I hope you enjoy this update on the Kennedy Library. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at (805) 756-7367 or rparks@calpoly.edu.

Roseann “Rosey” Parks, Director of Library Advancement
We live in challenging times, but Cal Poly’s Robert E. Kennedy Library is responding by innovating, conserving, and strengthening its role in supporting our students in their pursuit of scholarship.

This year we took special pride in launching a new speaker’s series on popular science we call “Science Café.” Our goal was to create an informal learning opportunity that appeals to students regardless of discipline. Using invited guests, faculty and students as our speakers, the series was a great success.

Since its introduction two years ago, our 24-Hour Study Room has been incredibly popular with over 1,000 students a week who use it after the main library closes at 2 a.m. This fall we doubled the size of the 24-Hour Study Space by adding a Quiet Study Room and a 50-seat computer lab offering both PC and Apple computers. We also relocated our journal collection to a new space with natural lighting and better seating. Even the Reference Room is sporting a new, improved look.

Our librarians invested considerable time and their creative talents in developing online library research tutorials that are now available 24/7 to aid students in their research. They even introduced an “instant messaging” system to respond to the questions of students who use mobile technology.

We have had to cut back in some areas. Our highly successful exhibits program will be less active this year and the growth of our book and journal collection continues to suffer.

These are indeed challenging times. If you can consider contributing toward the Library’s fundraising efforts, it will make a real difference in helping students succeed at Cal Poly.

Thanks and have a great year!

Michael D. Miller
Dean of Library Services
Along with the summer 2008 transformation of the Kennedy Library’s second floor spaces for study and collaboration, Dean Michael Miller envisioned an emerging role for the Library as an intellectual commons for the campus. “Our goal was to develop an innovative program to foster university-wide learning objectives: critical and creative thinking, communication, learn by doing, and appreciation of each discipline in relation to the larger world of arts, technology, and sciences,” said Miller.

To help reach this goal, the Cal Poly Science Café program was created. The Science Café at Cal Poly is modeled on the international science café (Café Scientifique) movement, which fosters community dialog and inquiry on scientific topics through an interactive speaker series in informal venues such as coffee houses and bookstores.

Cal Poly’s Science Café program launched last January with “Improbable Vehicles,” featuring short talks by students, staff, and faculty about alternative and experimental vehicles ranging from a human powered vehicle to the Cal Poly Rose Float. The program continued through May with four additional events, averaging over 70 attendees each. The Café has a Facebook presence, a blog, a logo, a listserv, and a following. It is also the first and only Science Café on California’s Central Coast.
A year after DigitalCommons@CalPoly made its campus debut, Cal Poly senior projects and master’s theses are now available through the university’s online archive. Marking a shift from the past paper-based submission process, students upload their senior projects and master’s theses directly to the online archive. Once in the system, the work is automatically archived by Robert E. Kennedy Library and made available to anyone with Internet access.

“This is a major step toward increasing access and availability of capstone projects and theses created by Cal Poly students,” said Michael Miller, dean of Library Services. “DigitalCommons@CalPoly brings together student scholarship and shares with the world the high caliber of research and education occurring on the Cal Poly campus. Student work will be available to new audiences including future employers, future Cal Poly students, Cal Poly parents and alumni, graduate schools, funding agencies and other universities.”

Students see many benefits to the new system. Shawna Swanson (ART’09) believes that her work will be used more frequently now that her project is archived online. “I think people are more likely to look up senior projects if they are online versus having to sort through hard copies.” Adam Jacobvitz (EE’09) likes the simplicity of the electronic submission process, adding, “It makes it easier to search for projects. They can be viewed from anywhere.”

You can view senior projects by Shawna and Adam — along with many other student projects and theses — at DigitalCommons@CalPoly.

http://digitalcommons.calpoly.edu

[Did You Know?] The Library publishes over 160 online research guides to support student learning. lib.calpoly.edu/research/guides
Two years ago, the Library created a 24-Hour Study space on the first floor. Based on its popularity, and in response to student demand, summer 2009 saw the expansion of the 24-Hour space to include a new quiet study room and a larger PolyConnect computer lab.

“The reaction from students and faculty has been overwhelmingly positive,” said Dean Michael Miller. “Traffic continues to grow and the 24-Hour space has recorded approximately 1,000 visitors weekly between the hours of 2 a.m. and 7 a.m., the hours when the main Library is closed.”

