Nominations sought for top staff award

The Outstanding Staff Employee Award Selection Committee is inviting nominations for the 2003-2004 Outstanding Staff Employee Award.

The deadline is Jan. 16. Any student, staff member, faculty member, or department or division head may nominate an eligible employee for the award. For additional information, requirements and a form, go to www.qfd.calpoly.edu/hree/forms/index.html#forms. Return completed forms to committee chair Donna Amos in Admissions and Recruitment. _OD

'Solar Decathlon' designs on display Friday

Cal Poly is one of 19 teams chosen from around the world to compete in a two-year "Solar Decathlon" to design and build the most energy-efficient and innovative home possible, and the campus and public will soon get their first look at students’ ideas.

Schematic design ideas by Cal Poly students will be on display from 2 to 5 p.m. Friday (Dec. 5) in Architecture and Environmental Design 314.

Teams from the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada and Spain were selected this fall by the U.S. Department of Energy and co-sponsors to build 500- to 800-square-foot solar-powered dwellings that can generate enough energy to power a household, operate a home-based business and run an electric vehicle. The results will be judged on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., in the fall of 2005.

The 10 separate contests that make up the decathlon include such things as design and livability, design presentation, interior comfort, lighting, and energy balance, as well as communicating information about the house, powering the kinds of electronics a home business requires and charging the electric car.

Cal Poly's team already includes students and professors from the colleges of Architecture and Environmental Design, Engineering, and Liberal Arts, and students from other colleges are expected to join in the project. To broaden participation, a student design competition will be launched during winter quarter, led by the campus's Renewable Energy Club. Special courses are expected in the spring.

Because the contest means building an actual small home, transporting it to the nation's capital, rebuilding it there, then bringing it home, it will be expensive — an estimated $250,000 to $500,000. The team plans to raise the money through public and private donations.

"The Department of Energy has been eager to get Cal Poly involved," said Architecture Professor Robert Peña.

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Check links to articles on Cal Poly News site

If your office has a link on its Web site to a Cal Poly news release or to a specific issue of the Cal Poly Report, it will need to be re-linked if that hasn’t been done already.

Last week Public Affairs began its annual archiving on the Cal Poly News Web site. All news releases and issues of the Cal Poly Report were to be moved.

To re-link your page, go to the particular news release or Cal Poly Report to get the new address. You can reach releases and the Report through the links in the left menu bar of the Cal Poly News page (www.calpoinews.calpoly.edu).

Public Affairs is reorganizing files within the Cal Poly News site so that the archiving and re-linking process can be avoided in the future. For more information, contact Natalie Connelly at ext. 7266 or nconnell@calpoly.edu. □

Business-plan workshops set for this evening

Cal Poly’s Entrepreneurship Club and the Orfalea College of Business will present two, free, business-planning workshops today from 6 to 9 p.m. in Air Conditioning 302.

David Cremin, managing director of DJF Frontier, will conduct the first workshop, “What Do Investors Want?,” from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The second lecture, “Legal Issues of Business Establishment, Employment and Contracts,” will be presented by June McIvor, a partner in Sinsheimer, Schiebelhut & Baggett, from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information, contact Professor Bill Pendergast at wpenderg@calpoly.edu or ext. 2730. □

Continuing Ed offers intro to wine industry

A two-class course providing an “Introduction to the Wine Industry” is being offered on the next two Saturdays (Dec. 6 and 13) by Cal Poly Continuing Education.

The class, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Talley Vineyards in Arroyo Grande, will be taught by Steve Rasmussen, winemaker at Talley since 1986. For more information, look on the Web at www.continuing-ed.calpoly.edu or call ext. 2053. □

Professor Emeritus Sabol receives national honor

Agricultural Education and Communication Professor Emeritus Joe Sabol received special recognition by the National Future Farmers of America at the organization’s recent convention in Louisville, Ky.

Sabol received a VIP Citation for significant contributions, one of the most prestigious awards a person may receive for supporting FFA and its programs. Sabol was nominated for the award by the staff of the California and national FFA organizations. □

Reception set for Couture

A retirement reception for Sherry Couture, administrative support coordinator in the Political Science Department, will be held 2-4 p.m. Monday (Dec. 8) in the department’s office, Room 14 of Faculty Offices North. Couture has worked at Cal Poly for 21 years. □

Apackadero van pool has several openings

An Apackadero van pool has several openings. For times, cost and other information, contact Deby Anderson, coordinator of commuter and access services with the University Police, at ext. 6680 or djanders@calpoly.edu. □

Poinsettia sale is Saturday

Students are holding a poinsettia sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday (Dec. 6) in the Poly Plant Shop.

As an enterprise project, the students grew 34 varieties of the holiday flowers. The plants are for sale in several different sizes. For more information, call the shop at ext. 1106. □

Crafts sale under way

The ASI Crafts Center is hosting its annual Winter Crafts Sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Thursday (Dec. 4).

The event includes original, hand-crafted pieces by students and local artists. The Crafts Center is on the first floor of the University Union. For more information, call the center at ext. 1266. □

Position Vacancies

FONDATION (Foundation Adm. Building, job line at ext. 7107.) All Foundation applications must be received (not just postmarked) by 5 p.m. of the closing date. (No faxes.)

Customer Service Assistant, $11.05-$16.02/hour. Open until filled; review begins Dec. 12.


‘Solar Decathlon’ designs

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“because of the reputation of this school as being a hands-on, technically and professionally oriented school.”

Peña and professors Sandy Stannard (architecture) and Jesse Maddren (mechanical engineering) are anticipating an entry that is not only aesthetically and technically innovative but that also might serve as an example for rethinking contemporary patterns of residential living. Among the issues the team is exploring are a high-quality, low-cost prototype design for disadvantaged populations, the use of new technologies and materials, and sustainability.

For more information about Cal Poly’s effort, contact Stannard at ext. 2076 or stannard@calpoly.edu. More information on the competition is at www.eere.energy.gov/solar_decathlon. □

El Corral sale Thursday

El Corral bookstore is holding its annual Holiday Sale Thursday (Dec. 4). Prices will be 30 percent off on all Cal Poly clothing and gifts; school, office and art supplies; general reading and reference books; and holiday gifts and toys. □

Cal Poly Report schedule

The Cal Poly Report appears online (www.calpolynews.calpoly.edu) and in print on Wednesdays during the academic year. The last fall quarter edition will be published Dec. 10. Articles are due to Public Affairs by 10 a.m. today.

The first edition of winter quarter will be Jan. 7. Articles will be due to Public Affairs by 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, because of the New Year’s holiday.

Articles should be e-mailed to polynews@calpoly.edu with the subject line “For Cal Poly Report.” For more information, call ext. 1511. □

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