$6 million pledged for engineering innovation center

The head of a Nevada-based corporation has pledged $6 million to establish the Donald E. Bently Center for Engineering Innovation in the Mechanical Engineering Department.

The gift from Donald Bently, chief executive officer of the Bently Pressure-Sensitive Bearing Co., will endow a director’s position and two faculty positions.

Bently said the quality of Cal Poly students and professors is the root of his support for the university.

“Bently Nevada has hired a number of Cal Poly-educated employees and hosted student interns as well,” he said, “and I’ve found those individuals to be of the highest quality and extremely well-rounded.

“I also believe it’s very important to endow outstanding faculty,” he added.

“And I’ve been extremely impressed with the way the Mechanical Engineering Department has utilized the rotor dynamics technology we have provided.”

Mechanical Engineering Professor Jim Meagher has been named the first director of the Bently Center.

For more information, call Meagher at ext. 6-1115.

Student group voted top section in nation

Cal Poly’s Society of Women Engineers student chapter was named Outstanding Student Section in the nation at the society’s recent national conference in Detroit, besting such major universities as Stanford and Purdue.

“We were competing against schools that should have blown us out of the water,” said Jennifer Harris, an engineering graduate student and the campus chapter’s immediate past president. “We won in the ‘large’ category," Harris said, “so we were competing with schools many times our size, including Stanford, Texas A&M, Georgia Tech, Purdue and others.”

Cal Poly’s Society of Women Engineers has won Outstanding Regional Section in 12 of the last 14 years. This is its first national win.

Employees still have time to pledge

Pledges and cash contributions can still be made in the California State Employees Charitable Campaign and (for Foundation and ASI) the United Way fund-raising drive.

While today is the last day to submit a pledge that will be effective in the Dec. 31/Jan. 1 paycheck, donations are gratefully received year-round. Both campaigns allow university employees to donate to any nonprofit, tax-exempt organization through payroll deduction, cash or check.

Local charitable organizations are experiencing severely tightened budgets this year because of the economy and state budget cuts and are asking for extra help from Cal Poly employees and others countywide.

Captains for the California State Employees Charitable Campaign are asked to return their unit’s pledge forms to Public Affairs.

Anyone with questions about the State Campaign can call Bob Anderson in Public Affairs at ext. 6-1511. Foundation employees should call Kim Miller in Foundation Human Resources, ext. 6-1122. In ASI, call Jayme Finley, ext. 6-5751.

Continued on page 2
Liberal Arts launches . . .
Continued from page 1
from the college is seeking to raise $13,500 to build, equip and staff a children's center at the Afghan university. The group hopes to raise the money by the end of July 2003. Zulfacar is a native Afghan who taught at Kabul University before fleeing the country and becoming a U.S. citizen. At the request of the new Afghan government, she and other expatriates have returned to Afghanistan twice during 2002 to help rebuild the country's education system after nearly a decade of repressive Taliban rule.

In her trips, Zulfacar found that women, banned from schools by the Taliban, were eager to return to schools and universities to continue their education.

"However, there is one immediate obstacle to the return of women students, faculty and staff to those university programs," explained Susan Currier, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts. "No child care is available to the women.

"Many of the women who want to study or teach were widowed during Afghanistan's decades of conflict," Currier said. "Most of them are sole caretakers of multiple children."

The college has selected Give2Asia to administer its Kabul University Children's Center Fund. For information about the agency and how to donate, go to www.asiafoundation.org.

Donations may also be sent to the College of Liberal Arts, and the college will forward them to Give2Asia. Contributions are tax-deductible.

For more details, visit http://kabulucc.calpoly.edu or contact Terry San Filippo, public affairs coordinator for the college, at ext. 6-1216, or Currier at ext. 6-2706 or scurrer@calpoly.edu.

Housing Corp. cancels Dec. 13 meeting
The Dec. 13 Housing Corp. meeting has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Feb. 7.

Ticket information
Tickets to the performances listed in today's Cal Poly Report are on sale at the Performing Arts Ticket Office 10 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays. Call ext. 6-2787, or fax your order to ext. 6-6088. Tickets can also be bought online via Tickets.com.

