Solar Decathlon project kicks off April 28

Cal Poly will represent California at the 2005 Solar Decathlon next October in Washington, D.C. The annual collegiate competition to design and build the most energy efficient, aesthetically pleasing dwelling requires innovative design and creative energy conservation. On Thursday, April 28, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., the Cal Poly 2005 Solar Decathlon team will show off designs for its entry, “Switch Box,” during a kickoff celebration at the former Stanley Motors facility on the corner of Monterey and Pepper streets. Students will present various aspects of the solar home’s design, and faculty advisor Rob Pêna will speak about achievements so far that have made participation in the Solar Decathlon possible. John Gambill and other key student leaders will explain their involvement with the project. Tom Jones, the dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, will also speak. The event is part of the campus Earth Week celebration, Friday-Sunday, April 22-30, and commemorates the 35th anniversary of Earth Day. More information about the Solar Decathlon team is available at http://solardecathlon.calpoly.edu/, or call CAED at ext. 6-1321.

Sipping and golfing ‘Amidst the Oaks’

The Vines to Wines club is hosting a golf tournament Friday, April 29, and a wine tasting Saturday, April 30, to benefit the university’s new wine and viticulture program. The third annual “An Afternoon Amidst the Oaks” golf tournament at the Avila Beach Golf Resort begins with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. The tournament includes “closest to the pin on par three,” long-drive competitions and hole-in-one prizes. Tournament fee is $125 per golfer and includes golf cart, driving range use, tee prizes and a barbecue lunch. The next day, “An Afternoon Amidst the Oaks” wine tasting begins at 3 p.m. in the vineyards at Santa Margarita Ranch, featuring more than 50 wineries from across California and a dozen Central Coast restaurants. For details and entry forms for the golf tournament, contact Vines to Wines student club member Dan Murphy at (650) 303-8949 or dmurphy@calpoly.edu. For details on the benefit wine tasting, contact Vines to Wines club student Molly Stroebel at mollycp03@yahoo.com or (209) 601-8220, or visit the event Web site at www.anafternooamidsttheoaks.com.

Tomato Mania hits Plant Shop April 9-10

Yellow Jelly Bean, Jet Setter and Caspian Pink are just a few of the tomato plant varieties to be offered this Friday and Saturday, April 8-9, during Tomato Mania at the Cal Poly Plant Shop. Gardeners will find a wide selection of tomato plants to choose from, including some well-known varieties like Better Boy and Beefsteak. The plants are specially grown by students to bring out each tomato’s natural flavor. Tomato plant sales will continue through April while supplies last. The plant shop is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and is located on Via Carta across from the horse unit. For more information, call ext. 6-1106, e-mail cpsharp@calpoly.edu or go online to www.polyplantshop.com.

Online video offers computer workshop info

A 30-second video about the various computer workshops offered this spring is available online at http://www.tls.calpoly.edu/training/intro.html. Computer speakers or headphones are needed to hear the information; a text transcript is also available. To view the workshop schedule, go to http://www.tls.calpoly.edu/training/index.html. Questions or comments may be sent to Technology and Learning Services at tls@calpoly.edu.
Online survey targets library service

To support the library’s commitment to provide excellent service, an online national library survey, LibQUAL+, will poll the campus community on library needs and use. Campuswide feedback will permit the library to assess its effectiveness in supporting instruction and research. Beginning Monday, April 11, randomly selected students and faculty will receive e-mails inviting them to participate in the Web-based library service survey. The survey takes an average of 10 minutes to complete. Upon completion, participants have the option of providing their e-mail addresses to enter a drawing for one of several prizes: a $100 amazon.com gift certificate; one of five $20 El Corral gift certificates; or one of 20 $5 Julian’s gift certificates. The LibQUAL+ survey was developed by the Association of Research Libraries. Follow-up focus groups will further assess campus needs for library services. More information is available on the library home page, www.lib.calpoly.edu, at ext. 6-2403 or at libqual@lib.calpoly.edu.

Summer quarter fee waiver schedule

Employees are reminded of the following summer quarter fee waiver deadlines:

• May 9 – POWER scheduled registration period begins (see “Priority and Graduate Students” category in the class schedule).
• May 17 – Last day to pay fees to avoid $25 late fee.
• June 1 – Last day to submit CSU admission application.
• June 29 – Last day to submit fee waiver forms to Human Resources, Adm. 110.

Fee waiver guidelines, procedures, and forms are available on the Human Resources Web site at http://www.afd.calpoly.edu/hr/index.html (see Professional Development). Call Darcy Adams at ext. 6-2472 for more information. For fee information go to: http://www.fees.calpoly.edu/feewaiver.htm.

Smyth Scholarship nominations sought

The Courtney Elizabeth Smyth Memorial Scholarship Committee is seeking nominations for a $3,000 scholarship recognizing a student who has overcome adversity and personal hardship. Nominations are due Friday, April 29 to Stephan Lamb, Student Life and Leadership, UU 217 or attached to an e-mail to slamb@calpoly.edu. For details, call Lamb at ext. 6-6509. The scholarship was established by the family of former business administration major Courtney Elizabeth Smyth, who was posthumously awarded a bachelor’s degree.

Take the Campus Dining survey

Campus Dining plans to add new dining outlets and is conducting an online survey to take suggestions for improving food service. Complete the survey, and your name will be entered into a drawing for an MP3 player or $50 or one of several prizes: a $100 amazon.com gift certificate; one of five $20 El Corral gift certificates; or one of 20 $5 Julian’s gift certificates. The survey takes an average of 10 minutes to complete. Upon completion, participants have the option of providing their e-mail addresses to enter a drawing for one of several prizes: a $100 amazon.com gift certificate; one of five $20 El Corral gift certificates; or one of 20 $5 Julian’s gift certificates. The LibQUAL+ survey was developed by the Association of Research Libraries. Follow-up focus groups will further assess campus needs for library services. More information is available on the library home page, www.lib.calpoly.edu, at ext. 6-2403 or at libqual@lib.calpoly.edu.

National Alcohol Screening Day April 7

What’s your alcohol IQ? The free National Alcohol Screening Day on Thursday, April 7, will give students, staff and faculty the chance to take a brief assessment and get information on the ways alcohol affects health, safety and success. In addition to the written self-test, participants will have the opportunity to speak confidentially with a counselor from Counseling Services. Referrals to on- and off-campus resources will be provided if appropriate. The screening will be held in the UU Plaza from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Fill out the screening self-test and get a free Tootsie Pop. Contact Mary Peracca at Counseling Services, ext. 6-2511, for more information.