Office of Student Life Annual Report June 30, 2014

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The ASLPC (Student Senate) is committed to promoting student involvement on campus, advocating for student interests, and providing an atmosphere for better learning and personal growth, thereby encouraging student success. The Student Senate has grown over the past several years, and this past year had up to 40 active members. This has allowed us more opportunities to organize and support major LPC- and ASLPC-sponsored events, develop leadership skills while advocating for the students and LPC, and represent the student body by being an active participant in the shared governance structure.

As part of the shared governance structure, the members of the Student Senate were active and engaged members of all shared governance committees last year, including Resource Allocation, Sustainability, Facilities, Technology, Curriculum, Distance Ed, Health & Safety, Basic Skills, Integrated Planning Committee and College Council. In addition, students served on hiring committees, the Accreditation Committee, the Measure B Citizen's Oversight Committee, and District committees.

The 6 officers and 34 senators of the ASLPC continued to work hard for all Las Positas College students and were committed to removing barriers to access, promoting student success, and providing an atmosphere for better learning and personal growth. To that end, the Student Senate provided high-quality services to LPC students, provided opportunities for students to participate in campus activities, advocated on both state and federal levels, and donated time and/or money in support of other programs on campus.

Scholarships

In supporting LPC's "Students First" motto, perhaps the most *important* service that the ASLPC (Student Senate) provided was the donation of scholarship money to deserving students. This year we were able to provide scholarships totaling almost \$35,000. In addition, we were able to provide scholarships, totaling \$1,200, for the tutors who volunteered for Prep-2-Pass, the finals tutoring events.

Services

One of the most *popular* services that ASLPC provided is the Textbook Loaner Program (TLP). To help alleviate costs of college, the TLP allows students to check out up to three textbooks for an entire semester at only \$30 per textbook. This year we served approximately 400 students, renting over 500 textbooks. Lab supplies were added to the inventory which allowed students to purchase lab coats, goggles, gloves and slides at much lower prices than the Bookstore. We anticipate and are planning for further growth next year, with the addition of the Student Textbook Exchange Program (STEP) where students will be able to sell their books to other students. In addition, this year the Textbook Assistance Scholarship (TAS) was instituted. The Textbook Assistance Scholarship is funded by the Follett Higher Education Group and is managed by the Office of Student Life. It is intended for students who do not receive other financial aid but struggle to meet the costs of their education. This program provides a student with a \$500 voucher for one semester to purchase books and/or classroom supplies (food and clothing are prohibited) at the LPC Bookstore. Thirty-one students received scholarships this year.

The Student Senate provided test forms at no charge to students. ASLPC purchased 15,000 Scantrons and 16,000 green books this year. Another popular service we provided both semesters was "Prep-2-Pass." Prior to finals each semester, the Student Senate members provide individual and group tutors for any students needing extra help in studying for finals. The Tutorial Center has extended hours for this event and ASLPC provides refreshments to the students as well as pays for the tutors. As a service to LPC, Student Senate members conducted numerous individual and group campus tours for prospective students, families, and local middle and high school students to introduce them to our campus community.

Outreach

One of the Office of Student Life's goals each year is to increase student involvement and acknowledge the diversity of our student body. Twice each semester the Student Senate, in conjunction with the Inter-Club Council, promotes student clubs and assists in recruiting new members by hosting a free lunch to students who participate in Club Day. Almost 1,500 students attended the four Club Days during the 2013-14 academic year. The Student Senate also hosted two major events during the Spring Semester – a Masquerade Ball and a Talent Show. Both events were enormously successful. The Office of Student Life continually looks for new and exciting events and activities to engage our students and help them to feel connected to our campus community. ASLPC also welcomed 26 vendors and 7 employers on campus with the purpose of introducing the students to businesses and services in our community or providing employment opportunities for students. The vendor/employer participation also serves to generate revenue for the ASLPC.

Our entire outreach efforts and our ability and willingness to undertake and/or support LPC's major events will continue next year.

