Characteristics of Students Enrolled at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

Polyliew

Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

Institutional Planning and Analysis

Fall 1999

New Students for Fall 1999

Cal Poly processed a total of 20,248 applications during the Fall 1999 application cycle – the most Fall applications processed in the past twelve years. Undergraduate applications numbered 19,396, an increase of 1,286

New Freshmen	
Average High School GPA	3.64
Average SAT	1162

applications over Fall 1998; 7,912 new undergraduate applicants were selected and 3,643 enrolled. First-time freshmen applying for admission numbered 15,174 or 78.2% of the total undergraduate applicant pool, and represented 74.6% of the new students who enrolled.

New Transfers	
Average College GPA	3.19

Academic Performance – Fall 1999

	Undergraduate	Post-baccalaureate
Average Fall Term Units	14.14	10.60
Average Fall Term GPA	2.85	3.55

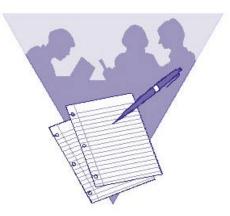
College Size

College	Undergraduate	Post- baccalaureate	Total	Percent of Total
Agriculture	3,345	86	3,431	21%
Architecture & Enviromental Design	1,493	59	1,552	9%
Business	2,331	108	2,439	15%
Engineering	3,810	127	3,937	24%
Liberal Arts	2,814	87	2,901	18%
Science & Math	1,613	93	1,706	10%
Univ. Center for Teacher Education	n/a	373	373	2%
Other	97	34	131	1%
University Total	15,503	967	16,470	100%

Enrollment

The University enrolled 16,470 students (headcount) for Fall 1999. This is an increase of 174 students over Fall 1998. Undergraduate enrollment was 15,503 students, up 1.0% over Fall 1998. Post-baccalaureate enrollment was 967 students, up 2.0% over Fall 1998. New students comprised 24.1% of the total enrollment with 3,659 new undergraduate and 316 new post-baccalaureate students. The largest group of new students was first-time freshmen numbering 2,716 or 74.6% of the new undergraduate student headcount.

Fall 1999 continued the trend of an increase in the number of average units taken per student to 13.94 (14.14 for undergraduate and 10.60 for post-baccalaureate students).



Student Age and Gender

The average age of all enrolled students for Fall 1999 was 22.2 years. Undergraduates averaged 21.3 years, compared to 24.3 years for all undergraduate students enrolled in the CSU system.

There were 7,419 women students on campus (45%) and 9,051 men (55%).

Institution of Origin

What institutions do Cal Poly undergraduates come from? The top "feeder" schools are:

High Schools		Community Colleges
Public	Private	
San Luis Obispo High School	Bellarmine College Prep, San Jose	Cuesta College
Atascadero High School	St. Francis High School, Mountain View	Allan Hancock College
Arroyo Grande High School	Archbishop Mitty, San Jose	Santa Rosa Junior College
Morro Bay High School	St. Ignatius College Prep, San Francisco	Diablo Valley College
Paso Robles High School	Central Catholic High, Modesto	Ventura College
	La Salle High, Pasadena	Modesto Junior College

Study Abroad

One hundred sixteen Cal Poly students are studying in 14 countries as part of the CSU 1999-2000 International Program and International Student Exchange Program. The students' courses of study represent a variety of disciplines. They are studying in universities and centers in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of China, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Kingdom, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe.

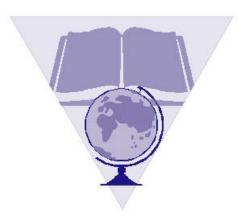
International Students

In Fall 1999, Cal Poly enrolled 205 international students, including 172 undergraduates and 33 postbaccalaureate students. These students came from 48 countries. Countries sending more than five students to Cal Poly include Hong Kong, Taiwan, Germany, Japan, India, Spain, the Peoples Republic of China, Mexico, South Korea, Canada, France, Guatemala, Australia and Sweden (based on student's reported institution of origin).

This Fall Cal Poly sent two professors and 40 students to the London Study Program. Eight faculty and 104 students participated in the program during Spring 99.

Also during Spring quarter, approximately 50 Cal Poly students and three faculty participated in the California Maritime Academy/Golden Bear Study Abroad program. The curriculum is science-based.

Other Study Abroad opportunities include the Thai Study Program, Japan Study, and language training programs in Spain and Mexico.



Financial Aid

During the 1998-99 academic year approximately 60% of all Cal Poly students received some type of traditional financial assistance, such as scholarships, loans, grants and workstudy. The amount of financial aid awards decreased slightly from 1997-98 with disbursements processed by the Cal Poly Financial Aid Office reaching over \$59 million (compared to \$27 million in 1990-91 and \$61 million in 1997-98). During the 1998-99 academic year, federal, state, and state university grants accounted for 28% of the financial aid dollars distributed. Scholarships accounted for 6%; loans, 66%; and federal work study, about 1%.

