News
University News & Information

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California

Cal Poly Report - Aug, 17, 2011

News

Cal Poly MBA Students Learn by Doing in China

Students and faculty from the Orfalea College of Business MBA program recently returned from a 14-day Learn by Doing tour of China that included stops in the cities of Shenzhen, Shanghai and Beijing. The excursion offered MBA students an opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the global business environment and China's influence on Western business models. While in China, the 28 students met with top business leaders from prominent Chinese companies and socialized with Chinese MBA students from the China Europe International Business School (CEIBS) and Tsinghua University. An international trip to either China or India is the capstone of the Cal Poly MBA program. Professor Chris Carr, who organizes and hosts the annual trip, describes the experience as an excellent opportunity for practicing things such as networking and cultivating relationships in an international setting.

Read more on the China trip

Cal Poly Receives Nearly $1 Million in Homeland Security Money to Evaluate Firefighting Methods

Cal Poly's Fire Protection Engineering Program received a two-year, $940,571 grant from the Department of Homeland Security's Fire Safety and Prevention Program to evaluate methods for fighting wildland fires that have spread to structures at the edge of urban areas. The grant will test the effectiveness of compressed air foam systems and determine whether they are safe for firefighters. The research will involve a cross-disciplinary team of Cal Poly faculty and students, along with fire department personnel in Cambria and Santa Barbara and collaborators in Maryland. The team will be led by Thomas Korman, associate professor of Construction Management, and Christopher Dicus, professor of Natural Resources Management, with the participation of Mechanical Engineering faculty Christopher Pascual and Fred Mowrer

More on the grant

Campus

Fall 2011 Openings for Children at ASI Children's Center

The Orfalea Family and ASI Children's Center has immediate openings for 4- and 5-year-old children in its combined preschool-kindergarten classroom. Children are considered eligible for kindergarten this academic year if they will reach their fifth birthday on or before Dec. 2, 2011.

The center offers a non-traditional developmental kindergarten program that allows children to learn and grow at their own pace. The center emphasizes social competence and intellectual development. The kindergarten classroom operates from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, with extended care available at no additional cost. Submit your application to the ASI Children's Center indicating your interest in the 4- and 5-year-old program. Younger children can also be added to our center waiting list, and families will be contacted when an opening becomes available for their child. Contact the center at ext. 6-1267 for more information and to obtain an application.

Kennedy Library Now Loaning iPads

This month, Kennedy Library began circulating 10 iPad 2s to students, faculty and staff through the Poly Connect Lab on the first floor. The devices are pre-loaded with software applications, and library officials are taking suggestions for additional apps. The circulation period is 24 hours and will be increased to 72 hours beginning Sept. 12. Users are invited to check out an iPad 2 and then fill out a survey to let the library know what they think. For more information, visit http://lib.calpoly.edu/learningcommons/services/checkouts/ipad/.

Ombuds Services Gives Students a Resource

The Office of Student Ombuds Services provides students with a confidential, informal, impartial and independent resource to assist in the resolution of university-related issues, concerns, conflicts, or complaints. Ombuds staff are committed to hearing about students' experiences, assisting them in understanding applicable university policies and procedures, and -- as appropriate -- helping them to resolve informally any university-related concerns.

Faculty and staff are encouraged to refer students who have university concerns to this campus resource. The staff adhere to the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice of the International Ombuds Association. Associate Ombuds Patricia Ponce normally will be available to see students in the Student Ombuds Services office (Kennedy Library, Room 113) daily between 10 a.m. and noon or by appointment. Contact Ponce at pponce@calpoly.edu or ext. 6-1380 or visit the web site.

Federal Work-Study Student Employees May Begin Sept. 19

The first day Federal Work-Study students may begin working is Sept. 19, provided their Financial Aid award has been finalized, they have registered for at least half-time units, and they have completed the necessary employee forms with Payroll Services. You can list your Federal Work-Study positions now through Career Services' free online job listing service, Mustang Jobs. Federal Work-Study student assistant jobs will be advertised to students starting Sept. 1. Regular, part-time student assistant positions may be listed now, too. Each year, there must be a job description on record with Career Services (via Mustang Jobs) for every position filled by a FWS student. If your departmental FWS employer contact designee has changed, let the Financial Aid Office know by e-mailing financialaid@calpoly.edu.

