Housing Developments Planned

Bellemontana

The Cal Poly Housing Corp. is investing in affordable housing to help in the university's efforts to attract and retain quality faculty and staff to San Luis Obispo. Work is under way on a 69-unit housing development, named Bellemontana, located across the highway from the Highland Drive entrance to campus.

"Our recruiting efforts have increasingly been hampered by high costs in the local housing market," said Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker. "We know that young faculty and staff with families find it particularly difficult to come to Cal Poly. This project will allow us to continue to attract and retain the highest caliber faculty and staff."

The location of this project will enable faculty and staff to be close to campus and provide them with the opportunity to use alternate methods of transportation, noted Executive Vice Provost and Chief Planning Officer Linda Dalton, chair of the nonprofit Cal Poly Housing Corp.

Marketing of the first phase of the project to eligible faculty and staff is scheduled to begin in spring 2006, in anticipation of scheduled completion and availability for occupancy of phase-one units in late fall 2006.

Poly Canyon Village

The CSU board of trustees approved a 2,700 student housing complex, the largest single construction project in the history of the CSU. The project, dubbed Poly Canyon Village, will include three residential neighborhood areas on 30 acres, two parking structures, commercial retail and food outlets, and a recreation center with a swimming pool.

Poly Canyon Village has the potential to transform the campus through the creation of a new community that connects residential living with teaching and learning in a way that builds on Cal Poly's distinctive mission, according to Preston Allen, director of housing.

The contractor for Poly Canyon Village has registered the project with the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) organization, which certifies building projects that demonstrate responsiveness to sustainability issues. This will be Cal Poly's first effort at obtaining LEED certification. Construction is expected to begin this fall, with the complex opening in two phases in 2008 and 2009.
Cal Poly's Rodeo Team took top honors at the 2005 National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association championships in Wyoming, earning both the Men's All-around and Women's All-around champion spots.

Competing against students from 62 universities, they finished as the No. 2 Men's Rodeo Team in the nation. The Women's Rodeo Team placed sixth in the nation out of 35 teams. "No other intercollegiate rodeo program in the nation continues to produce more individual champions and team championships than Cal Poly," said Coach Frank Mello. "I'm proud of our student-athletes and our tradition."

The 2005-2006 state budget signed in July fully funds the compact for higher education, ensuring enrollment for an additional 10,000 California State University students.

The budget provides $134 million in new revenue, representing the first increase after three consecutive years of budget reductions.

At Cal Poly that means a 2.5 percent increase for enrollment growth. "We will now be able to offer a Cal Poly education to more of the state's brightest students," said Larry Kelley, vice president of administration and finance.

The governor has been steadfast in his support for higher education and the CSU appreciates his support, said CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed. "This budget shows the state's commitment to begin to restore the cuts from the recent budget crisis in California, which severely underfunded the CSU."
MUCH

MORE THAN 3,600 STUDENTS TOOK PART IN SPRING COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES IN JUNE, AND THREE LONGTIME FRIENDS AND ALUMNI OF THE UNIVERSITY RECEIVED SPECIAL RECOGNITION AS WELL.

Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker awarded William H. "Bill" Swanson (IE ‘73), chairman and chief executive officer of Raytheon Co., an honorary Doctor of Science degree and California Secretary of State Bruce McPherson (JOUR ‘65) an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

President Baker also awarded the university’s highest honor, the President’s Medal of Excellence, to Richard J. O’Neill (AH ’48). A celebration was held to name the three-acre rolling lawns and gardens in front of the Business Building the Richard J. O’Neill Green. That day, O’Neill became the most decorated individual in the history of Cal Poly and only the third person in the university’s history to receive the President’s Medal of Excellence.

RICHARD J. O’NEILL

“Richard O’Neill has provided five decades of faithful and generous time, expertise and wisdom in support of Cal Poly,” President Baker said. “He is an outstanding role model, working tirelessly to steward others into volunteer leadership capacities.”

