

# POLYVIEW FALL 2004

Characteristics of Students Enrolled at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

## New Students for Fall 2004

Cal Poly processed a total of 28,274 applications during the Fall 2004 application cycle – the most Fall applications processed in the past seventeen years. Undergraduate applications numbered 27,062, an increase of 2,169 over Fall 2003; 9,879 new undergraduate applicants were selected and 3,704 enrolled.

First-time freshmen applying for admission numbered 22,551 (83.3% of the total undergraduate applicant pool) and represented 79.2% of the new undergraduates who enrolled.

Cal Poly received 2,920 early decision applications for Fall 2004, 701 students were selected, and 554 (79.0%) enrolled.

New Freshmen	
Average High School GPA	3.77
Average SAT	1212

New Transfers	
Average College GPA	3.26

## Academic Performance – Fall 2004

	Undergraduate	Post-baccalaureate
Average Fall Term Units	14.38	10.95
Average Fall Term GPA	2.84	3.58

## College Size

College	Undergraduate	Post-baccalaureate	Total	Percent of Total
Agriculture	3,568	136	3,704	21.1%
Architecture & Environmental Design	1,878	54	1,932	11.0%
Business	2,077	80	2,157	12.3%
Engineering	4,678	266	4,944	28.1%
Liberal Arts	2,708	88	2,796	15.9%
Science & Math	1,631	70	1,701	9.7%
College of Education	n/a	226	226	1.3%
Other	99	23	122	0.7%
<b>University Total</b>	<b>16,639</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>17,582</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Enrollment

The University enrolled 17,582 students (headcount) for Fall 2004, a decrease of 721 students from Fall 2003. Undergraduate enrollment was 16,639 students, down 3.6% from Fall 2003.

Continuing and returning undergraduate students fell short of the targeted enrollment by 334 students, with 12,853 students enrolling in Fall 2004.

New undergraduate enrollment was 32 students above target at 3,836 students. This includes 2,933 new freshmen, 771 new transfers, and 132 other new undergraduates\*.

Post-baccalaureate also fell short of the targeted enrollment by 47 students. Total post-baccalaureate enrollment was 943 students.

Fall 2004 saw another increase in the overall average units taken per student to 14.20 (14.38 for undergraduates and 10.94 for post-baccalaureates).

*\*Other undergraduate students include transitory students and those returning to a new major.*



## Institution of Origin

What institutions do new Cal Poly undergraduates come from? The top “feeder” schools are:

High Schools		Community Colleges
Public	Private	
Arroyo Grande High School	Bellarmino College Preparatory (San Jose)	Cuesta College, San Luis Obispo
San Luis Obispo High School	St. Francis High School (Mountain View)	Allan Hancock College, Santa Maria
La Costa Canyon High School (Carlsbad)	Junipero Serra High School (San Mateo)	De Anza College, Cupertino
Rancho Bernardo High School (San Diego)	St. Ignatius College Prep (San Francisco)	Santa Rosa Junior College
Bella Vista High (Fair Oaks)	St. Joseph High School (Santa Maria)	Los Angeles City College

## Study Abroad

In Fall 2004, 70 Cal Poly students studied in 9 countries as part of the California State University system's International Programs. The students' courses of study represented a variety of disciplines, and most participated in intensive language study at their host university.

As part of the National Student Exchange program, the only nationwide domestic student exchange program, 17 Cal Poly students studied at other universities across the U.S. Cal Poly is hosted 19 NSE students during 2004-05.

Several Cal Poly colleges and departments hold individual exchange agreements with universities worldwide. This Fall, 27 students participated in exchanges to seven countries: Australia,

Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, and Sweden. Other opportunities exist to study in Honduras, India, Norway, the Philippines, Switzerland, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom.

Cal Poly sent two professors and 45 students to the London Study Program during Fall quarter 2004. One Cal Poly faculty and 31 students participated in the program during Fall 2003.

The Valladolid Fall Studies Program in Spain had 17 students and one Cal Poly professor participating in Fall 2004.

Other Study Abroad opportunities include the Thai Study Program, the Japan Study Program, and the Cal Poly at Sea Program, a collaboration between Cal Poly and the California Maritime Academy.

## International Students

In Fall 2004, Cal Poly enrolled 152 international students, including 124 undergraduates and 28 post-baccalaureate students. These students came from 38 countries. Countries sending four or more students to Cal Poly include Australia, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar (Burma), Norway, Sweden, and Taiwan (based on students' reported institution of origin).

## Financial Aid

During the 2003-04 academic year approximately 57% of all enrolled Cal Poly students received some type of traditional financial assistance, such as scholarships, loans, grants and work-study.

The amount of financial aid awarded in 2003-04 totaled over \$79 million (an increase of over 10% over 2002-03).

During the 2003-04 academic year, federal, state, and state university grants accounted for 26% of the financial aid dollars distributed. Scholarships accounted for 11%; loans, 62%; and federal work study, about 1%.

