

April 29, 2009
CAL POLY REPORT
The Weekly Newsletter for Faculty and Staff

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NOBEL LAUREATE CARL WIEMAN TO SPEAK AT CAL POLY SUNDAY

An insightful presentation is in store for community members when Nobel Laureate Carl Wieman takes the stage of Spanos Theatre at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 3. Wieman's talk, titled "Science Education for the 21st Century, Using the Insights of Science to Teach Science," will focus on how research on student learning, combined with new technology, can help provide relevant and effective science education for all students. He will also address the failures of traditional educational practices, even as used by "very good" teachers, and the successes of newer practices, showing how these results are consistent with findings from cognitive science.

For more information on Wieman's presentation or parking, contact the President's Office at ext. 6-6000 or at presidentsoffice@calpoly.edu.

WHY SHOULD WE VALUE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE?

Feminist Philosopher of Science Sandra Harding will present her talk, "Why Should We Value Indigenous Knowledge?" on Thursday, April 30, at 6 p.m. in Philips Hall, Room 124. What is indigenous knowledge and why do indigenous peoples value it? What does it have to do with biodiversity? Harding explores what Western scientists and engineers, as well as historians and philosophers of science and engineering, can learn from indigenous knowledge.

Harding is a professor of Social Sciences and Comparative Education in the UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Sciences. Her talk is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the Women's and Gender Studies Department, Ethnic Studies Department, Materials Engineering Department, Biological Sciences Department, College of Liberal Arts and the Multicultural Center. For more information, visit http://cla.calpoly.edu/wgs/lecture_series.html, contact Professor Jane Lehr in Ethnic Studies, ext. 6-6442, or jlehr@calpoly.edu, or stop by the Mathematics and Science Building, Room 140.

PRESIDENT'S COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS NOMINATIONS DUE MAY 1

Nominations are currently being accepted for the 23rd annual President's Community Service Awards. Nominate qualified faculty, staff and students for their contributions to the quality of life in San Luis Obispo and their spirit of civic engagement. Visit http://studentlife.calpoly.edu/communitycenter/nominee_form.asp to make a nomination. Deadline to submit a nomination is Friday, May 1. For more information, contact Amanda Stevens at asteve01@calpoly.edu or ext. 6-2176.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION GRAD PACKS ARE AVAILABLE

Cal Poly Alumni Association Grad Packs include a one-year Alumni Association membership, benefits packet, and a Cal Poly Alumni chrome license plate frame at the special rate of \$20.09. Grad Packs make great gifts for graduating seniors and are available at <http://www.alumni.calpoly.edu/membership/gradpacks.html> or by calling the Alumni Office at ext. 6-2586. For more information, visit <http://www.alumni.calpoly.edu>.

EE GRADUATE SEMINAR SET FOR MAY 1

Dale Dolan, assistant professor in Electrical Engineering, will give a talk on, "Modeling and Performance Evaluation of the Virtual Air Gap Variable Reactor," on Friday, May 1, from 2:10-3 p.m. in the Engineering East Building, Room 140. There will be a reception immediately following in the lobby of the Engineering East-Forbes Center. The presentation and reception are open to the public. For more information, visit http://cpe.calpoly.edu/media/uploads/resources/2009/04/27/10/28/EE_563_Graduate_Seminar_-_Dr._Dale_Dolan.pdf.

FEE WAIVER DEADLINE FOR FALL QUARTER IS MAY 1

The Employee Fee Waiver deadline for eligible faculty, staff and MPP employees wishing to apply for the fall term is May 1. For more information on how to apply and participate in the program, visit

<http://www.afd.calpoly.edu/hr/feewaiver.asp?pid=8&subid=2>.

SCHOLARSHIP NOMINATIONS DUE MAY 1

The Courtney Elizabeth Smyth Memorial Scholarship was established in 2000 to honor the memory of Courtney Elizabeth Smyth, a Cal Poly student whose short life was marked by a spirit of resilience in the face of adversity. Each year since its inception, the university has been able to acknowledge a truly unusual student who has overcome personal tragedy or hardship, suggesting an inner strength and a commitment to maintain academic progress. The awardees have collectively formed a legacy of perseverance that is both humbling and inspiring.

