Al Smith leaves $20M estate to College of Ag

Alumnus Albert B. Smith, who passed away in December 1993, established a trust during his lifetime that donates the majority of his estate, including the 3,200-acre Swanton Pacific Ranch, to the College of Agriculture.

Estimated at more than $20 million, it is believed to be one of the largest estate gifts ever recorded for a public, comprehensive university.

In addition to Swanton Pacific Ranch near Santa Cruz, the estate consists of other properties, a working one-third scale steam railroad built for the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition, as well as liquid assets to be used for establishing endowments for teaching and railroads.

President Baker said, "Al Smith's generosity and foresight will benefit the university and the College of Agriculture for many years to come. He was a very unique and special person who devoted his life to educating future generations."

"A gift of this magnitude provides the university with the impetus it needs to begin a two-phase $100 million Centennial Capital Campaign, culminating in 2001," Baker said.

The 1944 crop science and 1956 agricultural education alum's involvement in Cal Poly and the College of Agriculture was extensive. With this partnership he was able to combine the three passions most important to him - ranching, teaching and railroads.

Smith made his Swanton Pacific Ranch available to Cal Poly students as a "living laboratory" in 1987. Students from many disciplines receive hands-on experience by working on the 1,900 acres of range-land, 1,000 acres of redwood forest, 150 acres of cropland, and learning about natural resources management. Some of them live, work and take classes on the ranch as well.

One of Smith's greatest attributes was his personal involvement in teaching the students working on the ranch. He instilled in them a feeling of responsibility and commitment to the preservation of natural beauty. And he worked the land along side of them, in his bib overalls.

We are honored to be chosen as the keeper of Al Smith's legacy," said Joe Jen, dean of the College of Agriculture. "The ranch provides our students with unparalleled real-life experiences - experiences that will benefit them and the agriculture industry in the future."

Stanislaus dean to lead internationalizing effort

The dean of the College of Arts, Letters and Sciences at CSU Stanislaus has been appointed Cal Poly's consultant on world cultures for the 1994-95 academic year to help internationalize our campus.

Irel Urreiztieta will arrive at the beginning of the university's "Year of the Curriculum," and is expected to play a key role in discussions of international issues in the curriculum and related programs.

In announcing the appointment, Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert Koob expressed his enthusiasm for this initiative and for Urreiztieta's willingness to coordinate the effort.

"Cal Poly has several international initiatives in place," Koob said. "Now it is time for the university to ensure that our graduates can pursue their careers with sensitivity to the variety of the world's cultures."

International issues, along with multiculturalism, are of increasing concern across campus. A professional society for international scholars, Phi Beta Delta, has been established on campus, and the colleges have increased their interest in enrolling international students.

The College of Agriculture recently entered into agreements with a consortium of universities in Mexico, the College of Liberal Arts

Howard West, 59

Howard West, longtime Cal Poly employee, died at his home June 29 from pancreatic cancer. Although diagnosed with cancer last year, he continued working as executive assistant to President Baker until January.

West was born Sept. 16, 1934, in Merced. He came to Cal Poly in 1961 as coordinator of public relations. During his 32 years here, he served as the director of international education and associate executive vice president. He was named executive assistant to the president in 1983.

He had been a member of the Cal Poly Foundation's Board of Directors since 1979, serving as secretary/treasurer and chair. He was also chair of the Standing Committee on Investments since its inception in 1982.

West was appointed by President Reagan in 1983 to serve on the International Private Enterprise task force — the only member from an educational institution.
Saying "goodbye" is difficult after all these years. For those of you who don't know me, I am one of those "Poly products" that came here to go to school in 1970 and just never left (except for those two years of post-graduate work!). During the last 24 years, I have known a great number of staff, faculty and students who have truly enriched my life. With many of you, I have known extraordinary friendship. We have not only shared a sense of commitment and purpose, but laughter as well. I know I will never know the likes of this again.

I have moved through 14 different positions during the course of my employment here including a stint as a part-time instructor and a variety of support staff positions prior to becoming an administrator. Each provided me with insights and growth. However, it is time to move on to new challenges and rewards. I am joining the senior management team of the Student Affairs Division at Cal State Northridge.

No, I have not lost my mind (as some of you have suggested!). I have chosen this opportunity because of the unique challenges inherent in a catastrophic earthquake recovery, and I am grateful for the opportunity to play an expanded leadership role in the increasingly complex area of student aid. At Northridge, I look forward to promoting the student and staff development concepts which I prize so highly and to working in an environment driven by consultative management strategies — essential ingredients for growth, productivity, efficiency, and quality student service.

"Not just back, but better" has become the CSUN rallying cry and as the director of financial aid, I will become part of a relatively new management team faced with a significant institutional crisis as we strive to make that slogan a reality. It is a daunting task, but on Sept. 1, I too, will be among the "movers and shakers" (pun intended) at Northridge. Oh, the things I will learn!