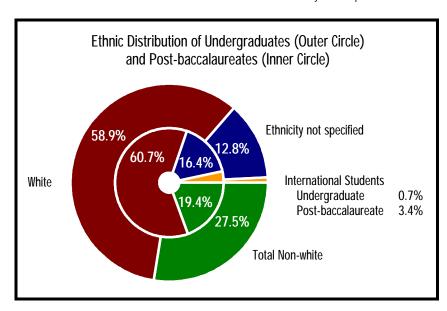
Housing

As of October 1, 1999, 2,799 students (17% of the total enrollment) lived in the residence halls: 1,474 men (53%) and 1,325 women (47%). The remaining students lived off campus with the majority living in San Luis Obispo.

Ethnic Origin — Fall 1999

	Undergr	aduates	Post-bacca	alaureates	To	tal
African American	194	1.3%	19	2.0%	213	1.3%
Asian	1,264	8.2%	41	4.2%	1,305	7.9%
Filipino	372	2.4%	13	1.3%	385	2.3%
Pacific Islander	65	0.4%	5	0.5%	70	0.4%
Mexican Descent	1,237	8.0%	55	5.7%	1,292	7.8%
Other Hispanic	523	3.4%	20	2.1%	543	3.3%
Native American	193	1.2%	14	1.4%	207	1.3%
Other Non-white	420	2.7%	21	2.2%	441	2.7%
Total Non-white	4,268	27.6%	188	19.4%	4,456	27.0%
White	9,133	58.9%	587	60.7%	9,720	59.0%
Ethnicity not specified	1,992	12.8%	159	16.4%	2,151	13.1%
International	110	0.7%	33	3.4%	143	0.9%
University Totals	15,503	100.0%	967	100.0%	16,470	100.0%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding.



The percentage of undergraduate students selecting the category "ethnicity not specified" increased from 3.8% in Fall 1990 to 7.5% in Fall 1998. The increase was fairly gradual from Fall to Fall. In the Fall of 1999, however, there was a significant increase—to 12.8%—in the number of undergraduate students choosing this option. (Information on student ethnic origin is self-reported.)

For the total University enrollment, the "ethnicity not specified" category increased from 8.0% in Fall 1998 to 13.1% in Fall 1999. If this increase in students declining to select an ethnic origin category continues, it could make longitudinal tracking of ethnicity trends at Cal Poly and meeting some federal reporting requirements more difficult.



Classes Offered

In Fall 1999 the university offered 3,225 total sections (not including Independent Study), a slight increase (27 sections) from Fall 1998. The university filled

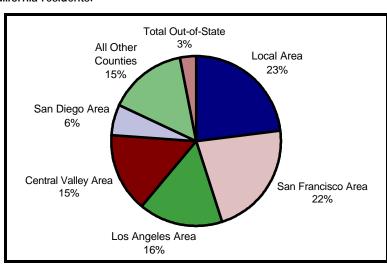
96% of combined lecture and laboratory capacity (based on expected enrollment set by academic departments during the scheduling phases). By using the

Schedule25 software, we utilized 91% of general purpose lecture space during the Fall quarter. Laboratory space is assigned by individual departments.

Geographic Origin

In Fall 1999, Cal Poly undergraduate students came from every county in California, 46 other states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories and 48 foreign countries. Nevertheless, 97% are California residents.

The 23% of students who are local area residents include students from Santa Barbara County (5%), Monterey County (2%) and San Luis Obispo County (16%).



Retention & Persistence to Graduation

The following data is derived from a comprehensive cohort study developed by the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis. To date, the study follows the retention of students first enrolling

First to Second Year Retention for First-time Freshmen		
Fall 1995 to Fall 1996	86.4%	
Fall 1996 to Fall 1997	85.8%	
Fall 1997 to Fall 1998	87.1%	

Six-year Graduation Rate for First-time Freshmen		
Summer-Fall Cohort 1990	58.2%	
Summer-Fall Cohort 1991	57.3%	
Summer-Fall Cohort 1992	59.8%	

in the Summer and Fall of 1990 through Fall 1998. Six year graduation rates for first-time freshmen (the six-year observation interval is the rate most often used by federal and other reporting bodies) are available for the 1990, 1991 and 1992 first-time freshmen cohorts.



Fields of Study

Cal Poly offers 62 bachelor's degrees, 18 master's degrees, 10 credential programs and 40 minors. Majors that graduated the most students in 1998-99 were:

Bachelor's Degrees		
Business	15%	
Agribusiness	5%	
Mechanical Engineering	5%	
Psychology	3%	
Architecture	3%	

Master's Degrees	
Education	22%
Business	16%
Agriculture	12%
Engineering	9%
English	7%

Degrees Conferred

Cal Poly first awarded bachelor's degrees in 1942-43. Total bachelor's degrees awarded through 1998-99 numbered 95,236.

Cal Poly awarded 3,585 degrees in 1998-99.

Bachelor's Degrees	3,331
Master's Degrees	254
Credential Recommendations	283

PolyView is a publication of Cal Poly's Office of Institutional Planning & Analysis, based on enrollment statistics for Fall Quarter 1999. We gratefully acknowledge data supplied by Admissions, Financial Aid, International Education and Programs, and Residential Life & Education.

