



## LOOKING AHEAD >

WITH PRESIDENT JEFFREY D. ARMSTRONG

# FACES CHANGE, LEARN BY DOING ENDURES

TRITE BUT TRUE: Time flies when you're having fun. My first year as president has passed – in a nanosecond, it seems. It has been great fun for me to learn about our fascinating Cal Poly community.

Of course, I'm also mindful of the responsibility that goes with the job. I am keenly aware that I'm following three legendary leaders – Julian McPhee, Robert Kennedy and Warren Baker. Each did so much to make Cal Poly the best public undergraduate university in the West, according to U.S. News and World Report.

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SOME NEW NAMES AND FACES, I ASSURE YOU THAT ALL OF US HAVE A PROFOUND RESPECT FOR CAL POLY'S TRADITIONS AND SEEK ONLY TO STRENGTHEN ITS REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE.

Conventional wisdom asserts that with a new president comes change. The truth is that change is constant at Cal Poly. Consider the many positive changes in Warren Baker's 31 years, including a nearly \$1 billion expansion and upgrade of campus facilities and a vast broadening of curriculum.

One significant change in my first year has occurred in the ranks of the university's senior leadership, as noted on Page 10. Though there are some new names and faces, I assure you that all of us have a profound respect for Cal Poly's traditions and seek only to strengthen its reputation for excellence.

Let me also assure you of something that won't change: Our

commitment to Learn by Doing. It is the cornerstone of our teaching philosophy. It was part of Cal Poly's founding philosophy, it has served us well for more than a century, and I cannot conceive of Cal Poly without it.

Let me close by sharing an e-mail I received recently from a proud parent that succinctly captures the Cal Poly spirit of excellence and success – and the power of Learn by Doing.

In April the Cal Poly Supermileage Vehicle Team captured third place in the sixth annual Shell Eco-marathon Americas competition. Great news. But even better is what happened

behind the scenes, as recounted to me by Glen Michel, the proud parent of one of the team members: "Let me tell you about the character of the kids in the Supermileage Club. Two other teams encountered some serious challenges just before the competition began. If they didn't get some help, they would have had to withdraw. The Cal Poly team stepped up so these other teams could overcome the last-minute obstacles and compete. They didn't have to, and they won't even let me tell you the details. Suffice to say, good kids, great team, great school – Learn by Doing is the way to go. I love Cal Poly."

I couldn't agree more. □



MAKE A DIFFERENCE ...

# BUILD A LEGACY

*Right, Kenny Hom ('95 Computer Science), speaks to what motivated him to build a legacy by including Cal Poly in his will: "Cal Poly had a major impact on making me who I am, and my time there taught me that if I worked hard, I could make a difference in the world." Kenny also sees the value in funding the education of future generations. "Generations to come will be tasked with solving global problems. Their education will shape our world."*

## YOU CAN BUILD A LEGACY TOO

Bequests, like Kenny's, have played a significant role in sustaining Cal Poly and providing resources for its growth. We are planning for the university's future – and we want to hear about your plans.

The university would like to thank you during your lifetime and recognize you as a member of the Legacy Club.

If you plan to include Cal Poly in your estate plans, we want to help you achieve your philanthropic goals.

To plan a possible bequest to Cal Poly, obtain sample language, or notify the university of your intended bequest, please contact us.

## CONTACT

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