The current renovations complement the redesigned second floor north wing that created an active social learning environment consisting of comfortable seating areas; eight Collaboration Rooms with moveable furniture, whiteboards, and large flat panel displays; a café seating area; and Julian’s Patisserie.

“...where you can be both comfortable and focused without the distraction of roommates. With an espresso bar available to me late into the night, I could study for 17 hours straight. I owe my increase in GPA to this study environment.”
- Nicolle MacDonald, BUS’09
Congratulations to Assistant Professor Christopher Clark (Computer Science), whose article was the 100,000th download from the DigitalCommons@CalPoly. The lucky article, “Archaeology via Underwater Robots: Mapping and Localization within Maltese Cistern Systems” can be viewed online at digitalcommons.calpoly.edu/csse_fac/54.

“This paper focused on the development of a robotic system capable of navigating underwater tunnel systems and using sensors to create maps of the tunnels. The research directly applied to mapping ancient water cisterns found underneath Malta’s fortresses and churches,” said Clark. “By sharing my work on the DigitalCommons@CalPoly, my published research is much more visible and available to a larger sphere, particularly those that might not be able to afford journal or membership subscriptions.”

The DigitalCommons@CalPoly is the university’s digital archive, providing open access to faculty and student research, scholarship, and creative works as well as relevant documents created by administrative offices, departments and programs at Cal Poly. View online at: digitalcommons.calpoly.edu.

“We’re very excited about reaching the 100,000 download milestone,” said Marisa Ramirez, Digital Repository Librarian for the DigitalCommons@CalPoly. “This is a fantastic way to show off the research, scholarship and the diversity of other activities and accomplishments of Cal Poly.”

The DigitalCommons@CalPoly ranks first among open access DigitalCommons sites established in the last two years and ranks 12th out of all DigitalCommons sites in total number of items available. Since its launch in September 2008, the site has received visits from over 129 countries and territories including China, India, Japan, Brazil and Mexico.

“Usage of content on DigitalCommons has been incredible in the first year,” said Michael D. Miller, dean of Library Services. “It goes to show that there is a great interest and demand for the research and creative outputs by Cal Poly.”

To find out how you can support the DigitalCommons, contact Rosey Parks, director of Library Advancement.

[DID YOU KNOW?]

With the implementation of online master’s theses last year, you have access to over 150 master theses online.

[SIDE NOTE:]

To contact Rosey, you can email her at rparks@calpoly.edu or call her at 805.756.7367.
A great man can accomplish great things. This sentiment only begins to describe the legacy of Cal Poly President Emeritus Robert E. Kennedy. He was the seventh individual to lead Cal Poly as President and served Cal Poly for 27 years prior to his presidency. His long history with Cal Poly began when he took a position as instructor/public relations on the advice of a good friend. Kennedy was told, “That’s the school that’s going someplace.” So, Dr. Kennedy and his wife, Mary, left their San Diego home to settle in San Luis Obispo. Thus began a close relationship between Dr. Kennedy and President Julian McPhee.

Prior to his presidency, Dr. Kennedy described his role at Cal Poly as being advisory to others. “I had to tell the President what he should say. My job had never been to listen, but to give advice. When I became President, my most important role was to listen.” His presidency became known for reaching out to groups to seek their opinions. Holding community forums and press conferences was his preferred style of communication.

Lobbying was a skill Dr. Kennedy learned from President McPhee, and it served him well. As Cal Poly President, Dr. Kennedy was actively involved in working with the legislature to support a new Library. “The existing Library was built for 2,000-3,000 students, and we had an enrollment of 6,000 students,” said Kennedy. “The governor did not want to support new facilities, and I had to exert pressure on powerful stakeholders to get the Library approved.” Because of his success and vision, the Kennedy Library was named after him upon its completion in 1979.
Mary Kennedy played a significant role in nurturing Cal Poly. “I never made a decision without consulting Mary,” said Kennedy. The Kennedys were known for opening their home to all Cal Poly students and faculty. Mary was also a poet and an active member of the campus club for women. She stressed the club’s role in promoting the welfare of the students and being of service to the University.

Upon his retirement, Dr. Kennedy and Mary chose to support the Special Collections and University Archives Department of the Kennedy Library. Why do the Kennedys support the Library? “A great Library is essential to a higher education institution. The Library is like the kitchen in a home. It’s the hub of the house; it’s where you get fed.”

