Foothill to be closed through next spring

The city of San Luis Obispo will close Foothill Boulevard to vehicles between Santa Rosa and Casa streets beginning next week and continuing until March 2005 so Foothill can be repaired.

The work will bring Foothill back to four lanes, with center turn lanes, after two years of two-lane traffic and a temporary bridge required because of a collapsing culvert.

Pedestrians will be able to use Foothill throughout the project, but vehicles will need to take alternate routes. Highland Drive and Grand Avenue are the recommended routes. City bus routes will be altered where necessary.

Through this summer, traffic at the California Boulevard campus entry will also be subject to detours and traffic delays because of the project extending California to Highland Drive. For details on the California Boulevard project, check the Facility Planning Web site, www.facilities.calpoly.edu.

The University Police Department suggests employees take this opportunity to consider alternative transportation to campus, such as riding the bus, biking, walking or carpooling. For more information, call Facilities Planning & Capital Projects at ext. 6680. 

Leave solicitation

Sondra Gorman, administrative support coordinator in Mechanical Engineering, has qualified for personal catastrophic leave.

Eligible state employees may donate vacation credit and sick leave to help her remain in full-pay status during an extended leave.

Those interested in donating leave should request a Catastrophic Leave Donation form from solicitation coordinator Dena Ross at ext. 5587 or by e-mail.

Information on who can donate leave is included on the donation form. 

2004 Diversity Award winners announced

Cal Poly’s Summer Institute and its director, Maria Arvizu-Rodriguez, are the winners of the university’s 2004 President’s Diversity Award.

The Summer Institute focuses on students from backgrounds and schools that have historically had limited success in preparing students for college. For three weeks during summer, incoming students participate in an intensive psychology class, working on study skills and learning how to navigate the university.

“Under the stewardship of Maria Arvizu-Rodriguez, the Summer Institute has a proven record of helping underprivileged students succeed at Cal Poly,” said Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker in making the award.

The program will receive $1,000 as part of the award.

Baker also recognized Harry Hellenbrand, former dean of the College of Liberal Arts, who is leaving Cal Poly this summer to become provost of CSU Northridge, for his efforts to enhance diversity at the university, largely through leadership on the University Diversity Enhancement Council, which he chaired from 1999. Baker credited Hellenbrand and the council with securing a multi-year federal grant to support recruitment and retention of underrepresented students in polytechnic majors.

The annual President’s Diversity Award was established in 1996 to recognize units and individuals who contribute to creating a climate in which diversity is supported and celebrated.

Swanton Pacific named ‘Well Managed Forest’

Cal Poly’s Swanton Pacific Ranch has just earned a top designation for its sustainable forestry practices from the international Forest Stewardship Council. Cal Poly is only the fourth university in the United States to earn the honor, and the first on the West Coast.

The Forest Stewardship Council, an international nonprofit environmental group headquartered in Bonn, Germany, has designated Swanton Pacific Ranch in Santa Cruz County as a “Well Managed Forest.” The designation came after a year-long certification evaluation by Scientific Certification Systems, one of the accreditation agencies of the FSC. The ranch is used as a “living lab” by the College of Agriculture.

“The ‘Well Managed Forest’ designation means we have sustainable forestry practices, and all of our timber products are ‘green’ and ‘green harvested,’” said Natural Resources Management Professor Wally Mark, former director of Swanton Pacific operations.

“We consider this very significant, given that our main objective at Swanton is to demonstrate sustainable forestry and natural resources management practices and to give our students hands-on, learn-by-doing experience in those practices,” Mark said.

The ranch contains roughly 2,100 acres of forest, including redwood and Douglas fir and some Monterey pine. The ranch conducts limited logging operations.

“Independent certification confirms that the Swanton Pacific Ranch is being managed in the long-term interest of both the environment and the educational mission of the property,” said Robert Hrubes, SCS’s senior vice president and a registered professional forester. “The ranch is a model of responsible forestry. Certification provides an additional tool to market the products from (the) forest, and demonstrate to future generations that Cal Poly’s ‘learn by doing’ philosophy is a reality.”

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CFA chapter recognizes seven for excellence

Cal Poly’s chapter of the California Faculty Association (CFA) has recognized seven faculty members for excellence in teaching.

Three lecturers received the 2003-2004 CFA Distinguished Lecturer Award, and four ten- or track faculty members were named CFA Distinguished Educators.

The Distinguished Lecturers are Elhary Elghandour, Aerospace Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering departments; Barbara Blanke, College of Education; and Mohan Agrawal, Marketing.

