U.S. News and World Report has rated Cal Poly the best public, largely undergraduate university in the West for the eighth consecutive year. Cal Poly also remained in fifth place among all institutions in the "Western Universities Top Schools" list.

For the first time, the list also included a more comprehensive ranking of individual departments. Among those not offering Ph.D. programs, the College of Engineering's Computer Science Department was rated best in the nation, along with Indiana's Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. Other national rankings for undergraduate engineering departments without Ph.D. programs were Cal Poly's Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Department (tied for second place), Electronic and Electrical Engineering (tied for third), Aerospace Engineering (tied for fourth), and Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering (both tied for fifth).

Among all Western regional colleges and universities, public and private, Cal Poly maintains a third-place ranking for reputation. It also received high marks again for freshmen retention rate and the quality of its students. CP

Structure eases parking crunch

Cal Poly's four-level Grand Avenue parking structure opened last fall to provide expanded parking for faculty, staff, and students. Created for safety as well as for convenience, the structure includes half-height exterior walls and two interior wells to allow for natural light and ventilation; lighting fixtures that illuminate the ceilings and give pedestrians unobstructed views throughout each level; 17 blue-light emergency phones located throughout the building; and a pedestrian path that passes under the entry bridge to avoid vehicle cross traffic.

(Photo by Katherine Dunklau) CP
Judy Muller, a national correspondent for ABC News, was one of several public affairs professionals who tried to make sense of the November election during Cal Poly's fourth annual public affairs forum, "The Good, the Bad, and Election 2000." Joining her were Frank Berry, West Coast regional director, NAACP; David Davenport, CEO of Christianity.com; Steven Hill, West Coast regional director, Center for Voting Democracy; Peter King (JOUR '76), syndicated columnist, Los Angeles Times; Frank Newport, editor-in-chief, Gallup Poll; and Carla Marinucci, political writer and analyst, the San Francisco Chronicle, who served as moderator.

(Photo by Patrick Swadener)
Cal Poly Fact Book available online

The 1999-2000 edition of the Cal Poly Fact Book is available online on the Institutional Planning and Analysis Web page at http://www.calpoly.edu/~inststdy/ and is available in .pdf format, enabling the user to view it online or print it, and including interactive links to other resources on and off campus.

The book is intended to translate accumulated data into useful information for the campus community and others who have an interest in Cal Poly statistics. It presents data for the 1999-2000 academic year and some historical trend analysis.

The Institutional Planning and Analysis Web site also includes the fall PolyView, the quarterly InfoBrief (highlights of enrollment, admissions, and scheduling information published each quarter), the common data set (updated yearly to provide current answers to questions frequently asked by external surveys), and a link to the final exam schedule.

For comments or queries, call 805/756-2461.

Van Gift Aids Disability Resource Center and University Police

Shared by Cal Poly's Disability Resource Center (DRC) and University Police, this wheelchair-lift-equipped van is a gift by Mary Matteucci in memory of her husband, John Matteucci (ME '60). Among many revolutionary applications, he developed the coating process for deflecting heat on outer-space solar cells; helped formulate anti-reflection coatings on windows of manned spacecraft such as Gemini, Apollo, and the Space Lab, and on aircraft instrument panels and submarine periscopes; and led a team effort in applying coatings to flexible materials like 3M's magnetic tape. University Police will be using the Matteucci van to provide safe and accessible transportation for all students during nighttime hours.

The vehicle includes a VCR TV to run videos on student safety topics such as alcohol/drug abuse and residential security. Shown are Police Chief Tony Aeilts (left) and DRC Director William Bailey. For more information on donations to the DRC or University Police, contact Susan Rains at 805/756-6652. (Photo by Cole Bybee/Karlen Design)
College of Liberal Arts Update

• Music Professor Craig Russell's Cuarteto de los Misiones—compositions he expanded from California mission-era pieces—was performed by the San Luis Obispo County Symphony at Washington, D.C.'s Kennedy Center.

• Modern Languages and Literatures Professor Gloria Velasquez released a CD titled "Superwoman Chicana," a companion to her book of bilingual poetry, I Used to be a Superwoman.

• The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures has created a new Poly Lingual International Resource Center. The resource center is a multimedia development lab powered by a high-end video and audio server.