This year the university is privileged to announce the establishment of a second scholarship, the Mitchell Family Foundation Scholarship, to recognize an additional student who has succeeded while facing significant challenges. Due to the similarities in award criteria, nominees identified for either scholarship will be considered for both.

Send letters of nomination to Stephan Lamb, associate director, Student Life and Leadership, UU, Room 217 by May 1. Letters should include the name of the nominee, a description of the nominee's personal strengths and potential for success and insight into the character of the nominee and his/her ability to excel under personal adversity.

CAT PROGRAM HOLDS SPRING RAFFLE

Cal Poly's non-profit Cat Program will hold its Spring Raffle from May 1 to June 5. Tickets are at \$1 each or six for \$5. The drawing will be held on June 5 at noon. All proceeds go toward veterinary expenses and cat shelter supplies. Donations are tax deductible. Tickets can be purchased from Carolyn Barr, ext. 6-6236; Geri Bolivar, ext. 6-2321; Sharon Dobson, ext. 6-1606; Mary Fiala, ext. 6-6000; Edie Griffin-Shaw, ext. 6-5220; Ellen Notermann, ext. 6-1625 and John Sullivan, ext. 6-1717. For more information regarding the program contact Griffin-Shaw at ext. 6-5220.

FOUNDATION BOARD MEETING SET FOR MAY 2

The Cal Poly Foundation Board of Directors will hold its annual and board meetings, which are open to the public, at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 2, in the Alumni House. For more information about the meetings or to obtain copies of the agendas, call Sandra Ogren at ext. 6-1445.

'ETHICS OF FACEBOOK' SUBJECT OF TALK ON MAY 4

Continuing the Technology and Ethics Lecture Series, the Ethics + Emerging Technologies Group holds its third talk on Monday, May 4, from 2-3:30 p.m., in the Graphic Arts Building, Room 103. The talk is free and open to the public.

Anthony F. Beavers, philosophy professor at the University of Evansville and visiting scholar at Indiana University, will explore less-obvious ethical issues arising from Facebook, the increasingly-popular social networking site. These go beyond the usual privacy concerns and include new worries such as whether Facebook redefines friendship in helpful or harmful ways, how its news feed influences which relationships will develop or will not, its impact on our sense of purpose and self-identity, and more.

For more information and a flyer, visit <http://ethics.calpoly.edu/>.

NOMINATIONS FOR OUTSTANDING FACULTY ADVISOR DUE MAY 5

The Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award recognizes a faculty member who has positively influenced students through academic advising. The award recipient will receive a \$1,200 cash stipend, be recognized at Fall Conference, and have his/her picture and award citation posted in Kennedy Library. One faculty member is recognized annually. Note that the nomination should describe the nominee's academic advising services, activities and interactions as distinct from the nominee's teaching responsibilities, and should include any special activities that relate to student development.

Faculty, staff and current students are eligible to nominate faculty for this award. At least one letter must come from a current student. No self-nominations will be recognized. Nomination information and the nomination form can be found at <http://advising.calpoly.edu/council/award/>. The deadline for all submissions is May 5.

'ART HISTORY'S BAD GIRLS' LECTURE SET FOR MAY 5

"Art History's Bad Girls: Courtesans in the Art of China and Europe" is the title of the fifth lecture in the Women's and Gender Studies speaker series set for Tuesday, May 5, at 6 p.m. in the Community Room of the SLO Public Library, 995 Palm Street. Jean Wetzel will discuss how women of the courtesan class played a surprisingly important role in the visual art of both China and the West. This talk will explore that role, focusing primarily on women in Classical and Renaissance Western art, as well as Ming-Dynasty Chinese painting.

Wetzel is a faculty member in the Art and Design department where she teaches courses in Asian Art, Buddhist Art and most aspects of Western art, including a course on women in art. She also serves on the Women's and Gender Studies Faculty Board. Wetzel's specialty is the history of Chinese painting, and her recent publications have focused on the study of courtesan culture and the role of women of the courtesan class as painters during the Ming Dynasty in China.