The Distinguished Educators are Mary Armstrong, Women’s Studies and English Department; Lorraine Donegan, Graphic Communication; Barry Jones, Construction Management; and Vicente Del Rio, City and Regional Planning.

The Cal Poly chapter of the CFA initiated the awards program during the 2000-2001 academic year “to honor the many fine faculty members who are not eligible for the university’s Distinguished Teaching Award,” according to Phil Fetzer, political science professor and chair of the CFA Awards Committee.

The recipients are nominated by students and faculty members.

Liberal Arts honors faculty, staff members

The College of Liberal Arts recognized outstanding faculty and staff members at its recent annual reception.

Faculty awards were presented to Chuck Slem and Shawn Burn, both professors in the Psychology and Child Development Department, and to Linda Bomstad, a professor in the Philosophy Department.

Slem won the Outstanding Teaching Award. The college recognized him for his clear, concise and memorable lectures. He is an established expert in recitation and Web-based teaching techniques.

Burn received the Outstanding Scholarship Award. Her research activities relate to better understanding and treatment of women and how individuals can function more cooperatively in groups.

Bomstad received the Outstanding Service Award. She serves as chair of the Philosophy Department and as a faculty associate for Academic Affairs and co-chairs the Assessment Resource team.

Liberal Arts Outstanding Staff Awardees are Andrea Nash, administrative support assistant in the Women’s Studies Program, who won the staff award for Continuing Excellence, and Bob Pinkin, equipment technician in Graphic Communication, who won for Outstanding Achievement.

Position Vacancies

STATE  The official listing of staff vacancies is posted on Cal Poly’s online employment system, www.calpolyjobs.org. To apply, go to that site and complete the online application. Applicants needing computer/Internet access and/or assistance may contact Human Resources at ext. 2236.

100339-On-Call Pharmacist, Student Affairs, Health Services, $5,008-$6,639, possible signing bonus. Open until filled; review of applications begins July 26.

100340-Athletic Training Intern (Helper Aid), two positions available, Academic Affairs, Athletics, temporary, intermittent on call through 6/30/05, $28.89-$38.30/hour. Closes July 14.

100343-Network Analyst, Foundation/Career, Administration & Finance, Network Technology Services; one position available, position classification level will be determined by experience and background of selected candidate; $3,108-$4,960/month foundation level; $3,915-$8,013/month career level. Closes Friday (July 9).

100344-Payroll Technician II, Administration & Finance, Fiscal Services, $2,696-$3,528/month. Closes Friday (July 9).


FACULTY See www.calpolyjobs.org.


100320: Tenure-track Librarian (Engineering, Physical Sciences, and Mathematics Librarian), Library. Open until filled; review begins Monday (July 12).


100333: Tenure-track position, Accounting Area, Orfalea College of Business. Open until filled; review begins Oct. 15.

100334: Tenure-track Professor and Chair, Industrial Technology Area, Orfalea College of Business. Open until filled; review begins Oct. 15.

100337: Tenure-track 12-month Department Head, Landscape Architecture Department. Closes Dec. 3.

FOUNDATION (Foundation Adm. Building, job line at ext. 7107.) All Foundation applications must be received (not just postmarked) by 5 p.m. of the closing date. (No faxes.)

Customer Service Supervisor, Foundation Business Office, $15.94-$23.13/hour. Open until filled; review begins Friday (July 9).

Executive Chef, Campus Dining, $47,892-$69,394/year. Open until filled; review begins Friday (July 9).

Cook, Campus Dining, $11.05-$16/hour. Open until filled; review begins July 23.

VG Cafe Supervisor, Campus Dining, $12.47-$18.12/hour. Open until filled; review begins July 23.

Swanton Pacific

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Scientific Certification Systems conducted a detailed evaluation of all Swanton property and its agricultural and educational operations, including its forest areas and timber harvesting practices. The evaluation included a thorough review of environmental, social and economic factors involved in Swanton’s operation.


New dietetics internship program announced

Cal Poly has been granted developmental accreditation for its new Dietetic Internship program.

The program will start Sept. 13. Applicants to the program must be graduates of an American Dietetics Association didactic program in dietetics and have a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited school.

For details, contact program director Susan Swadener of the Food Science and Nutrition Department at ext. 6132 or sswadene@calpoly.edu.

Cal Poly Report

The summer Cal Poly Report appears online every other Wednesday.

Articles should be e-mailed to polynews@calpoly.edu, with the subject line “For Cal Poly Report,” by 4 p.m. the Friday before publication.

For more information, call ext. 1511.