Faculty and Staff

Cal Poly Mathematics Department Hosts International Research Conference

The Mathematics Department hosted the ninth annual international conference on Permutation Patterns (PP2011) from June 20 - 24. Mathematics professors Jeffrey Liese, Anthony Mendes and Don Rawlings served as local organizers. They were awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation to hold the conference and to support travel for participants. Previous sessions have been held in Canada, Iceland, Italy, New Zealand, Scotland and the United States. During PP2011, specialists in the area discussed the latest developments in the field and collaborated on unsolved problems. Thirty research talks were given. Additionally, plenary talks were given by Igor Pak from UCLA and by Jeffrey Remmel from the UC San Diego. Conference proceedings have appeared as special editions of high quality journals such as the "Electronic Journal of Combinatorics," the "Annals of Combinatorics," and "Advances in Applied Mathematics." The proceedings of PP2011 will appear as a special edition of "Pure Mathematics and Applications." More information about this conference may be found at http://math.calpoly.edu/PP2011.

Cal Poly Statistics Professors Receive Award for Use of Multimedia in Learning and Online Teaching

Cal Poly Statistics Professors Allan Rossman and Beth Chance have received the 2011 Awards for Exemplary Online Learning Resources from the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT). The program recognizes and promotes outstanding online resources designed to enhance teaching and learning. The award is granted to honor authors and developers of these resources for their contributions to the academic community. The award recognizes the two professors for the creation of the Rossman/Chance Applet Collection (Statistics/Probability), a simulation designed to illustrate various topics in statistics and probability. The MERLOT Statistics Editorial Board wrote: “We regularly use this collection in our own courses to help students to better grasp complex ideas and concepts.” Rossman and Chance were honored with a ceremony and plaque at the 2011 MERLOT/Sloan-C Emerging Technologies Conference on July 12 in San Jose. For more on MERLOT, visit http://merlot.org/.

Early Notice of Deadline for Extramural Funding Initiative (EFI) Proposals

The Extramural Funding Initiative provides support to assist faculty in submitting competitive proposals for extramural funding. The deadline to submit proposals for awards of mini-grants, assigned time and additional compensation for 2012 is 4:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7. For full application and submission instructions, visit the Research and Graduate Programs web site or call the RGP office at ext. 6-1508.

Catastrophic Leave

Kevin Bright

Kevin Bright, accountant in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, has qualified for personal catastrophic leave. Those wishing to donate vacation and/or sick leave to help Bright remain in full-pay status during an extended leave of absence should contact Lisa Hensley at ext. 6-5702 or lhensley@calpoly.edu to request a donation form.

Gareth McCain

Gareth McCain, groundsworker for Facility Services, has qualified for family catastrophic leave. Those wishing to donate vacation leave to help McCain remain in full-pay status during his leave of absence should contact Laura McCarren at ext. 6-5212 or lmccarre@calpoly.edu to request a donation form. McCain's child was born with a rare illness, and McCain needs to take periodic leaves to take his son to doctors out of the area and at times out of state. Please note: For Family Catastrophic Leave an employee (staff and faculty) may only donate vacation leave. For more information, contact McCarren, at ext. 6-5212 or lmccarre@calpoly.edu.

Christine Williams

Christine Williams, an administrative support assistant in ITS - Media Distribution Services, has qualified for personal catastrophic leave. Those wishing to donate vacation and/or sick leave to help Williams remain in full-pay status during an extended leave of absence should contact Ali Beug, ITS Office of the CIO, at ext. 6-5539 or abeug@calpoly.edu to request a donation form.

Robert Folger

Robert Folger, SSP II in Admissions, Recruitment and Financial Aid, has qualified for personal catastrophic leave. Those wishing to donate vacation and/or sick leave to help Folger remain in full-pay status during an extended leave of absence should contact Doretta Takagi, Admissions, Recruitment and Financial Aid, at ext. 6-1304 or dtakagi@calpoly.edu to request a donation form.

Campus Announcements

CalPERS Changes Include a Later Open Enrollment This Year

The California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) is undergoing a major computer system and website conversion this fall, which will result in the following impacts to Cal Poly employees:

- The 2011 Benefits Open Enrollment period will be held later than usual - Oct. 10 through Nov. 4. Health plan rates for 2012 are now available on the Human Resources website at http://www.afd.calpoly.edu/hr/benefits.asp?pid=3. Health plan details and Open Enrollement instructions will be posted prior to Oct. 10.
- Beginning Sept. 1, a Health Plan Webinar will be available on the CalPERS web site at www.calpers.ca.gov, providing on-demand video and downloadable materials regarding the 2012 health plans.
- CalPERS will be changing to the new, streamlined computer system Sept. 2-18. During this period, telephone wait times will increase, business transactions will be delayed, and members will not be able to log in to the self-service myCalPERS web site. For additional information, see the CalPERS and Cal Poly Human Resources web sites or call the Human Resources Benefit Line at ext. 6-5436.