The lectures are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served courtesy of Friends of the Library. For more information, contact Assistant Professor Rachel Fernflores at ext. 6-2330 or rfernflo@calpoly.edu, or visit http://www.cla.calpoly.edu/wgs/pub_lib.html.

FALL REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 6

For the first time in the university's history, Cal Poly will open fall 2009-10 registration two months early to help accommodate student demand for classes and help them finish their undergraduate education on time. Registration begins May 6, and student fees are due July 27. The move comes in light of current California state budget constraints. For more information, visit http://calpolynews.calpoly.edu/news_releases/2009/April/may_reg.html.

HOUSING CORPORATION BOARD MEETING SET FOR MAY 8

The Board of Directors of the Cal Poly Housing Corporation (CPHC) will hold its next meeting on Friday, May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Corporation Administration Building, Room 124. This is a public meeting. A copy of the agenda will be available for public review at the Corporation Administration Building beginning May 1. For further information about this meeting, contact Jim Reinhart, managing director, Cal Poly Housing Corporation, ext. 6-1131.

LIFE ON INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

What is it like to call the International Space Station home? Just ask astronaut and Cal Poly engineering alum Greg Chamitoff, who will give a public presentation from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, May 8, in the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center at Cal Poly. Everyone is encouraged to attend this free event. Chamitoff will talk about his experience living on the International Space Station for approximately six months last year. He served on the station with Russian cosmonauts Sergei Volkov and Oleg Kononenko, acting as the station's flight engineer and science officer. He returned to Earth in November on shuttle mission STS-126, having logged a total of 183 days in space.

ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS CONTEST ENTRIES DUE MAY 14

The English Department has announced the 2009 Academy of American Poets contest. Faculty may advise their students that all registered students are eligible to enter. A \$100 first prize will be offered. Currently enrolled students are asked to submit three to five poems totaling no more than 300 lines. Students should place the poems in a manila envelope, have their real name (no pseudonyms) and phone number on both the poem and the envelope and submit their work to the English Department office at Faculty Offices North Building, Room 32, by Wednesday, May 14 at 4 p.m.

Each year the Academy of American Poets and the English Department sponsor the contest. The judge is someone who rarely if ever teaches creative writing at Cal Poly. The

judge's name will be announced when the decisions are made public. Some previous winners have gone on to prestigious graduate programs in creative writing—and are publishing on the national level. The Academy of American Poets is an organization that promotes poetry all around the country and sponsors individual university contests. In order to maintain the award, Cal Poly's English Department contributes to the Academy annually.

PROFESSOR'S PHOTOGRAPHY ON DISPLAY IN SANTA BARBARA

Art and Design Professor Sky Bergman's photography is on view at the Santa Barbara County Administration Building's Channing Peake Gallery through June 19. Bergman's work is part of the "FAST FORWARD 2009" exhibit featuring 11 Central Coast artists. Bergman's recent trend toward photojournalism is evident in her newer works from Cuba and Burma. For more information, visit http://calpolynews.calpoly.edu/news_releases/2009/March/Bergman.html.

CORPORATION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Cal Poly Corporation is a separate corporation operating in concert with the university to provide a diverse range of services and resources to students, faculty and staff. For an application, visit Human Resources in the Corporation Administration Building, check the Web site at <http://www.calpolycorporation.org> or call ext. 6-7107.

SQL Server DBA/Developer, \$51,558 - \$74,698/year. Requirements: Three plus years SQL Server DBA experience; BA/BS degree, preferably in Computer Science or Business MIS; experience migrating from Oracle to SQL 2005. Experience with SunGard IFAS, BOE, Crystal Reports highly desirable. Excellent benefits. For a complete position announcement, visit <http://www.calpolycorporation.org> or call ext. 6-7107.

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Cal Poly Report is published every Wednesday. E-mail submissions to polynews@calpoly.edu by 4 p.m. on the Friday before publication.

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