From the classroom to the board room, Cal Poly has given me perspective on what works (and what doesn't), and I am grateful for all the lessons learned: be caring, competent, committed, clear, communicative, and — most importantly — be good to each other. People are what matter the most, and it is the people that I will remember the best.

Respectfully and with warm regards,
Diane Ryan
Director, Financial Aid

Black & white photos on display in Galerie

Photographs exploring peoples' feelings of alienation from the modern world are on display through Sunday, Aug. 7, in the UU Galerie.

"The Spiritual and the Absurd" showcases the black and white and toned black and white photographs of recent Cal Poly art and design graduates Paul Asper and Todd Gates.

An artists' reception is scheduled in the Galerie from 5 to 7 pm Saturday, July 9.

"The images document an exploration of the problems related to the modern, industrial world of which we are all a part," the artists said. "The images simultaneously search for and reveal the presence of spirituality in a spiritually antagonistic world."

Asper and Gates received the Gold Metal Artist Award in the black and white and color photography categories, respectively, in a recent universitywide exhibit.

The Galerie's hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 am to 5 pm; Thursday, 10 am to 8 pm; Friday, 10 am to 4 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 2 to 6 pm.

For more information, call Galerie Director Jeanne LaBarbera at ext. 1182.

More Rec Sports summer activities

Recreational Sports Summer Programs is offering a variety of activities for children this summer.

The Intro to Martial Arts class begins Saturday, July 9, and continues for seven weeks. Basic concepts of martial arts will be taught with an emphasis on hand/eye coordination and body awareness. The session meets from 10:15 to 11:45 am and costs $45.

Rec Sports is also offering private swimming lessons through July 15. Personalized instruction will be given by Red Cross Water Safety Instructors. Sign-ups must be done in person at the Rec Center and are on a first-come basis. It costs $15 for two half-hour sessions.

Registration is also being accepted for group swimming lessons.

Call the Rec Sports Office at ext. 1366 for more information.

CPR schedule

The next issue of Cal Poly Report will be published on July 22. Subsequent issues will appear Aug. 5 and 19, and Sept. 2.

News items must be submitted to Jo Ann Lloyd, Heron Hall, by 1 pm on Friday for the next week's issue.

Please send typewritten, double-spaced paper copies if time allows. Last-minute submittals can be faxed to ext. 6533 or e-mailed to DU539.

Articles submitted will be edited for clarity, brevity and journalistic style.
Ryan farewell dinner planned for July 29

A farewell happy hour and dinner will be held Friday, July 29, at the Shore Cliff Inn in Shell Beach in honor of Financial Aid Director Diane Ryan, whose last day at Cal Poly will be Friday, Aug. 5. The cocktail hour will be from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, and the buffet dinner will begin at 7. For details and reservations, call Yvonne Ramos in Financial Aid at ext. 5895.

Deadline for applications changed to Friday

The deadline for submitting job applications for vacant staff positions is changing from Thursday to Friday starting today (July 8). Applications must be received in Human Resources by 4 pm on, or postmarked by, the closing date of the vacancy notice. For information on staff vacancies, call the job Hotline at ext. 1533.

Send extra envelopes to campus Mail Center

Offices with extra inter-office envelopes can send them to the Mail Center for redistribution.

Al Smith leaves $20M estate to College of Ag

During his lifetime, Smith donated more than $2.5 million to the university. This included an initial endowed fund in 1981 of approximately $80,000 to enhance agriculture programs and a 1987 $1 million gift of W.R. Grace stock to create a special fund to finance the ranch operations and provide grants for student research. In 1991, he gave another $1 million in stock designated for the construction of instructional facilities that will make it possible for a larger number of students to live there and take general education classes via the university's distance learning capabilities.

In addition, Smith underwrote the salary of the crop science professor in charge of the academic programs on the ranch, was the first person to pledge financial support to the College of Agriculture's capital campaign fund, served on the college's advisory council and was a charter member of the President's Round Table. In 1988, Smith was named the honored alumnus from the College of Agriculture and, in 1993, became the first recipient of Cal Poly's President's Medal of Excellence.

Smith left San Jose State College in 1939 to attend Cal Poly after hearing the campus was bisected by a rail line. While at Cal Poly, he worked for the railroad, but abandoned that career after losing his foot in a rail accident. Smith became an agriculture teacher instead. His father founded Orchard Supply Hardware in 1931 as a farmer's cooperative. Over the years, Smith invested in stock in the company after it became a publicly traded business and he eventually assumed control.

In 1979, his initial $1 shares sold for $47 each when W.R. Grace and Co. bought the Orchard Supply Hardware stores.

Smith had also been purchasing adjacent parcels of land and finally had the money to complete his dream of preserving several thousand acres of ranchland.

Stanislaus dean to lead internationalizing effort

has established a resident program in Guadalajara, and the College of Architecture and Environmental Design has had foreign study programs in place for several years. Although these and other efforts have been undertaken to internationalize courses and programs, there have been no coordinated efforts.