Employment Equity Facilitator Training Set for Sept. 7

An Employment Equity Facilitator (EEF) Training will be offered for faculty and staff from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7 in Fisher Science, Room 290. Martha Cody, director of Employment Equity, will lead the workshop. She will be joined by Carolyn Johnson from Academic Personnel and Rhiannon Ricketts from Human Resources for a Q&A on faculty and staff recruitment. Sumi Seacat will be available for questions on Visas for the employment of non-citizens. To enroll, contact Seacat at sseacat@calpoly.edu or ext. 6-7387.

Cal Poly Plan Steering Committee Members Needed

Cal Poly permanent or probationary staff employees are needed to fill two vacancies on the campuswide Cal Poly Plan Steering Committee. There are no term limits on the two openings. For more information about the committee and to obtain an application form, visit http://www.afd.calpoly.edu/hr/forms.asp?form=20#standing. Interested candidates must complete the application, obtain appropriate signatures and return it to Human Resources by Sept. 16. For questions, contact Joan Beightler at ext. 6-5426

SAFER to Present Aug. 25 Session on Sexual Assault Topics

Human Resources will sponsor a session on topics related to sexual assault, presented by SAFER, Cal Poly's sexual assault resource and prevention program. The sessions will be held in UU220 from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 25. Topics to be covered include sexual assault myths and facts, what to do if a survivor discloses to you, available resources and prevention strategies. Time will be reserved at the end for questions. Call the SAFER office at ext. 6-2282 for more details.

Bella Montana Faculty and Staff Housing Community Has Homes for Sale

Visit the Bella Montana Homes web site for available homes for sale.

In Memoriam

George Ramos

Professor George Ramos, 1969 Cal Poly journalism graduate, 1993 College of Liberal Arts/College of Arts and Humanities distinguished alumnus, three-time Pulitzer prize-winning journalist with the Los Angeles Times, and former chair of Cal Poly's Journalism Department, died in late July at age 63. During his undergraduate days, he was the first Chicano student to serve as editor-in-chief of the Mustang Daily. After working at the L.A. Times from 1978 to 2003, he was appointed to lead the Journalism Department. Ramos served from 2003 to 2008 before moving into the faculty early retirement program. Ramos earned his first Pulitzer -- the Pulitzer Prize Gold Medal for Meritorious Public Service -- as part of a team in 1984. As a co-editor and reporter, he worked with other Chicano journalists to produce a series "about the roots, lives and aspirations of the 3 million Latinos who lived in California's 13 southern counties. The Pulitzer was the first ever awarded to Chicano journalists. Later, Ramos earned two Pulitzers for on-the-spot reporting -- one in 1993 on the rioting in the aftermath of the Rodney King beating case, and the other in 1995 as part of the team covering the Northridge earthquake.

More on Ramos

James Monroe Buxbaum

James Monroe Buxbaum, a former law professor at the College of Business, died Friday, July 15, 2011, at his San Luis Obispo home. Buxbaum earned a degree in international law at Columbia University and studied at The Hague Academy in the Netherlands. Buxbaum also spent time in Hollywood working on screenplays, as well as editing and producing shows. He completed his doctorate in political science at Claremont Graduate University and taught there briefly before moving to San Luis Obispo. He was a professor of Business Law in the College of Business at Cal Poly from 1978 until he retired in 1992.

More on Buxbaum

H. Glenn Wight

H. Glenn Wight, professor emeritus of Chemistry, died July 23, in San Luis Obispo. He was 90. A decorated veteran of the U.S. Army Infantry during World War II, Glenn earned his doctorate at UC Berkeley and began teaching at Cal Poly in 1952 when the campus had 3,000 students, all men. The Physical Sciences Department included chemistry, physics, geology and astronomy, and had ten faculty members. Wight was instrumental in creating a Chemistry Department that offered a major accredited by the American Chemical Society. Senior project research with many students ultimately led to four U.S. patents, the first in 1978 (with Biology Professor Tracey Call and student Marvin Mortensen) for the discovery of compounds that protected mice against otherwise lethal doses of radiation. Glenn retired officially from Cal Poly in 1990 but continued to teach part-time as an unpaid volunteer until 1998.