• The Cal Poly Journalism Department will hold an Alumni Gala in November as part of Cal Poly's Centennial Celebration. The purpose of the event is to promote 100 years of journalism excellence and to raise funds for student scholarships and journalism programs. Please direct questions to Janelle Foskett at 805/787-0131 or to Terry San-Filippo at tsanfili@calpoly.edu.

Faculty, Staff Honored at Luncheon

Nearly 200 retired faculty and staff attended an October luncheon at Cal Poly's Vista Grande Restaurant. The event was organized to recognize faculty and staff members who made contributions through the years to the university's developing excellence. Speakers included President Warren J. Baker, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Paul Zingg, and Vice President for Advancement Bill Boldt. After lunch, guests attended a Cal Poly vs. Hofstra football game. (Photo by Stephen Kempert, Mustang Daily)

Cal Poly offers wine analysis class

As part of the College of Agriculture’s expanded Wine Science and Viticulture initiative, the Extended Education office offered the Central Coast’s first wine analysis course. The class helps students learn analysis methods and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms analysis requirements.

“The program is an ongoing commitment by the university,” said Joseph Montecalvo, Cal Poly food science professor and the course’s creator. “Our goal is to produce the laboratory talent this region needs to conduct wine analysis [and] to equip and operate wine analysis laboratories in a certified manner.”

The class was developed and fine-tuned by industry entities such as Wild Horse, Tolosa, Nestle, O. H. Kruse Co., and the Southern California section of the Institute of Food Technologists.
Two new deans sign on

Two new deans have joined Cal Poly: Bonnie Konopak, teacher and dean in the College of Education at the University of Northern Colorado, has been appointed dean of the University Center for Teacher Education (UCTE); and Dennis R. Parks, associate dean of Continuing Education at the University of Virginia, is the new dean of Extended Studies.

Konopak supervises all aspects of teacher education and related programs, relationships with public schools, and major initiatives related to teacher education.

Parks oversees Extended Studies certificate programs, extension courses, seminars, workshops, and Extended Education and Conference Services.

Architecture Career Workshop Marks 20th Year

Nearly 50 high school students will explore a variety of architectural disciplines this summer when the Architecture Department of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design (CAED) offers its 20th Annual Summer Career Workshop June 24 through July 20. Retired Architecture Professor James Bagnall started the camp in 1981 as a way for high school students to experience university architecture classes and studio work. The workshop combines model-making, sketching, computer modeling and animation, and individual and team design projects. Highlights include lectures, visits to local practitioners, and a tour of Hearst Castle. Bagnall will assist with the workshop, which will be directed by Architecture Professor Michael Lucas. Shown in the photo is teaching assistant JoAnn Grover as she guides some future architects through a space definition exercise.
E-mail system targets prospective students

E-coms, a new e-mail system designed to communicate effectively with potential students as early as eighth grade, has been developed by Cal Poly's Admissions and Recruitment Office and Hobsons, a global company with 25 years' experience in educational marketing and publishing.

"Our surveys have long indicated that e-mail is the medium students prefer when communicating with a prospective school," said James Maraviglia, executive director of Admissions and Recruitment.

Cal Poly has used the Internet for years to provide university information. "We were one of the first campuses [nationwide] to pioneer such technologies as electronic applications and CD ROM viewbooks, and we feel this is the next logical step in developing a communication plan that best addresses our audience's needs," said Maraviglia.

In addition to using E-coms for routine correspondence, the Admissions Office is working with academic departments to develop ways of filtering information and names to target the best prospects for particular academic programs.

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A Cool Night of Hot Jazz

Cal Poly Arts presents an evening with clarinetist Don Byron, one of Down Beat Magazine's "Jazz Artists of the Year" on Saturday, May 12, at 8 p.m. Byron and his sextet will perform on the stage of the Performing Arts Center's Christopher Cohan Center. The concert will feature the musically rich but little-known "cartoon jazz" gems of composer Raymond Scott. The Cal Poly Jazz Bands will open the performance with themes that include "The Pink Panther" and "The Jetsons."

(Photograph by Cory Wells Braun)
'Aeronautical Engineering' now 'Aerospace Engineering'

Cal Poly's Aeronautical Engineering Department has changed its name to Aerospace Engineering to better represent the widened focus and strength in both aeronautical and astronautical engineering.

Over the last decade, the rapid growth in the space industry, along with students' increasing interest in satellites, launch vehicles, and other systems, has spurred the development of an astronautics curriculum and concentration in the department.