A longtime supporter of Cal Poly Athletics, O’Neill’s advocacy became the catalyst for Cal Poly’s inclusion in Division I intercollegiate athletics in 1994. He was inducted into the Cal Poly Athletics Hall of Fame in 1987 and is one of four alumni inducted into the Cal Poly Athletics Hall of Distinction. In 2000, he received the Cal Poly Alumni Association’s Distinguished Service Award.

Through his leadership, $1 million is generated each year for student-athlete scholarships. He also helped generate momentum to renovate Mott Gym, build the Cal Poly Sports Complex, and renovate the Alex G. Spanos Stadium.

O’Neill is a benefactor to education, humanitarian and conservation causes. A sixth-generation Californian, he was born in 1923 and was raised on the 230,000-acre Rancho Santa Margarita, spanning San Diego and Orange counties. Part of the property later became Camp Pendleton; on the remainder, O’Neill and his sister, Alice, founded the community of Mission Viejo.
WILLIAM SWANSON

Swanson, a 1991 Honored Alumnus, serves on the Cal Poly President’s Cabinet and the College of Engineering Advisory Council.

As a member of the Business-Higher Education Forum, he co-chaired a BHEF initiative, “A Commitment to America’s Future; Responding to the Crisis in Mathematics & Science Education,” which outlines a plan of action for business, education and policy leaders to strengthen mathematics and science education in all 50 states.

“Bill Swanson’s leadership in industry and education is helping our country address a critical problem: the erosion of its science and technology talent base,” said Baker. “We are pleased to honor him for his service and contributions, not only to Cal Poly but to the nation at large.”

Swanson’s leadership is based on management rules he developed during his more than 30 years at Raytheon. “Swanson’s Unwritten Rules of Management” are straightforward directives that also provide insight into what it takes to be successful. He has established Raytheon’s guiding business values, based upon the highest ethical standards, integrity and trust, and a strong commitment to inclusiveness.

BRUCE MCPHERSON

California Secretary of State McPherson was honored for his service to California, including service in both houses of the California State Legislature, where he made support for education a cornerstone of his tenure.

“Bruce McPherson’s firm belief in quality public education echoes and supports the mission of The California State University,” Baker said. “He has been a tireless supporter of this university, through legislative advocacy and strong leadership as a dedicated public servant.”

He served two terms as a state assemblyman, representing the 27th District from 1993 to 1996. In 1996 he was elected to represent the 15th Senate District in the California State Senate and was re-elected in 2000. He retired from the Legislature in December 2004.

McPherson became the 30th Secretary of the State of California in March 2005, after being nominated by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and unanimously confirmed by both the Assembly and Senate.

A longtime advocate of public education, he has been a leader in shaping new policy in such areas as reducing class size, updating core curriculum, establishing graduation standards, providing additional funding for textbooks, and passing nearly $40 billion in state school bonds.

He has authored legislation increasing the number of school nurses and counselors, establishing high school after-school programs, and focusing attention on grade-level reading.

In 2002 he was selected by Cal Poly’s Associated Students Inc. as its inaugural Legislator of the Year.

The College of Architecture and Environmental Design dedicated the Peter and Ida Mae Berg Gallery in a ceremony last spring.

The naming is a tribute to the couple for their long-term involvement with students and their support of the George Hasslein Endowed Chair for Interdisciplinary Studies, said CAED Dean R. Thomas Jones.

The Bergs donated $700,000 toward the $1.5-million endowment that created the Hasslein chair. Their gift is one of the largest ever cash donations to the college.

The Bergs have served as mentors to students by hosting them in a one-on-one “shadow program,” where students visited them in Tiburon to learn more about the hands-on aspects of architecture.

Berg opened Peter Hoyt Berg and Associates in 1985. He has designed hospitals, schools, the South Terminal of the San Francisco International Airport, the Marin County Audubon Society Center near Tiburon and Harrah’s Hotel in South Lake Tahoe.