



Actor's Conservatory Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

2/8/2024 | 9:00 AM | Zoom

Meeting Minutes

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

- ❖ Implement the integration of all ACCJC standards throughout campus structure and processes.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Coordinate resources and provide professional development for effective online instruction and remote delivery of student support services and college processes to advance equitable student outcomes.

Actor's Conservatory Advisory Board Members

* = *In attendance*

Darren Carollo
Mark Duncanson
Cynthia Lagodzinski - *
Marilyn Langbehn - *
Brian Okowski
Salim Razawi - *
John Tracy
Titian Lish - *
Amy Mattern
Vicki Shipman
Lilibeth Mata Juarez - *

- 1. Call to Order** at 9:04 AM
- 2. Welcome and Introductions**
- 3. Review and Approval of Agenda, 2/8/2024**
 - Titian shared the agenda for the meeting and gave a brief overview of what each item entails.
- 4. Review and Approval of Minutes, 9/8/2022**
 - Titian shared with the advisory members that the advisory board met in 2022 however the former Outreach person that took the minutes is no longer with us and she has the minutes from our last meeting so we are unable to share those at this time.
- 5. Industry Updates**
 - **Hiring Needs**
 - Teaching Artists, Intimacy Coordinators, and Technical Directors
 - TA/IC are in high demand and there is a shortage of them due to skillset and traveling requirements.
 - TL: Maybe we could host a weekend workshop for Teaching Artists and partner with local theater companies? We have everything else in our curriculum but we don't have Teaching Assistants in our curriculum. This would allow students to feel confident.
 - SR: Yes! That would be so helpful. Usually, students are just given a binder and "here you go" - Open Call for Teaching Artists.
 - LJ: What does the hiring for these positions look like?
 - TL: Resume, Application, Cover Letter then tradition interview, and improvisational games. But that was long ago. SR: Now, the above list plus recommendations, and group exercises and group interviews to see your teaching style/your teaching personality.
 - TL: If we hosted one who should we invite?
 - SR: Advisory Board members, active TA's and hold a Q/A session because you don't know what you don't know.
 - CL: "Train the Trainer" program – 10-week endeavor at SF Shakes.
 - TL: Using summer camps as fundraisers, and looking for teaching artists to teach them.
 - SR: Children's Theater / local schools looking for theater programs.
 - **Emerging Trends/Technologies**
 - SR: Students are encouraged to have a digital presence online (Actor Profile) that is searchable for casting opportunities and contact information.
 - TL: We have a *Business of Acting* course – this class has a list of things they need to go out in the world and get their career started.
 - CL: Maybe we create an assignment in our courses that outlines these things – contact info and resume.
 - TL: We are in the process of creating a [database](#) of Actor's Conservatory students so that we can just share the database with casting directors, and people can come in and see our student's resume, headshot, and self-tapes. So far, we have 8 students in the database, and one of them is who is helping manage it for us.

6. Faculty Report – Titian Lish

- **Program Update**
 - 2 Cohorts; 16 Actor's Conservatory students
 - Historically, there has been a drop off in students within cohorts in their first semester; we usually start with 10 in a cohort, and end up finishing with 8 – the reason for the decrease is often because the students realize the time commitment and can't keep up; also have a hard time making the transition from High School to Community College in realizing the need to have good time management. A majority of these students end up switching over to obtain the Theater Arts degrees while remaining a Theater Arts major.
 - Student's leaving the Actor's Conservatory program is not a negative thing or seen as a failure; the Actor's Conservatory was intended to be a program for students to “try before they buy” so to speak, and for students to learn theater arts and decide if it is the pathway they want to pursue. Better to learn it now in Community College than to go drop \$50,000 on an Actor's Conservatory and find out that it isn't what they want.
 - There are currently 9 students signed up and are committed for a cohort beginning in Fall 2024.
 - The current and upcoming conservatory cohorts are comprised 100% of student who have heard about our program and outreached to us to sign up! Many of them have invited Titian to come see them perform at their HS.
- **Program Development/Opportunities**
 - Marketing efforts/strategies – going to productions to see students perform has been a great recruitment strategy. Also, bringing tickets and flyers for *our* shows when traveling to other schools.
 - Titian has been invited to other service areas – Hayward, Castro Valley, Brentwood etc.
 - Danielle shared that Titian could collaborate with Educational Partnerships Project Manager, Traci Peterson, and our Community Education Coordinator, Megan Garcia, to come up with ideas on getting more exposure of the program out in the community.

7. Recommendations from Advisory Board

- *None at this time.*

8. Other Business

- *None at this time*

9. Next Regular Meeting: Fall 2024 TBD; Lilibeth will send out a poll

10. Adjournment at 9:57 p.m.