## Housing

As of October 1, 2004, 3,668 students (20.9% of the total enrollment) lived on campus: 2,134 men (58%) and 1,534 women (42%). The remaining students lived off campus, with the majority residing in the city of San Luis Obispo.

On-campus housing includes Cerro Vista, apartments which opened in Fall 2003, accommodating nearly 800 students.



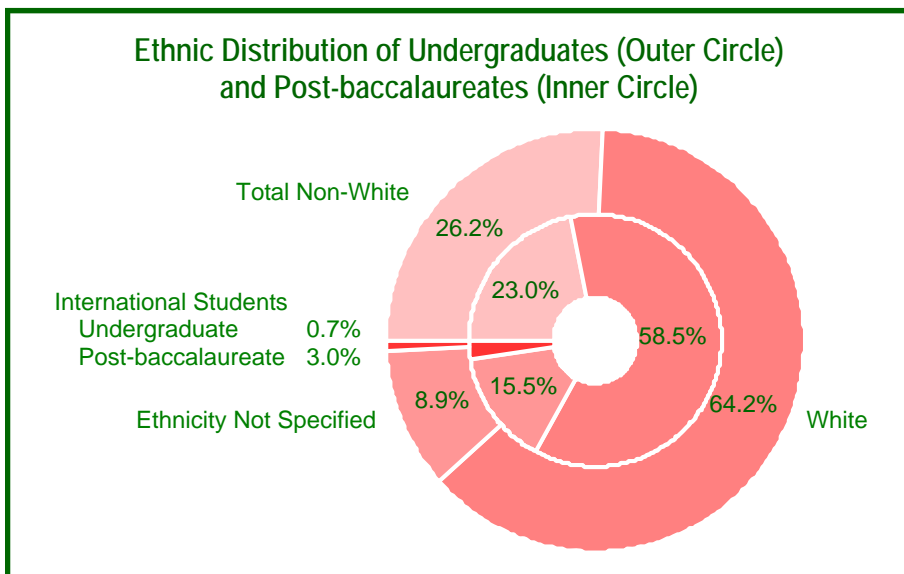
## Ethnic Origin

	Undergraduates		Post-baccalaureates		Total	
African American	169	1.0%	7	0.7%	176	1.0%
Asian	1,463	8.8%	76	8.1%	1,539	8.8%
Filipino	388	2.3%	5	0.5%	393	2.2%
Pacific Islander	69	0.4%	5	0.5%	74	0.4%
Mexican Descent	1,139	6.8%	59	6.3%	1,198	6.8%
Other Hispanic	482	2.9%	28	3.0%	510	2.9%
Native American	122	0.7%	11	1.2%	133	0.8%
Other Non-white	520	3.1%	26	2.8%	546	3.1%
<b>Total Non-white</b>	<b>4,352</b>	<b>26.2%</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>23.0%</b>	<b>4,569</b>	<b>26.0%</b>
White	10,674	64.2%	552	58.5%	11,226	63.8%
Ethnicity Not Specified	1,489	8.9%	146	15.5%	1,635	9.3%
International	124	0.7%	28	3.0%	152	0.9%
<b>University Totals</b>	<b>16,639</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>17,582</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Cal Poly's undergraduate student population has experienced distinct changes in ethnic diversity over the past decade. The proportion of non-white students grew from 26.6% in Fall 1990 to a high of 34.0% in Fall 1995. During the rest of the decade, ethnic diversity declined, returning to 26.4% in Fall 2000. In Fall 2004, 26.2% of Cal Poly's undergraduates identified themselves as non-white. (Student ethnic origin is self-reported.)

Typically, the entering class is slightly more diverse than continuing students. Non-white students represented 31.5% of the new undergraduates in Fall 1995. This proportion grew to 34.9% in Fall 1997, then dropped sharply in Fall 1998 to 30.0%. This decrease in diversity continued through Fall 2003, when 26.3% of new undergraduates were non-white. In Fall 2004, there was a slight increase, 26.8% of new undergraduates students identified themselves as non-white.

In recent years, an increasing number of students have declined to specify their ethnic origin, complicating trend analysis. This percentage grew from about 7% through the mid-1990's to a peak of 13% in Fall 2000 and returned to almost 9% in Fall 2004. The increase in students who don't report their ethnic background complicates trend analysis because it makes the percentage of white and non-white less comparable from year to year.