Dean Urreiztieta, who is also a professor of Spanish at the Stanislaus campus, has wide experience in international and intercultural issues and comes from an international background. She attended elementary and secondary schools in Venezuela and England and earned a bachelor's degree in French and Spanish from the University of Arizona. She earned two master's degrees, one in French and Spanish and one in English as a second language, and a doctorate in historical comparative linguistics and English as a second language, also from the University of Arizona.

Before her appointment at Stanislaus, Urreiztieta was a faculty member and administrator at Northern Arizona University and taught in Cuernavaca, Mexico.

AIDS educational sub-committee to meet

The AIDS Educational Sub-committee will meet at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 13, in the Health Services Medical Library in the Health Center. The committee is now planning for AIDS Awareness Week, to be held in October, and encourages anyone interested to attend the meeting and help with the planning, fund raising and logistics of the event.

For more information, call Angela von Rauner at ext. 1151.
Position vacancies

Vacant staff positions at Cal Poly and the Cal Poly Foundation are announced in this column and are posted outside the respective offices. Contact those offices (State: Adm. 110, ext. 2236 or job line, ext. 1533; Foundation Administration Building, ext. 1121). Cal Poly hires only individuals lawfully authorized to work in the United States. All interested persons are encouraged to contact the respective offices to obtain an application. Official application forms must be received by 4 pm of the closing date or be postmarked by the closing date. Faxed applications and resumes will not be accepted in lieu of official application.

STATE

CLOSING DATE: July 29, 1994

Athletic Business Manager (Athletic Operations Analyst I), Intercollegiate Athletics (Unit 9). Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications within the classification range of $2475-$2976.

Programmer I (Computer Analyst), Advancement Records & Systems (Unit 9), $2651-$3187/mo.

CLOSING DATE: July 22, 1994

Department Secretary II, Aeronautical Engineering (Unit 7), ($1071-$1269.50/mo., half-time, temp. thru 6/30/95 with annual reappointment - if selected candidate has permanency at this level, appointment continuous.

Clerical Assistant II, Advising Center (Unit 7), $1743-$2055/mo.

Clerical Assistant III, Civil and Environmental Engineering (Unit 7), $974-$1153.50/mo., half-time, temp. through 6-30-95 with annual reappointment - if selected candidate has permanency at this level, appointment continuous.

Clerical Assistant III, Academic Records (Unit 7), $1948-$2307/mo., 2 positions.

FOUNDATION

Assistant Supervisor, Light House Dining Room, Campus Dining. $8.05 - $9.78/Hr. Ten-month position with summers off.

Faculty vacancies

Candidates for positions on the faculty are presently being sought, according to Michael Suess, director of faculty affairs. Those interested are invited to contact the appropriate dean or department head/chair. Ranks and salaries for faculty positions are commensurate with qualifications and experience (and time base where applicable), unless otherwise stated.

CLOSING DATE: Nov. 30

Tenure Track Position,
Agribusiness, available September 1995 (subject to funding). Teaching and research in the area of marketing. Requires a Ph.D in agricultural economics or international business or trade. Other required qualifications include agribusiness industry experience and/or teaching at the university level in the indicated subject areas, and good communication skills.

Tenure Track Position,
Agribusiness, available September 1995 (subject to funding). Teaching and research in the area of marketing of branded agricultural products and agricultural marketing research. Requires a Ph.D in a field related to agribusiness marketing. Other required qualifications include agribusiness industry experience and/or teaching at the university level in the indicated subject areas, and good communication skills.

Who, What, Where, When

Harry Fierstine, Biological Sciences emeritus, presented a poster, “Identifying Billfishes Using Rostral Characters,” at the 45th annual Tuna Conference, in Lake Arrowhead. He also delivered a paper, “The Istiophorid Billfish Fauna, Early Pliocene of Eastern North Carolina at Lee Creek Mine,” at the 74th annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, in Los Angeles.

Nilgun Sungar, Physics, gave a poster session, “Fuzzy Art and Morphological Image Processing,” at the World Congress on Neural Networks, in San Diego.

Bill Preston, Social Sciences, presented a paper, “Land Tenure and Community Health in Selected San Joaquin Valley Towns,” at the annual meeting of the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers, in Woodland Hills. Also at the meeting Calvin Wilvert, Social Sciences, presented a paper, “Steep-Sloped Agricultural Development and NGOs: Examples From Middle America.”

Paul Miklowitz and Judy Saltzman, Philosophy, gave a seminar, “Nietzsche and Schopenhauer on Optimism and Pessimism,” at the Institute of World Culture, in Santa Barbara.

Mary Beth Armstrong, Accounting, presented a paper co-authored by her and John Dobson, Finance, “Applications of Virtue Ethics Theory: A Lesson from Architecture,” at the Ernst & Young Research on Accounting Ethics Symposium, in Binghamton, N.Y.

Ilene Rockman, Library, delivered a paper, “Thinking and Teaching About the Internet Within the Curriculum: The Formal Course Option,” at the annual American Library Association conference, in Miami.