Advocacy

Advocacy continued to be a major priority for the Student Senate this year. On March 3rd, about 35 LPC students traveled to Sacramento for the statewide March-in-March under the coordination of the Student Senate. A group of Student Senate members traveled to Washington, DC for a conference in April and were able to meet with Congressman Eric Swalwell to discuss issues of interest to college students. Further, multiple resolutions were written and distributed this year both internally and externally on a wide range of issues, including Coach Tony Costello Honorarium, Honors Courses and Contracts, Registration and High Unit Majors, Academic Probation, Academic Hold Due to Registration Requirements, Zonemail, Commitment to Equality in Honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, E-Cigarettes, Reusable Water Bottles, and Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program.

Leadership

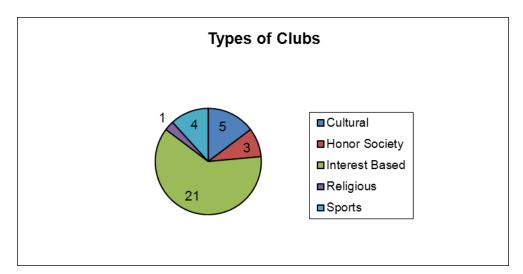
Members of the Student Senate volunteered countless hours because of their commitment to students and Las Positas. They each spent an average of 40-50 hours per semester, while carrying full academic loads and in many cases working as well. In an effort to improve their leadership skills and better serve students, they regularly engaged in capacity building by attending conferences and retreats. This academic year, students attended the National Center for Student Leadership conference in Washington, DC. In addition, the students planned and implemented their own leadership retreat, held in the Sierra Nevada foothills, at which some members developed and presented their own workshops.

Donations

In an effort to support all students and other Student Services programs, the Student Senate donated money and/or volunteered their time to CalWORKS, the LPC Anthology, the Tony Costello Scholarship, the Reading & Writing Center, LPC's paramedic program, the Academic Senate, College Day, Major/Career Fair, the LPC Foundation Gala, and Graduation among others.

Inter-Club Council

One may observe school spirit in any one of over 34 of the *very* active clubs in the Inter-Club Council (ICC) this last year. The diversity of the student population and their many different interests are reflected in the types of clubs found in the ICC. In addition to the three Honor Society clubs (Alpha Gamma Sigma, Psi Beta/Psychology Club, and Mu Alpha Theta/Math Club), we have an additional three clubs that are nationally affiliated (Business Club, Biology Club, and International Business Association).



While each club is unique and has its own mission, they all have at least one common goal – to make a difference to an LPC student, to the college, to the community, or even to the world. Club members have spent countless hours fund raising to make donations to Tri-Valley Open Heart Kitchen, Pleasanton Military Families, Abode Services, Shepherd's Gate, Kindred Image, and MISSSEY, Inc.

Clubs have sponsored guest speakers on subjects such as anti-bullying awareness, brain awareness, sexual health, ADHD, and mental health awareness. Other guest speakers have included LPC's Biology Alumni Panel discussing Life After Las Positas, An Electrical Engineer discussing the Tesla Vehicle, "Be the Match Organization" guest speaker discussing bone marrow, and a representative from the 1st Congregational Church Visit with a commemoration of the Birmingham Bombing. Clubs have sponsored a variety of events including the American Red Cross Blood Drive, AMATYC Student Math League Competition, musicals, recitals, martial arts training, star gazing events, personal statement workshops, day of silence, ally day, a poetry slam, and the first annual garden workshop. The Biology Club also staffed the biology help desk the entire Spring semester!

Club members have attended many conferences and events as well, including the AGS Regional Conference, AGS State Convention, Future Business Leaders of America Conference, Fall Leadership Conference, APA Pacific Division Conference, and the Livermore Valley Conservancy Awards Event.

Many clubs continued to provide one-on-one student mentorship, tutoring, and scholarships to their members.

Like the ASLPC (Student Senate), the Inter-Club Council, individual clubs and their members are committed to promoting student engagement and success, and providing an atmosphere for better learning and personal growth.