Cal Poly Universities Win Founder's Trophy

The 2001 Cal Poly universities' rose float was awarded the Founder's Trophy on Jan. 1 for their entry, "A Grizzly Situation," under the Tournament of Roses Parade theme of "Fabric of America." Depicting curious bears who have invaded a family's campsite, the float by the San Luis Obispo and Pomona campuses is the only university submission. Design and technical construction of the float is a year-long process for campus Rose Float committee members, and during the week preceding the parade more than 700 volunteers build the float using natural vegetation and flowers. This year 1 million people lined Pasadena's streets to watch the annual event and more than 400 million viewed the parade on television.
CAL POLY

• The Master of Science psychology degree program in the Psychology and Human Development Department has been accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs.
• A faculty exchange agreement was signed by the College of Agriculture and Saint Stephen University College of Economics and Agriculture, Gyongyos, Hungary.
• The College of Agriculture has formed a strategic alliance with industry leader Crop Data Management Systems (CDMS) and Fresno-based Helena Chemical Co. to give students experience with a software system that constantly updates product-label information for more than 1,300 crop protection and specialty products, enabling faculty members and students to manage increased production acreage and meet industry demand for more trained graduates in the field of integrated pest management.
• The California Chapter of the American Planning Association awarded its Academic Award for 2000 to Cal Poly’s City and Regional Planning Department, and its Distinguished Leadership Award for a Professional Planner to Linda Dalton, professor and vice provost for institutional planning.
• “The Future of the Polytechnic University” is the topic of the first Baker Forum, to be held on campus in spring 2002. The annual forums are being created and funded by the President’s Cabinet, a group of 40 industry and community leaders, to honor Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker and his wife, Carly, for their two decades of service to the university.

FACULTY

• Rakesh Goel, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering, received the American Society of Civil Engineers’ prestigious Walter L. Huber Civil Engineering Research Prize. He was recognized for work in earthquake-vulnerable structures.
• At the request of Sen. Jack O’Connell, Mathematics Professor George Luna was appointed an alternate member of the California Coastal Commission. Luna is involved with regional government as current president of the SLO Integrated Waste Management Board, and is serving his third four-year term on the Atascadero City Council.
• Sema E. Alptekin, professor and chair of the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Department, and Teresa A. Swartz, marketing professor, were among 50 women leaders from across the state selected by the nonprofit organization, Leadership California, for its Annual Issues Program 2001.

STUDENTS

• An aerospace engineering team won first place in the 1999-2000 student design competition sponsored by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Foundation for the Cyclops, an unmanned aircraft capable of carrying 10 cruise missiles.
• Cal Poly’s Society of Women Engineers won first place in a national “Team Tech” competition for a quickly deployable shield that insulates fire trucks from ambient rising temperatures to protect firefighters inside.
• Cal Poly’s Dairy Products Judging Team topped 20 other teams to win the National Collegiate Dairy Products Evaluation Contest and went on to represent the United States at the European Dairy Products Judging Contest in La Rochelle, France. Dairy science faculty member and Cal Poly team coach William Gillis is their coach.

• A team of horticulture students took top honors in a competition sponsored by the American Society for Horticultural Science in Orlando, Fla. They placed first in the floral and interior plants category, second in vegetables and in woody nursery plants, and third in fruits and nuts.
• A team of agribusiness students placed second in the Student Case Study Competition sponsored by the Food Distribution Society. The contest is the first in what is expected to become an annual event.
• The National Society of Collegiate Scholars inducted more than 400 Cal Poly students during a campus ceremony to recognize first- and second-year students for outstanding academic achievement and encourage community service and leadership development.
• Soil science senior Dawn Afman, one of approximately 100 contestants, tied for first place in the visual Power Point presentation category at the American Society of Agronomy and Soil Science Society of America National Conference. Jan Novak won sixth place in the speech contest.
• Graphic communication students Amber Barrow and Meghan McCulloch-Kelly took first and second place, respectively, in the annual Bookbuilders West student book design competition. This is the ninth time in the past 15 years that Cal Poly has won the top award.
• A $10,000 research grant from the International Association of Food Industry Suppliers Foundation and the American Dairy Science Association was awarded to graduate student Aaron L. Harris to study milk in California dairy product manufacturing plants under the direction of Dairy Science Professor Phillip Tong of the Dairy Products Technology Center.