PHONG V. DANG, a finance major in Cal Poly’s Orfalea Col­lege of Business, is the 2009 California Polytechnic State Uni­versity recipient of the prestigious William Randolph Hearst CSU Trustees’ Award for Outstanding Achievement.

Dang was among 23 students selected by the California State University to receive the 2009-10 William R. Hearst/CSU Trust­ees’ Award for Outstanding Achievement. The winners, one from each campus in the system, were honored by the trustees in Sep­tember at the CSU Office of the Chancellor in Long Beach.

The award is among the highest forms of recognition for student achievement in the CSU. Hearst Scholars demonstrate superior academic achievements, community service, finan­cial need and the ability to overcome adversity.

Dang, who transferred to Cal Poly in fall 2008 from Santa Rosa Junior College, is working on a bachelor’s degree in busi­ness with an emphasis in finance management. Now a junior with a 3.70 GPA, he plans to complete his degree in business, gain career experience and then return for an MBA. Ultimate­ly he hopes to pursue a career in finance.

Dang first arrived in the United States from Vietnam with his father and two younger brothers in 2005 at the age of 21. At Santa Rosa Junior College, despite language and cultural dif­ferences, he earned the Dean’s Highest Honor every semester and graduated with a 3.80 GPA.

In 2006, his father and brothers moved to Houston, where Dang first arrived in the United States from Vietnam with his father and two younger brothers. At Santa Rosa Junior College, despite language and cultural dif­ferences, he earned the Dean’s Highest Honor every semester and graduated with a 3.80 GPA.

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