Married for 71 years, the Kennedys continue to live in San Luis Obispo and enjoy attending Retired Faculty and Staff events. Dr. Kennedy has been a frequent speaker for the opening of the Grand Reunion. Alumni and current students appreciate the privilege of hearing from one of Cal Poly’s finest.

“**A GREAT MAN CAN ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS.**”

The library building is named in honor of President-Emeritus (1967-1979) Robert E. Kennedy. Learn more about Robert E. Kennedy online.

- [http://lib.calpoly.edu/about/library/rek_bio.html](http://lib.calpoly.edu/about/library/rek_bio.html)
Support Kennedy Library’s “Most Wanted”

The Kennedy Library houses a collection of over 600,000 books, 37,000 electronic journals and over 1,500 print journals, with new materials added every day. Even so, in today’s rapidly changing world, the research and teaching needs of our faculty and students demand that our collections reflect the most current information. There is an ongoing need for more information resources than the library’s budget can cover. We need your help to keep the library’s holdings current.

The Most Wanted is a list of electronic and printed resources that we need to add or update in our collection. Although some items are discipline specific, the majority are beneficial across several disciplines and subject areas. They all complement the Library’s current holdings.

We ask you to consider adopting one of these titles. In recognition of your support, your name will be listed in the online catalog.

Most Wanted List

**Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences**
- Environment Complete Index

**Architecture**
- MAD CAD (Silver Package)
- BuildingGreen Suite

**Business**
- Standard & Poor’s NetAdvantage
- Dunn & Bradstreet Industry Norms and Key Business Ratios
- Value Line

**Engineering**
- ASTM Standards
- Transportation Research Board Digital Library

**Humanities & Social Sciences**
- MIT CogNet
- Gerritsen Collection
- ITER

**Science & Mathematics**
- Web of Science
- Scopus

**Special Collections**
- Proquest Historic Newspapers
- San Francisco Chronicle

PolyCat, Kennedy Library’s online catalog, can find books, e-books, course reserves, online resources, senior projects, maps, periodicals, and videos.

http://poetry.lib.calpoly.edu/
MATCH YOUR CAL POLY GIFT

If you lead, we will follow! It starts with your gift and a matching application. Hundreds of corporations support employee philanthropy with a matching gift program, and some companies will even match gifts from spouses and retirees. Matching funds follow your gifts to your favorite programs. Last year, employers matched over $400,000 to Cal Poly programs.

Will your company match your gift? What's the process? Only you can initiate a matching gift application. Then, we'll do the rest. To find out whether an employer has a matching gift application and how to apply for a match, contact your Human Resources Department or log on to your company intranet. You can also contact the Cal Poly matching gifts specialist Linda Stark at (805) 756-2713 or lstark@calpoly.edu.

KENNEDY LIBRARY’S AMAZON WISH LIST

Support the Kennedy Library by purchasing a book through our Amazon Wish List. Giving a book “In Honor Of” is a perfect way to honor one of your loved ones. To view titles, go to www.amazon.com, click on “Gifts and Wish Lists,” and enter “R. E. Kennedy Library” in the light blue box on the right for “Search Wish Lists and Registries.”
[DID YOU KNOW?]
Students can use "IM" — Instant Messaging — to get quick and convenient help from the Library.

MEET THE LIBRARY STUDENT ASSISTANTS OF KENNEDY LIBRARY

Andrew Anderson

Hometown: Moorpark, California
Year & Major: Senior in Aerospace Engineering

As a past student assistant in his hometown library, Andrew naturally sought employment in the Kennedy Library his freshman year. After two years at the circulation desk, he moved to the information technology group. Andrew is a computer workstation and server expert and was heavily involved last summer in relocating and setting up the new Poly-Connect Computer Lab in the 24-Hour space.

Andrew is a member of the Flight Simulator Club and enjoys giving tours and demonstrations of the simulator to visiting middle and high school groups. He recently acquired his license as a private pilot. He enjoys working in the library because of the challenge of coordinating projects with several groups and because of the close relationship he has developed with library staff.

