

Present: Nick Arman, James Bilelis, Vernon Bridges, Richard Lewis, Susan Matranga, Melody Meldrum, Donna Morley, Cristy Passman, Mary Rueda, Andrea Smith, Michael Vasquez (Guest), Jeremy Villar

Item #	Topic Description	Comments
1.	WELCOME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council reviewed and approved the March 24th meeting minutes with one correction – the suicide hotline number should be corrected to 800-253-TALK.
2.	CHAPLAIN MICHAEL VASQUEZ. GUEST SPEAKER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The VA Healthcare system offers cutting edge technology available to veterans and is affiliated with UCLA The New Direction program can accommodate 200 homeless veterans in their facility The Veterans State Home offers 400 units to veterans who are in retirement age The Fisher House offers a state of the art facility that can accommodate up to 12 families Chaplain Michael Vasquez's duties include talking to family members of veterans who are being treated in the emergency room, facilitating Friday meetings with veterans on Fridays, plan memorial services for fallen veterans, comfort families of veterans in Intensive Care Unit (ICU), be on call 24/7
3.	ACE/WALMART SUCCESS FOR VETERANS AWARD GRANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LACC has been selected as one of the 20 higher education institutions to be awarded a two-year 100K grant by ACE-WalMart The grant is intended to add a dedicated academic counselor for veterans, expand the orientation activities for veterans, print a Veterans Handbook and outreach materials, expand the current activities and project of the council, host training for campus personnel etc. Christy suggested that it would be ideal to identify a workspace for the Veterans program, which will eventually be re-located in the new Student Services building The council will begin planning on grant implementation during its May meeting LACC participated in a teleconference on April 23rd when the grant awardees were announced to the public.
4.	ON-GOING PROJECT UPDATES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Financial Aid Awareness/Award Ceremony BBQ has been scheduled for Friday May 22nd Vernon has drafted a letter to fundraise for a scholarship account that will be created in the college foundation. The Veterans Club has been meeting regularly on Wednesday Nick suggested placing a stone at the base of the flag pole to honor fallen services members as a possible activity during memorial day Richard would like the veterans club to host a poetry reading on campus so that student veterans may be able to express themselves on campus Donna distributed a copy of the Ally Project from CSUN as a possible project on campus. Several council members are planning to attend the May 15th Veterans symposium at Pasadena City College
5.	WRAP-UP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring 2009 Meetings – 5/26, 6/23 Chaplain Michael A. Vasquez can be contacted at (310) 268-4676 (phone). His address is 11301 Wilshire Blvd 125 Los Angeles CA 90073