Provost finalist open forum May 9

Janice Schach, a finalist in the search for a new provost, will appear on campus during an open forum on Monday, May 9, from 10:15-11:15 a.m., in UU Room 220. Faculty, staff and students are welcome to attend. Schach is dean of the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities at Clemson University. The other two finalists, James Applegate, vice president of academic affairs at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, and William Durgin, associate provost for academic affairs and vice president for research at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, have already appeared at open forums on campus.

Solar Decathlon entry unveiled May 12

A small, solar-powered house, designed and built by students, will travel by truck next fall to Washington, D.C., for the 2005 Solar Decathlon sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. Solar Cal Poly, the university’s interdisciplinary student team and the only California entry participating in this international competition, will unveil plans for the house during a campus kick-off event from 3-5 p.m. on Thursday, May 12. The kick-off is free, open to the public and will be held on the softball practice field located near the Dairy Unit and Parking Lot H1 on Mount Bishop Road. Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee, who introduced Assembly Bill 1585 on behalf of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, will be a guest speaker. The bill would establish market-based incentives for renewable-energy technology such as solar power.

College of Business speeds access to MBA

Beginning fall quarter, the College of Business will offer a 60-unit program that will allow students to earn an MBA degree in just over 10 months. The deadline to apply is Friday, July 1. The college worked with members of the Business Advisory Council, alumni, recruiters, faculty and current students to develop the program. Several experimental and project-based elective courses have been added to the curriculum, including commercial development of innovative technologies, effective communication skills for managers and a business study-tour to China. The college will continue to offer a traditional MBA degree for those not pursuing the 10-month option or who are simultaneously pursuing dual graduate degrees. For more information, visit http://mba.calpoly.edu/ or call ext. 6-2637.

Hearst Lecture features Porsche designer

The Spring 2005 Hearst Lecture Series, “Compressed Energy,” continues Friday, May 6, when Alois Ruf, Jr., a master Porsche innovator from Germany, brings two examples of Porsche automobiles to campus. The Porsches will be on display near the Berg Gallery, Architecture and Environmental Design Building. The lecture will take place at 4 p.m. in the nearby Rotunda of the Business Building. Ruf will share his perspective on design, innovation and creativity. His visit to campus from Germany is sponsored by alumnus Mark Haselton of Continental Concrete Structures Inc. For more information, go to http://www.rufautocentre.com/index.asp.

Admissions has new financial aid director

The Office of Admissions, Recruitment & Financial Aid has hired a new financial aid director, Lois Kelly. Kelly comes from Indiana Wesleyan University, where she served as assistant vice president for financial aid for the last five years.
Find draft policy changes online
The administration is reviewing current policies and, after the review is completed, will publish "Campus Administrative Policies (CAP)," on the Web and in hard copy format. The new policies will take the place of the Campus Administrative Manual (CAM). In the meantime, draft policies reviewed by the CAP Committee are already posted online and may be found at http://policy.calpoly.edu/capdraft/draftTOC.htm. The policies will not have official status until final legal and administrative review has been completed. Questions or comments are invited. An updated list of CAM policies that are now retired is also posted on the Web at http://policy.calpoly.edu/capdraft/CAM%20Retired/CAM%20retired.htm. Hard copy versions may be viewed in Special Collections/Archives at the Kennedy Library. Questions or comments may be directed to Daniel Howard-Greene, executive assistant to the president, ext. 6-6000 or dhgreene@calpoly.edu.

Time for Poly Trekkers to sign up
Enrollment is now open for Poly Trekkers, a summer program on campus for children who have completed kindergarten through fourth grade (6-10 years old). The program will take place Mondays through Fridays during summer quarter, June 20 to Aug. 26, at the ASI Children's Center. Hours are 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Activities will include arts and crafts, games, swimming, hikes on campus, field trips and fun. Meals are included. The program will fill up quickly, so contact ASI Children's Programs at ext. 6-1267 for more information.

Change management workshop May 5
When change happens, it can be unexpected, sudden and unsettling. Or it can be welcomed and planned. Employment Equity and PacifiCare Behavioral Health will offer a change management workshop, presented by Dr. Debra Muse, on Thursday, May 5, from 11 a.m. to noon in Room 510 at Kennedy Library. The presentation will offer strategies and procedures for coping with change in the workplace and at home. For more information and to RSVP, call ext. 6-6770 or e-mail jernest@calpoly.edu.

CalPERS benefits, resources fair May 11
CalPERS will host a benefits and resources fair on Wednesday, May 11, 1-5:30 p.m., at the San Luis Obispo City/County Library. The fair, "Creating Your Own Retirement Strategy," will give members the tools they need to assess their savings and other assets in planning for their desired retirement lifestyle. Representatives will be available to answer questions and explain how to maximize resources for a successful retirement. For more information, contact CalPERS toll free at (877) 720-7377, or go to http://www.calpers.ca.gov/.

Inside scoop on special effects May 16
ASI Events will present the KNB EFX Group, one of the hottest special effects shops in Hollywood, Monday, May 16, at 8 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium. Group members Robert Kurtzman, Greg Nicotera and Howard Berger will share their experiences working on some of Hollywood's biggest movies. The group will also bring some of their amazing creations for the big screen. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Seating is limited; admission is free. For more information, contact Brian Bosch, student supervisor of special events, at ext. 6-1112 or aspecialevents@asi.calpoly.edu.