Jennifer Dale

Hometown: Anchorage, Alaska
Year & Major: Graduate student in Psychology

Jenni has been working in reference since 2006. Her job duties include assisting students and faculty with the utilization of computer software and various online databases and answering questions on the research process. When she’s not in the library or studying, Jenni enjoys running, hiking, and camping as well as substitute teaching for preschool.

Jenni believes one of the best perks of working in the Library is being surrounded by amazing library science professionals who have given her invaluable support and tutoring in library resources. “And, who would not love being surrounded by books?” After graduation, she will work toward licensure as a marriage and family therapist. After reducing her student loans, a second degree in public policy may be in her future.
Alexander Donoghue

**Hometown** Santa Clara, California  
**Year & Major** Senior in Physics

Alex joined the library staff his freshman year and has been working in building services for five years. He provided valuable assistance in recent years during the first and second floor renovations relocating shelves and furniture. He is also responsible for set-up and take-down for library events such as the popular Science Café series and the library exhibits.

For three years, Alex was a member of the triathlon club. He prefers to use his bike as his transportation around town and doesn’t own a car. His longest bike ride was from Monterey to San Luis Obispo. Alex enjoys listening to public radio, especially jazz, and is a frequent reader of the *Architectural Record*. He also spent a summer working on the Large Hadron Collider at CERN in Switzerland (a particle accelerator). After graduation, Alex would like to be involved in research.

Laura Sorvetti

**Hometown** Upland, California  
**Year & Major** Graduate student in History

Laura’s curiosity and love of Cal Poly history drew her to conduct research in Special Collections and University Archives, not knowing it would lead to a job in the department. Her responsibilities include the preservation of paper collections and uploading digital work to the university’s online archive, DigitalCommons. “Because of my work in Special Collections, I’ve seen the possibilities of being an educator in places outside the classroom.”

Laura received her undergraduate degree from Cal Poly in history and liberal studies and her current research focuses on the evolution of the printing industry. She is involved with the Cal Poly Trombone Choir, serves on the leadership team of history fraternity Phi Alpha Theta and the editorial board of *The Forum* history journal. She serves as the assistant curator at the Shakespeare Press Museum and moonlights as a substitute teacher in local schools.

The Kennedy Library employs over 100 students annually. You can help support our students by donating to the Library Student Assistant Endowment. Income from the endowment helps to offset over $275,000 dedicated to supporting our student assistants. “Each position offers the student the opportunity to learn a useful skill while also helping them meet the rising costs of a college education.”
The Kennedy Library has been engaged in a strategic planning process that began last March. As we develop and refine our mission and goals, we would like to share with you our values statement.

Our motivation: Value the scholar in everyone.
The library is committed to valuing the scholar in everyone by demonstrating a culture of service, collaboration, innovation, community, and inclusive excellence.

Service: We EMBRACE our role as educators and as a “common good” providing excellent service to support instruction and create an effective research environment.

Innovation: We INSPIRE excellence by creating a dynamic learning and teaching environment that uses a polytechnic perspective to help shape the future.

Collaboration: We FOSTER an atmosphere of collaboration, by being the catalyst for discovery, engagement, and partnerships that support learning.

Community: We CONTRIBUTE to the intellectual and cultural life of campus by serving as a hub for scholarly and creative academic engagement across all our communities.

Inclusive Excellence: We ENCOURAGE inclusiveness by promoting understanding, learning, respect, and appreciation of all people represented at Cal Poly and beyond.
Mike Alamo (PE’73,’81), president of the San Luis Obispo Daybreak Rotary, presented a check to the Library on behalf of the Rotary Club at their May meeting held at the Kennedy Library. “When I was working with the staff to schedule this meeting, I was asked two things I would have never heard in my undergraduate days while studying in the Library,” said Alamo (far left). “Do you need a PA system’ and ‘What would you like to eat?”

“The Library certainly has changed! The facilities renovations and expansion of the 24-Hour space have brought a new energy and sense of community to the Library.”

SUPPORT THE ROBERT E. KENNEDY LIBRARY

Please use my gift for the following purpose:

☐ Library Collections
☐ Library Student Assistant Endowment
☐ Library Building Transformation Fund
☐ Innovation Fund for Technology
☐ Robert and Mary Kennedy Endowment
☐ Area of Greatest Need

☐ Please contact me to discuss how I can help the Library.

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Visit www.giving.calpoly.edu to make your gift online or donate over the telephone by calling (805) 756-6448

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