Committee members listed on the Web
For a complete list of 2002-2003 universitywide standing committee members, please see the Nov. 27 Cal Poly Report online at www.calpoly.edu/~communic.

University Jazz Bands to play Fall Concert
Surprise, spontaneity and a fresh look at jazz are in store for music lovers attending the University Jazz Bands' annual Fall Jazz concert on Dec. 6, according to Paul Rinzler of the Music Department faculty.

The concert, at 8 p.m. in the theatre, will "demonstrate the next generation's novel approach to America's great original art form, as two big bands and a jazz combo perform compositions by such jazz greats as Chick Corea, Michael Brecker and Thelonious Monk," Rinzler said. Latin, traditional and modern jazz pieces will be featured.

Tickets cost $7 to $10. For more information, call the Music Department at ext. 6-2406.

Cal Poly Choirs to perform 'A Christmas Celebration'
The Cal Poly Choirs and barbershop quartets, including Here Comes Treble, will help ring in the holidays with "A Christmas Celebration" concert at 8 p.m. Dec. 7 in Harman Hall in the Christopher Cozar Center.

The choirs are made up of three ensembles: PolyPhonics, a 34-member mixed choir; The University Singers, Cal Poly's largest mixed choir; and Cal Poly Vocal Jazz, a more intimate group of up to 10.

In addition to singing traditional compositions from the Renaissance and newly composed works, the choirs will invite the audience to participate in a carol sing-along.

Tickets are $7 to $15. For more information, call the Music Department at ext. 6-2406.

Foundation board to meet
The Foundation board of directors will hold a regular public meeting at 8:30 a.m. Dec. 6 in the Foundation Administration Building, Conference Room 124.

For more information or a copy of the meeting agenda, call Foundation Executive Director Frank Mumford at ext. 6-1131.

Position Vacancies
STATE: The official listing of staff and management vacancies is posted at least two weeks prior to closing dates on Cal Poly's Web site at www.calpoly.edu. (Select "Employment" from the Cal Poly links drop-down box.) As a courtesy to our on-campus employees, job vacancies also are published in the Cal Poly Report. Positions marked with an asterisk indicate that qualified on-campus applicants in bargaining units 2, 5, 7 and 9 will be given first consideration. Job applications must be received in Human Resources, Adm. 110, by 5 p.m. on the closing date.


#527-Associate Vice Provost for Academic Programs (Administrator III), Academic Programs and Undergraduate Education, salary commensurate with qualifications. Closing date: Open until filled; review of applications begins Jan. 14.


#530-Master Calendar Coordinator (Administrative Support Coordinator I)*, University Scheduling, Academic Affairs, $2,548-$3,696. Closing date: Dec. 6.

FACULTY Candidates are asked to contact the appropriate department office at the phone number listed for more information or to request an application. Additional information and qualifications for each position may also be obtained online at http://www.academic-personnel.calpoly.edu. Please submit all application materials to the department head/chair unless otherwise specified in the ad. Rank and salary are commensurate with qualifications and experience (and time base where applicable), unless otherwise stated.

#4689: Tenure-Track, Assistant Professor(s), Civil and Environmental Engineering (ext. 6-2137). Review of applications begins Feb. 3.

#4690: Tenure-Track, Assistant Professor(s), Architecture (ext. 6-1316). Closing date: Feb. 4.

#4691: Lecturer(s), Full-Time, Architecture (ext. 6-1316). Closing date: Feb. 20.

#4692: Tenure-Track, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology (Health Promotion & Programming) (ext. 6-2198). Review of applications begins Jan. 3.

#4693: Tenure-Track, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology (Physical Education Pedagogy) (ext. 6-2198). Review of applications begins Jan. 3.

Cal Poly Report schedule
The Cal Poly Report Digest and the Cal Poly Report online appear every Wednesday during the academic year. The final fall quarter issue will be Dec. 11. The online version can be seen at www.calpoly.edu/~communic. Articles for both editions are due to Public Affairs by 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4. Articles can be e-mailed to polynews@polymail.calpoly.edu or faxed to ext. 6-6533. For more information, call ext. 6-1511.