CAL POLY CELEBRATES RECORD-BREAKING YEAR

100th birthday and more than $40 million—what a year for Cal Poly!

In 2000-01, an unprecedented 70 percent growth in private gifts resulted in a record $42.5 million being donated to the university and its programs.

One of the year’s highlights was receiving 13 gifts and pledges of $1 million or greater. The three largest gifts were:

- $15 million from Paul and Natalie Orfalea to the Orfalea College of Business
- $3 million from Bert and Candace Forbes to the College of Engineering
- $2 million ($6 million pledged) from Paul and Sandra Bonderson to the College of Engineering

Cal Poly publicly launched its $225 million Centennial Campaign, “Strengthening Our Advantage,” in April 2001 with a spectacular kick-off dinner attended by approximately 450 alumni, friends, and donors. NBC news anchor Tom Brokaw was the keynote speaker, Cal Poly parent Marie Gallo of the Gallo wine family also spoke at the event, and U.S. Congresswoman Lois Capps presented a commendation she had read into the Congressional Record recognizing Carly Baker for her contributions.

The success of the university’s fund-raising efforts is a direct result of the dedication of Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker, the faculty, and staff, and the generosity of the university’s alumni, parents, and friends. Cal Poly’s $225 million endeavor is the largest fund-raising campaign in CSU history. Through June 2001 more than $135 million in gifts and pledges were received toward the campaign goal.

Cal Poly’s advancement program also received national attention. For the third consecutive year, the university was recognized with a CASE Circle of Excellence in Educational Fund-Raising Award for 1999-2000. Cal Poly was one of only two public master’s universities nationwide to receive a CASE award for the campus’ overall performance in development.