More on Wight

Larry Peterson

Larry Peterson, a part-time parking officer in the University Police Department, died June 25, 2011 after battling cancer. He was 67. Peterson came to work for UPD in early 2007 after retiring from a 40-year career in the funeral industry in the Central Valley. He first worked as an on-call parking officer for a year and then began assisting the department's Parking Equipment Technician. Peterson went on leave in Dec.r 2010 as the cancer began to take it's toll. The South Dakota Native came to California when he was nine and loved to get involved in service organizations. He lived in Morro Bay during his retirement.

More on Peterson

Events

Lewis Black August 25

One of the most prolific and popular comedians working today, Black has perfected observing the political and social absurdities in life, expressing what the rest of us cannot say in polite company. He rants so we don't have to! Black will be at the Cohan Center at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 25.

Details on Black

Cal Poly Collegians Alumni Big Band to Play at Madonna Inn Aug. 27

Continuing a decade-long tradition, the Cal Poly Collegians Alumni Big Band will perform in the Madonna Inn Ballroom from 7:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27. The band, featuring 20 musicians from across California and beyond, will recreate the swinging sounds of big bands of the 1940s through the '60s. Two winners of the 2011-12 Collegians' Jazz Scholarship will join in the performance: music majors Dylan Weddle, trumpet, and Jonathan Withem, percussion. For more information, visit the Music Department Web calendar.

La Guitarra California Festival Sept. 9-11

The "Celebration of Guitar" features an outstanding line-up of 20 acclaimed artists performing in ten concerts, four master classes, and a free lecture. The festival will have a variety of events Sept. 9-11.

Details on the festival

Job Vacancies

State Employment Opportunities

The official listing of staff and management vacancies is posted at http://calpolyjobs.org To apply, go online and complete the application form. For assistance, call Human Resources at ext. 6-2236.

#102380 – On-Call Media Relations Intern, Helper Aid, Academic Affairs, Athletics, temporary, on-call through June 30, 2012, $8.00 - $16.20 per hour. Open until filled. Review begins: Aug. 19, 2011.

#102386 – Operating Systems Analyst, Career, Information Technology Services, LAN Server Services. $4,314 - $8,831 per month, hiring range: $4,314 - $5,167 per month. Open until filled. Review begins: Sept. 6, 2011.

#102388 - On-Call Groundsworker (Pool Position), Administration & Finance, Facility Services, temporary on-call through June 30, 2012. $15.58 - $23.37 per hour. Open until filled. Review begins: Aug. 23, 2011.

#102389 – Meat Processing Center Manager, Administrator I, College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, Animal Science, salary commensurate with experience. Open until filled. Review begins: Sept. 8, 2011.

#102391 – Director of Major Gifts, Administrator II, University Advancement, salary commensurate with experience. Open until filled. Review begins: Sept. 12, 2011.

#102392 – Media Production Specialist I, Academic Affairs, Admissions, Recruitment & Financial Aid, $2,884 - $4,565 per month. Open until filled. Review begins: Aug. 29, 2011.

#102393 – Front Office Assistant, Administrative Support Assistant II, Student Affairs, Career Services, temporary appointment through June 15, 2012. $2,505 - $3,758 per month. Open until filled. Review begins: Aug. 29, 2011.

#102394 – Lead Building Service Engineer, Administration & Finance, Facility Services. $4,897 - $6,207 per month. Open until filled. Review begins: Aug. 29, 2011.

Faculty Employment Opportunities

Candidates are asked to visit the online employment web site at http://calpolyjobs.org to complete an application and apply for any of the positions shown below. Submit all requested application materials as attachments to your online application, unless otherwise specified in the ad.

There are no new job opportunities at this time.

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. To view job postings and/or apply for any regular-benefited position at Cal Poly Corporation, visit our web site. For assistance contact Human Resources at ext. 6-1121.

Executive Chef - Campus Dining, $51,558 - $63,138 per year, full-time, 12-month position. Requires AA degree in Culinary Arts and five years experience or equivalent combination of culinary education and high-level experience; Certified Working Chef preferred. Excellent benefits provided. For a complete position description and to apply online, visit www.calpolycorporationjobs.org.

ASI Employment Opportunities

Candidates are asked to visit http://www.asi.calpoly.edu to complete an application and apply for positions listed below. For more information, contact the ASI Business Office in UU, Room 212 or call ext. 6-5800.

Club Services Assistant (one year temporary position) $14.30 per hour. Open until filled. Review begins: Aug. 8, 2011

Teacher - $12.29 per hour. Open until filled. Review of applications begins Aug. 15, 2011.

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