocation
- August 16 College Day
- August 19 Fall Semester begins



## Las Positas Summer Welding Camp



Las Positas College held its Welding Summer Camp June 10 thru the 20 that gave high school students an opportunity to earn a college unit while igniting their interest in the field of welding.

The two-week camp introduce students to proper safety in the workplace environment and basic skills required in the manufacturing industry. With an emphasis on practical uses and applications, students earn one unit of welding college credit towards their degree in a summer welding lab experience manufacturing a smoker BBQ, in hopes to inspire the next generation of welders.

One parent reached out to welding instructor Scott Miner and said, "...Thank you for making room in your welding camp for my son. He had a great time and learned so much from you!..."

Las Positas College currently offers a Welding Technology Associates in Science Degree program. Courses will begin in the Fall of 2019. For more information on enrollment and registration, please contact the Admissions and Records Department at 925.424. 1500.



All photos courtesy of Scott Miner

## Las Positas Administrators Retreat 2019



On July 10, 2019 the Las Positas Community College Administrators attended their annual Administrator's Retreat. The first part of the two day event was on-site at the college. Where they performed a bomb threat and general campus search drill. The following day the administrative team attended an offsite meeting where the main topics were Building Equity at LPC and Funding Formula Projects for the upcoming fiscal year.

## LPC News in Brief

**Fencing Camps:** LPC's Community education programs will begin their fencing camps. Munchkin Fencing Camp (Ages 5 to 6) This course, limited to 4 students, teaches small children beginning footwork that will prepare them for future fencing adventures! Beginning Fencing Camp for Kids (8 to 12) Engarde! Parry! Riposte! Course for beginners (AGES 8 to 12) and is an introduction to the wonderful world of fencing. All courses begin the week of July 15.

**Adult Summer Camps:** Courses for home business and hobbies will be available beginning July 15. Some course offerings include **Figure Drawing and Painting Weekend, Learn to LaserCut and Engrave, and Monitize Websites, Blogs, and Social Media with a 1000+ affiliate.** All courses are open to adults.

**Travel with Community Education!** The 2020 travel dates have been announced. **March 2020:** Discover Croatia, Slovenia and the Adriatic Coast. **April 2020:** travel to Madrid, Royal Palace, Toledo, Cordoba, Seville, Flamenco Show, Granada, The Alhambra, Valencia, Choice on Tour, Paella Experience, Barcelona, La Sagrada Familia, Parc Güell. **June 2020:** Explore Paris, the Côte d'Azur and Barcelona, and in **October 2020** visit the French Quarter, or New Orleans School of Cooking, St. Louis Cathedral, French Marketplace, Swamp Tour, Jazz Revue. Please contact Community Education for more information.

For more information please visit [www.laspositascollege.edu](http://www.laspositascollege.edu).



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**Students First**