

## Cal Poly Presents Seventh Annual President's Diversity Awards

The annual President's Diversity Awards recognize contributions to creating and supporting campus diversity. At this year's ceremony, President Warren J. Baker commented that the growing number and quality of nominations signify Cal Poly's increasing commitment to diversity.

Through the continued good work of the University Diversity Enhancement Council, chaired by College of Liberal Arts Dean Harry Hellenbrand, diversity issues are assuming a place of growing prominence in the university's ongoing conversation about goals and values, Baker said.

Two winners share this year's award, which includes \$1,000 for each program:

- Connections for Academic Success, a program that has partnered with colleges, Admissions and the University Diversity Enhancement Council to advise and help retain hundreds of diverse students

- The Minority International Research Access Program, which has brought over \$1.1 million to campus

## Cal Poly College of Agriculture, Canada's University of Guelph Establish Agricultural Exchange Program

Cal Poly's College of Agriculture and the Ontario Agricultural College of the University of Guelph in Canada have teamed up to offer an exchange program for students and faculty.

The University of Guelph is the premier agricultural research university of Canada, said Cal Poly Agribusiness Professor Wayne Howard, who taught there for 12 years. The historic university outside Toronto was originally founded as an agricultural college in 1874, and includes a school of veterinary medicine.

Beginning this fall, up to six students per term from each campus can participate in the exchange, taking courses for credit toward their degrees. The universities are also participating in a faculty exchange program for agriculture professors.

The exchange program will strengthen agricultural programs at



Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker presents the President's Diversity Award plaque to Donna Davis, coordinator of the Connections for Academic Success program.

Photo by Jeff Greene

to underwrite the international research experience of 10 students annually

The outstanding contributions of these two programs will be memorialized on a perpetual plaque that honors their contributions and those of past and future awardees.

both colleges, said Howard. Cal Poly students can take any Guelph courses, including organic agriculture and food science – two areas in which the University of Guelph is a North American leader – and students from Guelph will be able to take advantage of Cal Poly's strong programs in agribusiness management, dairy management, irrigation and pest management, and viticulture.

Cal Poly's Landscape Architecture Department in the College of Architecture and Environmental Design already has an exchange program with Guelph's Ontario Agricultural College.

For more information about Guelph and Cal Poly, visit [www.uoguelph.ca](http://www.uoguelph.ca) or [www.calpoly.edu](http://www.calpoly.edu), or contact Wayne Howard at [whoward@calpoly.edu](mailto:whoward@calpoly.edu).

## Extra Credit

### FACULTY

- Landscape architecture lecturer **Joseph Ragsdale** was named one of 31 winners of the **107th annual Rome Prize Competition** of the American Academy in Rome. He won the prestigious design and arts award for a proposal to study the relationship between the material surfaces that make up the city of Rome and the "source landscapes" of those materials – industrial sites, quarries and working communities.

- Spring commencement ceremonies honored three Cal Poly professors with the **Distinguished Teaching Award**, the university's highest teaching honor. Biological Sciences Professor **Alvin De Jong**, Speech Communication Professor **Bernard Duffy**, and Materials Engineering Department Chair **Linda Vanasupa** were commended for exceeding students' expectations and building confidence with challenging courses and caring attitudes.

- Accounting Professor **Jack Robison** was selected to receive the **2003 Faculty Advisor Award** for outstanding achievement by a faculty member in the area of student advising.

- Construction Management Professor **Barry Jones** has been named a **Fellow in the American Society of Civil Engineers** and the **United Kingdom's Chartered Institute of Building**. He was also admitted to the **Americas Registry of Outstanding Professionals**.

- Agribusiness Professor **David Schaffner** has been appointed to the **National Food and Agribusiness Management Education Commission**, created by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct a comprehensive review of food and agribusiness management programs, examine the human resource needs of agribusiness, and propose recommendations to aid colleges and universities in meeting the changing needs of the marketplace.