## Student Age and Gender

The average age of all Cal Poly students enrolled in Fall 2004 was 21.4 years. Undergraduates averaged 20.9 years, compared to 24.0 years for all undergraduates enrolled in the CSU system

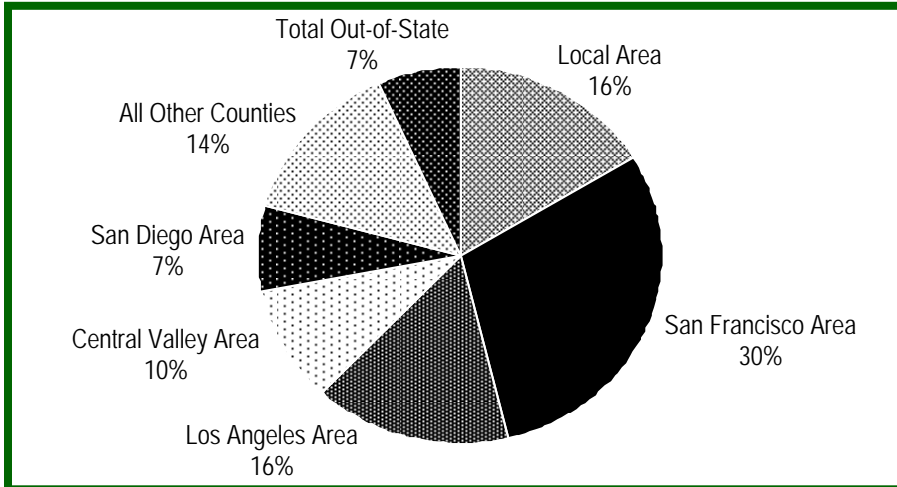
(based on last available data, Fall 2002). There were 7,590 females (43.2%) and 9,992 males (56.8%) enrolled for Fall 2004. Post-baccalaureate enrollment, traditionally

more female, has shown a steady decrease in female enrollment over the last few years. In Fall 2004, 48.9% of the campus-wide graduate population was female, down from 51.8% in Fall 2003.

## Undergraduate's Geographic Origin

In Fall 2004, Cal Poly undergraduate students came from every county in California, 47 other states and U.S. territories, and 31 foreign countries. Nevertheless, 93% are California residents.

The 16% of undergraduate students who are local area residents include students from Santa Barbara County (4%), Monterey County (2%) and San Luis Obispo County (11%).



## Retention & Persistence to Graduation

The following data is derived from a comprehensive cohort study developed by Institutional Planning and Analysis. To date, the study follows the retention of students first enrolling in the Summer and Fall of 1990 through Fall 2002.

Six year graduation rates for first-time freshmen are available for the 1991

through 1998 freshmen cohorts. (The six-year observation interval is the rate most often used by federal and other reporting bodies.)

For more detailed information, see the IP&A publication *PolyTrends* on "Retention and Graduation of Full-time Undergraduates" and the "Retention and Graduation Reports" at <http://www.ipa.calpoly.edu>.

### First to Second Year Retention for First-time Freshmen

Fall 1996 to Fall 1997	85.8%
Fall 1997 to Fall 1998	87.1%
Fall 1998 to Fall 1999	89.0%
Fall 1999 to Fall 2000	88.6%
Fall 2000 to Fall 2001	88.6%
Fall 2001 to Fall 2002	88.3%
Fall 2002 to Fall 2003	89.1%
Fall 2003 to Fall 2004	90.9%

### Six-year Graduation Rate for First-time Freshmen

Summer-Fall Cohort 1991	57.4%
Summer-Fall Cohort 1992	59.7%
Summer-Fall Cohort 1993	64.4%
Summer-Fall Cohort 1994	64.5%
Summer-Fall Cohort 1995	66.0%
Summer-Fall Cohort 1996	64.4%
Summer-Fall Cohort 1997	65.3%
Summer-Fall Cohort 1998	68.6%

For more detailed information, see the Fact Book at [http://www.ipa.calpoly.edu/fact\\_bk/fb\\_toc.html](http://www.ipa.calpoly.edu/fact_bk/fb_toc.html)

**PolyView** is a publication of Cal Poly's Office of Institutional Planning & Analysis, based on enrollment statistics for Fall Quarter 2004. We gratefully acknowledge data supplied by Admissions, Financial Aid, International Education and Programs, and Housing & Residential Life.

Institutional Planning and Analysis, Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407  
(805) 756-2204 • fax (805) 756-5292 • <http://www.ipa.calpoly.edu/>

## Fields of Study

Cal Poly offers 65 bachelor's degrees, 24 master's degrees, 8 credential programs, 63 minors, 2 certificate programs and 1 doctoral degree. Majors that graduated the most students in 2003-04 were:

### Bachelor's Degrees

Business Administration	20.6%
Agricultural Business	5.9%
Architecture	3.6%
Psychology	3.2%
Computer Science	3.2%
Liberal Studies	3.1%
Mechanical Engineering	3.0%
Kinesiology	2.9%
Civil Engineering	2.8%
Industrial Technology	2.8%

### Master's Degrees

Business Administration	18.4%
Education	11.5%
Industrial & Technical Stds	11.5%
Agriculture	7.8%
City and Regional Planning	7.4%
Computer Science	5.9%
Electrical Engineering	5.6%

## Degrees Conferred

Cal Poly first awarded bachelor's degrees in 1942-43. Total bachelor's degrees awarded through the 2003-04 reporting year number 112,714.

Cal Poly awarded 4,281 total degrees in 2003-04.

Bachelor's Degrees	3,873
Master's Degrees	408
Credential Recommendations	294